

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 24 November 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 Nov 23	As of Nov 24	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	27,407	28,348	941
Total active cases in BC	7,360	7,732	372
Currently in intensive care	58	61	3
Currently hospitalized	277	284	7
Total hospitalized to date	1,559	1,600	41
Total deaths in BC	348	358	10
Total recovered in BC	19,069	19,605	536

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of Nov 23	As of Nov 24	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	27,407	28,348	941
Vancouver Coastal Health	7,818	7,992	174
Fraser Health	17,046	17,724	678
Island Health	494	505	11
Interior Health	1,307	1,356	49
Northern Health	649	678	29
Out of Canada	93	93	0
Total individuals tested in BC	1,066,696	1,077,733	11,037

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of Nov 20	As of Nov 24	Change
Total individuals tested	4,732	4,821	89
Total confirmed cases	38	38	0
Recovered cases	23	23	0
Deaths	1	1	0
Negative results	4,519	4,581	62
Pending results	175	201	26

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 Nov 20	As of Nov 23	Change
Total confirmed cases	2,956	3,224	268
Total active cases	1,204	1,338	134
Currently hospitalized	135	143	8
Total deaths	25	28	3
Total recovered	1,727	1,858	131
Total confirmed cases in BC	213	228	15

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix released a joint statement regarding updates on the COVID-19 response in British Columbia.⁵ Highlights from the statement include the following:
 - “We need to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our province and that needs to happen now. That is why we have paused all gatherings, events and indoor group fitness activities.”
 - “That is also why everyone, young and old, needs to pause their social interactions and increase their layers of protection and stay within their local communities as much as possible.”
 - “We need to ease the pressure to allow us to get over this next hurdle, and importantly, give us the ability to once again enjoy those things that are important to all of us.”
 - “Let’s remember that every case of COVID-19 is a person who requires support and care, who may become severely ill and need to be in hospital, and whose family will experience the stress, emotional burden and for some, the tragedy, that has come with this virus.”
- Today, by order of the Provincial Health Officer, all group spin classes, hot yoga and high intensity interval training (HIIT) are suspended indefinitely.⁶
 - All other group indoor physical activities are temporarily suspended. These temporarily suspended group indoor activities include:
 - Dance studios
 - Martial arts
 - Yoga
 - Pilates
 - Strength and conditioning
 - Cheerleading
 - Gymnastics
 - Updated public health guidance for these activities will be available by November 30. Businesses will need to update their COVID-19 safety plans to comply with the new guidance and post it publicly before resuming these activities.
 - Businesses that close due to COVID-19 restrictions may be eligible for up to 90% in rent support and a wage subsidy from the Federal Government.

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

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0061-001959>

⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/posts/4070051686346426>

- Today, Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, announced the following new measures, which are effective immediately:⁷
 - The provincial state of emergency has been extended through end of day on Dec. 8, 2020.
 - Masks are now required to be worn by all British Columbians, 12 years and older, in many indoor public settings, including:
 - malls, shopping centres, coffee shops, and retail and grocery stores;
 - liquor and drug stores;
 - airports, city halls, libraries, community and recreation centres;
 - restaurants, pubs and bars;
 - places of public worship;
 - on public transportation, in a taxi or ride-sharing vehicle;
 - common areas of office buildings, court houses, hospitals and hotels;
 - common areas of sport and fitness centres when not engaged in physical activity;
 - and
 - common areas of post-secondary institutions and non-profit organizations.
 - Working with public health officials, Emergency Management BC anticipates issuing further orders to enforce requirements for masks in common areas of apartment buildings, condos and workplaces. This first order covers the high-traffic public settings where people who do not know each other often interact.
 - Anyone without a mask in an indoor public place or who refuses to comply with the direction of an enforcement officer, including the direction to leave the space, or who responds with abusive or belligerent behaviour, may be subject to a \$230 fine

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Government of Yukon provided the following updates regarding measures being taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:⁸
 - “As of December 1, it will be mandatory to wear a non-medical mask in all indoor public spaces. This will extend to all Yukoners over the age of two with very limited exceptions. A list of places of exemption and people who will be granted exemption will be available on yukon.ca before December 1.”
 - Self-isolation rules have been updated to include the following:
 - Updated rules allow for the sharing of meals and hugs with guests, but require every member of your household self-isolate for 14 days.
 - If guest leaves before 14 days, you must continue to self-isolate for three days.
 - If everyone in your household and your departed guest do not have symptoms after three days, your household is free to leave your self-isolation.
 - Additional exposure notifications were released for the following locations:
 - Canadian Tire, Whitehorse on November 17th from open to close.
 - Wykes Independent Grocer, Whitehorse on November 17th from opening to close.
 - Starbucks, Chilkoot Way, Whitehorse on November 12th to 18th from opening to close.

