

## 3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 07 December 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 Dec 04</b>	<b>As of Dec 07</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	36,132	38,152	<b>2,020*</b>
Total active cases in BC	9,050	9,380	<b>330</b>
Currently in intensive care	76	77	<b>1</b>
Currently hospitalized	338	349	<b>11</b>
Total hospitalized to date	1,980	2,074	<b>94</b>
Total deaths in BC	492	527	<b>35</b>
Total recovered in BC	25,658	27,287	<b>1,629</b>

<b>CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>As of Dec 04</b>	<b>As of Dec 07</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	36,132	38,152	<b>2,020*</b>
Vancouver Coastal Health	9,421	9,725	<b>304</b>
Fraser Health	22,899	24,261	<b>1,362</b>
Island Health	679	724	<b>45</b>
Interior Health	2,062	2,265	<b>203</b>
Northern Health	978	1,084	<b>106</b>
Out of Canada	93	93	<b>0</b>
Total individuals tested in BC	1,200,633	1,235,006	<b>34,373</b>

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>As of Dec 04</b>	<b>As of Dec 07</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	54	57	<b>3</b>
Total active cases	12	9	<b>-3</b>
Total deaths	1	1	<b>0</b>
Total recovered	41	47	<b>6</b>
Total individuals tested	5,522	5,607	<b>85</b>
Negative results	5,390	5,484	<b>94</b>
Pending results	78	66	<b>-12</b>

\*The BC Government reported 647 new COVID-19 cases Dec.5<sup>th</sup>, 726 new cases Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, and 647 new cases Dec 7<sup>th</sup> (2,020 total).

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

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

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

<b>STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE CASES IN CANADA<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>As of Dec 03</b>	<b>As of Dec 04</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	4,303	4,595	292
Total active cases	1,564	1,652	88
Currently hospitalized	192	197	5
Total deaths	39	43	4
Total recovered	2,700	2,900	200
Total confirmed cases in BC	343	355	12

## **SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix held a joint press conference regarding updates on the ongoing provincial COVID-19 response<sup>5</sup>. Highlights include the following:
  - The current order restricting all events and social gatherings, including group fitness classes and adult team sports, has been extended until January 8, 2021.
  - The current order restricting in-person events and community-based gatherings has also been extended until January 8, 2021.
    - Exceptions include drive-in, drop-off, and drive-thru events, which are now permitted with a maximum of 50 cars in attendance and a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place.
  - Youth indoor and outdoor team sports may continue but games, tournaments, and competitions are suspended.
  - Dr. Henry stated:
    - “The orders that we have in place have started to have an impact on the transmission of COVID-19 in B.C however, transmission of COVID-19 remains high and we need to continue our efforts to reduce social interactions and stop the spread.”
    - “The order extension and travel requirement are necessary steps to help us get through the remainder of the year and protect those who are most vulnerable.”
- Today, the office of BC Premier, John Horgan, announced a throne speech that focused on the actions that are being taken to protect the public from the threat of COVID-19.<sup>6</sup> Highlights include the following:
  - In the months ahead, the BC Government will build on the existing COVID-19 measures and some initiatives already in place will be extended or expanded, and new ones will be launched.

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

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Bonnie Henry via live press conference 15:30 07/12/2020

<sup>6</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0104-002010>

- The BC Government will enact a new Recovery Benefit, which will be rolled out by the end of the year.
  - Families with a combined household income of less than \$125,000 per year will be eligible to receive \$1,000 and families earning up to \$170,000 per year will receive payments on a sliding scale.
  - Individuals earning less than \$62,000 per year will be eligible for \$500 and individuals earning up to \$87,000 per year will be eligible for payments on a sliding scale.
- Preparations are underway to ensure that when the vaccine is available, it will be distributed to all British Columbian's as quickly and safely as possible, beginning with the most at risk.
- Investments in health care will allow more patients to receive treatment at home, and more doctors and nurses to be trained, and hired.
- New tax measures will be implemented for small-and-medium sized businesses to reward businesses for hiring and help them grow and become more productive by making it easier for them to invest in equipment and machinery.

## **SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN YUKON TERRITORY**

- Today, the Government of Yukon is reporting three new positive COVID-19 cases, but these are linked to previously reported cases and as a result, no exposure notice has been issued.<sup>7</sup>
- Starting today, restaurants and bars throughout Yukon have to maintain a daily list of patrons to help with contact tracing.<sup>8</sup>

## **SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**

- Today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and Minister of Public Services and Procurement, Anita Anand, announced that Canada will receive up to 249,000 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 in December 2020, contingent on Health Canada authorization.<sup>9</sup>
  - Pfizer, the Public Health Agency of Canada with the Canadian Armed Forces, and Provinces and Territories are working together to finalize preparations at the first point-of-use sites this week, including training on how to handle the product.
  - Logistical tests are planned to confirm the ordering, shipping, and importation process from the point of manufacture to the point of use across Canada.
  - These doses are part of the 76 million doses Canada has secured through its agreement with Pfizer.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

<sup>8</sup> <https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-information/latest-updates-covid-19/current-covid-19-situation>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2020/12/canada-to-receive-early-delivery-of-pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine.html>

- Regarding this announcement, Prime Minister Trudeau added the following statements:<sup>10</sup>
  - “While vaccines are on the horizon, they cannot protect you if you get COVID-19 now. I know this winter will be hard, especially with the holidays fast approaching, but we are coming into the final miles of this crisis, so let’s all buckle down and do what is necessary to keep ourselves and others safe.”
  - “Just because we are getting closer to vaccines does not mean we can afford to become complacent. On the other hand, just because the (COVID-19) numbers are spiking does not mean we should give up in despair. Let’s keep working together. Let’s remember together we will get through this.”
- Today, Minister Anand also announced that the Government of Canada has awarded a contract to FedEx Express Canada and Innomar Strategies Inc. to support the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines across Canada once they are approved by Health Canada.<sup>11</sup>
- On December 5<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, provided the following remarks on the upcoming availability of a COVID-19 vaccine in Canada:
  - “We don’t have a COVID-19 vaccine just yet and we must be prepared to address a range of logistical and operational challenges, but one thing is assured – any and all vaccines approved for use in Canada, will be required to meet the highest standards of quality, safety and effectiveness set by Health Canada’s rigorous regulatory review process.”
  - “As we continue to prepare the way for widespread and lasting control of COVID-19 through safe and effective vaccines, Canada must continue with the collective effort of individuals and public health authorities to sustain the response, while balancing the health, social and economic consequences.”
  - “Canadians are all urged to continue taking individual actions to keep our ourselves and our families safer, while doing our best to protect populations and communities at high risk for severe outcomes.”
- Today, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, Ahmed Hussen, announced additional funding through the Canada Child Benefit and investments in childcare for children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>12</sup>
  - The Government of Canada is proposing a new temporary support of up to \$1,200 per child under the age of six to further assist families with young children to help families cover the costs of tools for at-home learning.
  - The Government of Canada is also proposing \$420 million in new support for the recruitment and retention of early childhood educators.

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

<sup>10</sup> J. Trudeau via live press conference 08:00 PST

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2020/12/government-of-canada-awards-contract-to-distribute-covid-19-vaccine-from-coast-to-coast-to-coast.html>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/12/government-of-canada-invests-in-canadian-families.html>