

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 12 August 2020

The information contained in this report is based on recent updates and current information available at the time the report was finalized. It is not inclusive of all actions or measures taken to date by health officials federally, provincially or locally.

COVID-19 CASE COUNTS

| STATUS OF CASES IN BC¹ | As of August 11 | As of August 12 | Change |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Total confirmed cases in BC | 4,111 | 4,196 | 85 |
| Currently in intensive care | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Total deaths in BC | 195 | 196 | 1 |
| Total recovered in BC | 3,444 | 3,469 | 25 |
| Currently hospitalized in BC | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION² | As of August 11 | As of August 12 | Change |
| Vancouver Coastal Health | 1,232 | 1,273 | 41 |
| Fraser Health | 2,167 | 2,203 | 36 |
| Island Health | 148 | 150 | 2 |
| Interior Health | 393 | 394 | 1 |
| Northern Health | 100 | 104 | 4 |
| Total confirmed cases in BC | 4,111 | 4,196 | *85 |
| Total individuals tested in BC | 290,150 | 293,127 | 2,977 |
| STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³ | As of August 11 | As of August 12 | Change |
| Total individuals tested | 2,017 | 2,062 | 45 |
| Total confirmed cases | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| Recovered cases | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| Negative results | 1,907 | 1,915 | 8 |
| Pending results | 95 | 132 | 37 |

*The discrepancy in Total Confirmed Cases in BC and the number of Confirmed Cases by Region is due to the method used to count epidemiologically linked cases.

¹ <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

² <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

³ <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

| STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE CASES IN CANADA⁴ | As of August 7 | As of August 11 | Change |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------|
| Total confirmed cases | 422 | 425 | 3 |
| Currently hospitalized | 34 | 34 | 0 |
| Total deaths | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| Total recovered | 382 | 393 | 11 |
| Total confirmed cases in BC | 67 | 68 | 1 |

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, BC Minister of Health Adrian Dix and Dr. Bonnie Henry released the following joint statement regarding updates on the COVID-19 response in British Columbia:⁵
 - “Today we are reporting the third highest number of new cases we have seen in a day since the pandemic began, including two new epidemiologically linked cases. The majority of these cases are young people in the Lower Mainland and their exposures have been at events in the community.”
 - “The cases we are seeing today reflect exposures from a week to 10 days ago. A significant number of cases are also linked to travel from out of province.”
 - “One of the most effective ways to keep people safe is through contact tracing, which starts with each person who has tested positive for COVID-19 understanding who their contacts may be to provide appropriate follow up and stop further transmission.”
 - “To support the public health teams who are doing this important work, the Province is hiring approximately 500 new health professionals to bolster our contact tracing capacity across British Columbia.”
- Today, regarding the Education Restart Plan, the BC Ministry of Education announced plans for an orientation week from Sept. 8-11, 2020.⁶
 - This will provide a gradual restart to allow extra time for students and staff to learn the new health and safety measures for the school year ahead
 - Starting Sept. 8, all staff will meet with their school’s health and safety committee to receive instructions about how the updated guidelines, co-developed with the BC Centre for Disease Control and Provincial Health Officer, will work in their school.
 - By Sept. 10, students will be welcomed back to class for orientation to get familiar with their classrooms and new procedures. Students will:
 - Find out who is in their learning group
 - Practice their new routines
 - Familiarize themselves with how to safely move from the class to outdoor and common areas of the school

⁴ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581964230816/1581964277298>

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0251-001515>

⁶ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EDUC0054-001506>

- The K-12 education restart steering committee, along with health experts, are creating detailed operational guidelines, available by Aug. 17 to support school districts with their restart plans, including guidance on:
 - Implementing the updated health and safety protocols
 - Ensuring kids who require extra support are prioritized and have the services they need
 - Supporting the mental health and wellness of students who may be experiencing additional challenges because of the pandemic
 - Ensuring fewer contacts and a safe workplace for those who interact with more than one learning group – such as specialists, teachers on call, educational assistants, cafeteria staff or bus drivers
 - Supporting hybrid instruction with a blend of in-person learning and remote learning for dense urban secondary schools with large student populations;
 - Minimizing physical contact within learning groups
 - Ensuring before and after school child care on school grounds allows kids to stay within their learning groups as much as possible
- Today, the Province announced it is accepting applications from local governments, First Nations, Indigenous organizations, not-for-profit and for-profit organizations throughout BC for investments in clean-energy projects that will support sustainable communities, create jobs, and build back a better, greener, affordable post-pandemic BC.⁷
 - On Aug. 12, 2020, the second intake for funding applications opens for projects that:
 - Manage renewable energy
 - Improve access to clean-energy transportation
 - Improve energy efficiency of buildings
 - Help generate clean energy to reduce community reliance on fossil fuels
 - B.C.'s Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Selina Robinson, stated: "We're working together with communities, First Nations and the federal government to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and build a better future for everyone through CleanBC. By partnering with all orders of government, we're making sure people have resilient, clean infrastructure and good job opportunities as we begin our recovery from the economic impacts of COVID-19."

