COVID-19 key messages

island health

To support elected and community leaders

May 13, 2021

We continue to see a positive downward trend in the number of new cases for Island Health. Your efforts to help spread the importance of getting registered and vaccinated are making a difference. We need your help this week to reach young people and let them know to get registered now for their shot. Thank you!

You may attribute these messages to Island Health, or make them your own:

Vaccine Key Messages:

- More than 50% of Island Health's adult population has received their first dose of vaccine. We need everyone 18+ to register for their vaccine now so that they can book their appointment as soon as it's their turn.
- By the end of this weekend, everyone 18 and over will be able to book their appointment. People 25+ will be able to book starting May 14, people 20+ will be able to book starting May 15, and people 18+ will be able to book starting May 16. The first step is to get registered.
- The provincial <u>Get Vaccinated</u> registration system has three easy steps: (1) Register online, by phone or in person at a Service BC location; (2) Book an appointment when you get an email, text or call telling you are eligible to book; (3) Visit the vaccine clinic to get vaccinated.
- If you received your first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at an Island Health mass immunization clinic before April 6, you need to register at www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca or by calling 1-833-838-2323 so you can get notified when it's time for your second dose.
- If you received your vaccine at a pharmacy or at a whole community clinic, you also need to register in the provincial system www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca or by calling 1-833-838-2323 to ensure you get notified to book your second dose appointment.
- Vaccination is underway for priority frontline workers, pregnant people aged 16+, anyone over the age of 30, and in some small or hard to access communities.

COVID-19 Key Messages:

- As of May 13, there were 153 active COVID-19 cases in the Island Health region (69 in the South Island, 57 in the Central Island and 27 in the North Island) with approximately 12% of recent cases community acquired (no known source and did not report travel outside of Island Health).
- Over the past 7 days, there has been an average of 16 cases per day, compared to an average of 23 cases per day for the 7 days prior.
- With the recent implementation of the provincial registration system, the BCCDC is now providing Community Health Service Area data to view case information and immunization uptake.
- Island Health is screening every COVID-19 positive test for variants, many of which are more transmissible and can lead to more severe illness. The majority of active cases are presumed variants of COVID-19.
- Remember, this virus moves with people. Please do not travel outside your community unless it is essential for work or medical reasons.
- Continue to wash your hands often and wear a mask in public settings and if you are feeling sick, stay home, self-isolate and call 1-844-901-8442 (8:30 am 8:00 pm daily) to book a test.

Please share content from Island Health's social media channels: Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

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TOTAL CASES: AS OF MAY 13, 2021

| Location | Active | Total | Regional MHO Messages | |
|---------------|--------|-------|---|--|
| | cases | cases | | |
| North Island | 27 | 655 | Activity is stable in North Island with the majority of cases over the past 2 weeks being reported in Comox Valley and Campbell River. Approximately 15-20% of cases had no known source of infection and no travel outside of the | |
| Central | 57 | 2,368 | Island Health region. Activity is stable across Central Island with approximately 65% of cases being reported in the Greater Nanaimo region. The majority of cases are related to a known case or cluster. A small proportion of cases have been related to travel outside of the region and there continue to be a small number of cases with no known source of infection. | |
| South Island | 69 | 1,844 | Activity continues to decrease across South Island (38% decrease for the past 7 days compared to the 7 days prior). Approximately 10% of cases had no known source of infection and no travel outside of the Island Health region. 70% of recent cases have been in the 0-39 year old age group. | |
| Island Health | 153 | 4,867 | Link to dashboard (Updated weekdays after 4pm) | |

LOCAL HEALTH AREA - DAILY RATES PER 100,000 (RELEASED WEEKLY here) WEEK OF MAY 2 - 8, 2021

| Region | Local Health Area - <u>link</u> | Cases from May 2 - 8 | Average daily rate per 100,000 population |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| North Island | Comox Valley | 13 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Greater Campbell River | 6 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Vancouver Island West | 0 | 0.0 /100,000 |
| | Vancouver Island North | 0 | 0.0 /100,000 |
| Central Island | Alberni-Clayoquot | 5 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Cowichan Valley North | 3 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Cowichan Valley South | 5 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Cowichan Valley West | 0 | 0.0 /100,000 |
| | Greater Nanaimo | 22 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Oceanside | 5 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| South Island | Greater Victoria | 53 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| _ | Western Communities | 7 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| _ | Saanich Peninsula | 3 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |
| | Southern Gulf Islands | 2 | 0.1-5.0 /100,000 |

^{*}New: Geographic distribution of COVID-19 cases, lab testing and vaccination coverage is available here.

RESOURCES AND LINKS:

- Visit Island Health's COVID Vaccine webpage at <u>islandhealth.ca/covid19vaccine</u> or BC Government website here: <u>gov.bc.ca/covidvaccine</u>. If you still have questions, you can talk to a Service BC agent at 1-888-COVID19.
- Register for a COVID-19 vaccine by visiting gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated or calling 1-833-838-2323.
- <u>Island Health: Current outbreaks and exposures</u> and <u>Exposures in Schools</u>.
- The Province of British Columbia & B.C.'s response to COVID-19 & First Nations Health Authority
- <u>The BC Centre for Disease Control</u> and the <u>BC COVID-19 Dashboard</u> with the latest case counts of recoveries, deaths, hospitalizations, testing and more.
- There are a number of <u>resources available through the province</u> and through <u>BCCDC</u> for people experiencing anxiety, depression or other mental health challenges during COVID-19.