

## 3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 7 October 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

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN BC<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 6</b>	<b>As of Oct 7</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	9,841	9,956	<b>115</b>
Total active cases in BC	1,384	1,387	<b>3</b>
Currently in intensive care	16	15	<b>-1</b>
Currently hospitalized	71	72	<b>1</b>
Total deaths in BC	244	244	<b>0</b>
Total recovered in BC	8,184	8,296	<b>112</b>

<b>CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 6</b>	<b>As of Oct 7</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	9,841	9,956	<b>115</b>
Vancouver Coastal Health	3,612	3,644	<b>32</b>
Fraser Health	5,038	5,119	<b>80</b>
Island Health	221	222	<b>1</b>
Interior Health	556	557	<b>1</b>
Northern Health	324	325	<b>1</b>
Out of Canada	90	89	<b>0*</b>
Total individuals tested in BC	608,645	615,417	<b>6,766**</b>

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 6</b>	<b>As of Oct 7</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total individuals tested	3,522	3,542	<b>20</b>
Total confirmed cases	15	15	<b>0</b>
Recovered cases	15	15	<b>0</b>
Negative results	3,453	3,467	<b>14</b>
Pending results	54	60	<b>6</b>

\*Out of Canada cases reported on October 6<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup> do not align with the difference in case numbers reported.

\*\*Individuals tested on October 6<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup> do not align with the difference in new test numbers reported.

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

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

3 <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

<b>STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE CASES IN CANADA<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 5</b>	<b>As of Oct 6</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	722	736	14
Total active cases	95	99	4
Currently hospitalized	60	61	1
Total deaths	13	13	0
Total recovered	614	623	9
Total confirmed cases in BC	161	167	6

## **LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

- On October 6, Dr. Shannon McDonald, FNHA Acting Chief Medical Officer, issued the following information to encourage First Nations individuals and communities to continue observing physical distancing, maintain small social bubbles, and avoid gatherings as Thanksgiving approaches:<sup>5</sup>
  - Recent data shows that almost 74% of COVID-19 cases are occurring in community clusters or other known COVID-19 exposures, and many have been associated with family and community gatherings.
  - Of First Nations individuals tested in the week of October 3, 4.5% are showing a positive result, compared with fewer than 2% for British Columbia as a whole.
  - As of October 6, the ratio of positive cases among First Nations members is 325 per 100,000 people, compared with 175 per 100,000 people among other British Columbians.
  - Since the pandemic began, there have been 451 cases of COVID-19 among First Nations people in BC and 185 of those are still active.
  - Dr. McDonald also offered the following statement:
    - "Large gatherings and funerals have led to several COVID-19 clusters in communities. We know it's difficult but staying in your bubble is the healthiest choice. It only takes one person, who may not be showing symptoms, to pass on COVID-19."
    - "COVID-19 is particularly dangerous for Elders, those with compromised immune systems, or people with pre-existing health conditions. Losing one of those people can be devastating for a community. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the nine First Nations people in BC who have already passed away because of COVID-19."

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

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/keep-your-bubble-small-this-thanksgiving-and-into-fall-as-covid-cases-rise>

## LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Government of Yukon released the following update on measures being taken in response to COVID-19:<sup>6</sup>
  - **New Testing Options**
    - A new COVID-19 test developed in BC may be used within Yukon in the near future. This test does not require a nasal swab and has a gargle option that is particularly useful for children.
    - Another tool under review is the Abbott ID NOW test, which is a portable rapid molecular test that can provide results within 15 minutes. This test was approved by Health Canada and Yukon anticipates receiving an allotment of 10 machines.
  - **Government of Canada's COVID Alert app**
    - Benefits and limitations of the app are being reviewed within the territory and how the app is working in other jurisdictions.
    - The app uses Bluetooth to communicate with other devices when in close range. If your phone has been in the same location as a person diagnosed with COVID-19 who uses the app and has uploaded that information, you are anonymously advised of a possible exposure.
    - Yukoners who have downloaded the app and travelled outside Yukon should contact Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC) for follow up if they receive an alert on their device.

## LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, highlighted a new measure to help student borrowers manage financial burdens they may face when taking temporary medical or parental leave from their studies.<sup>7</sup>
  - This measure, which was announced as part of Budget 2019, is effective as of October 1, 2020.
  - Borrowers who are approved under this new measure will benefit from a suspension of payments and interest on their Canada Student Loans for six months, which can be extended up to a total of 18 months of leave.

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

<sup>6</sup> <https://yukon.ca/en/news/october-7-2020-covid-19-update>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/10/canada-student-loans-programs-new-medical-and-parental-leave.html>