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EMBC0061-001960>

⁸ <https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-information/latest-updates-covid-19/chief-medical-officer-of-health-covid-19-updates>

- Tony's SKKY Hotel, Alaska Highway Whitehorse on November 14th from opening to close.
- General Store, Dawson City on November 15th from opening to close.
- Flights on the following dates:
 - Air North Flight 573 on Sunday, November 15
 - Air North Flight 333 on Monday, November 9
 - Air North Flight 528 on Sunday, November 8th
 - Air Canada Flight 111 on Saturday, November 7th
- "If you are experiencing any symptoms and have been at these locations please call the COVID 19 Testing and Assessment Centre (CTAC) to arrange for testing or drop in at the drive-thru testing centre located at Centennial Motors on the Alaska Highway across from the airport."
- Today, the Government of Yukon announced the extension of the Yukon Essential Workers Income Support Program to February 15, 2021.⁹
 - The program provides low-income essential workers (both full and part time employees) with a wage top-up of up to \$4.00 per hour for 16 weeks.
 - All services identified as critical or essential in the "Guidelines for the delivery of critical, essential and other services in response to COVID-19" are eligible.
 - Employers must apply on behalf of their staff and may choose when the 16 week benefit is applied between October 15, 2020 and February 15, 2021.
 - Essential workers who received the benefit during the initial program period are once again eligible for the program.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Theresa Tam, issued the following remarks regarding the COVID-19 situation in Canada:¹⁰
 - "Following last week's epidemiology and modelling update, it's clear that we need to strengthen our response. Specifically, to bring down the rapid rate of growth, we need to combine a range of public health measures with tightened prevention practices by individual Canadians."
 - "Communities, jurisdictions and whole regions that were little, if at all, impacted in the past are now seeing community spread."
 - "There has also been a change in the age trend. In the early days of this resurgence, we saw high rates of infection among young adults. Now we are seeing an increase in rates in older adults aged 80 years and older, who are at much higher risk of serious complications and death."
 - "Although it is still too early to know the impact of strengthened public health measures implemented in areas across Canada, we do know from the experience of many other countries that to be successful a package of measures is required and it's not one size fits all. Most importantly, we know that public participation is vital to success."

⁹ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-essential-workers-income-support-program-extended>

¹⁰ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/11/remarks-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-on-covid-19-november-24-2020.html>

- Today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau held a live press conference providing an update on the COVID-19 pandemic across Canada. Highlights from the press conference include the following:¹¹
 - Applications have opened for the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy (CERS) and the wage subsidy has been extended until June 2021.
 - Canada no longer has domestic mass production capacity to produce vaccines. To mitigate this issue, the Government of Canada has:
 - Invested in a domestic vaccine production capacity - this will not be in operation for years.
 - Signed a record number of agreements with potential vaccine producers around the world.
 - “The very first vaccines that roll off an assembly line in a given country are likely to be given to citizens of that particular country, but shortly afterwards they will start honoring and delivering on the contracts they signed with other countries, including Canada.”
 - The Government of Canada expects the first vaccine deliveries in early 2021.
 - The vaccine distribution plan is in progress, but no specific dates for distribution have been identified.
- Today, Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, made an announcement regarding access to COVID-19 antibody therapy.¹² Highlights from the announcement include the following:
 - The Government of Canada has signed an agreement with Eli Lilly for an initial order of their COVID-19 monoclonal antibody therapy Bamlanivimab (LY-CoV555).
 - Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system’s ability to fight off viruses. Bamlanivimab blocks the virus from attaching to and entering human cells, potentially preventing the virus from causing COVID-19 illness.
 - Initial order includes up to 26,000 doses, with deliveries beginning in December 2020 and to be completed in February 2021.

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

¹¹ <https://www.cpac.ca/en/programs/covid-19-canada-responds/episodes/66298171/>

¹² <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2020/11/government-of-canada-signs-new-agreement-for-a-covid-19-antibody-therapy0.html>