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020ENV0041-001504>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Government of Yukon announced the following update on school operational plans and school busing for 2020-2.⁸
 - Students are being prioritized for the school bus this year based on their eligibility as outlined in the Education Act and Student Transportation Regulations. Students are eligible if:
 - they live more than 3.2 kilometres from their school, and;
 - are attending the school in their attendance area
 - The Government of Yukon will also consider requests from students beyond the usual eligibility requirements for bus travel, based on available space on buses in the following order of priority:
 - Kindergarten to Grade 3 students;
 - Grade 4 to 7 students who live within 3.2 kilometres of their attendance area school;
 - students who attend school outside of their attendance area; and
 - special requests, including busing to stops other than from home to school and back.
 - High school students are encouraged to register for a City of Whitehorse transit pass and ride City transit instead of the school bus if possible.
 - The Department of Education will continue to provide city bus passes to students who request them.
- Today, the Government of Yukon announced the following updates in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.⁹
 - Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health is recommending to the Department of Education that children age 10 and older wear non-medical masks where physical distancing cannot be maintained, such as on school buses.
 - Children under 10 can use masks in these settings, but it is not specifically recommended.
 - Since April 29, 33,285 travellers have entered or passed through Yukon:
 - 6,179 were Yukoners
 - 4,129 were from British Columbia
 - 14,886 were non-residents transiting through the territory (Yukon has issued 149 visitor decals for non-residents)
 - The Government of Yukon Emergency Coordination Centre has received 568 complaints since April 29, and 6 individuals have been charged for violating the Civil Emergency Measures Act.

⁸ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/update-school-operational-plans-and-school-busing-2020-21>

⁹ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/august-12-2020-covid-19-update>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Marc Miller, Minister of Indigenous Services, announced an additional \$305 million to support Indigenous Peoples during the COVID-19 pandemic, through the Indigenous Community Support Fund.¹⁰
 - This fund can be used for:
 - Supporting Elders and vulnerable community members
 - Addressing food insecurity
 - Educational and other supports for children
 - Mental health assistance and emergency response services
 - Preparedness measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and more
 - This funding will be available to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities, as well as Indigenous communities and organizations serving Indigenous peoples, including First Nations living off-reserve as well as Inuit and Métis living in urban centres, on an application basis.
 - The funding brings the total investments to date in the Indigenous Community Support Fund to \$685 million.
 - First Nations, Inuit and Métis also have access to all other measures provided through the Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, and are encouraged to review financial supports that may be available to them.
- Today, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) announced the first five projects that will receive funding from the Broadband Fund, two of which are in Yukon.¹¹
 - Ian Scott, CEO of the CRTC, stated: "The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the critical need for reliable communications networks to navigate everyday life, as many Canadians were challenged by poor Internet connections. This initial funding from the CRTC Broadband Fund will improve access in the North and have a positive impact on many communities."
 - The Broadband Fund will provide:
 - \$72 million spread over five projects, including two projects by Northwestel in Yukon (one satellite and one fibre).
 - Speeds of 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload with unlimited data to almost 26% of the households in Yukon and the Northwest Territories.
 - A total of 316 km of new fibre installed to connect many communities in Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

This summary was compiled by [CCEM Strategies Ltd.](#) at the request of the 3 Nations Society.

¹⁰<https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/08/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-indigenous-communities-and-organizations-to-support-community-based-responses-to-covid-19.html>

¹¹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/radio-television-telecommunications/news/2020/08/over-10100-households-in-northern-communities-to-have-access-to-improved-broadband-internet-service.html>