

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: July 14, 2020 8:33 AM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update: July 14

Importance: High

CLR Members,

Provincial Update

In response to the release of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey for June 2020, BC's Minister of Finance (Carole James), says the monthly labour force numbers for June continue to show signs of the province's gradual economic restart, with more than 118,000 people finding jobs last month. Employment gains in May and June have recovered 40% of the total jobs lost since February. While encouraging, she warns that the road ahead is a challenging one, as total job losses since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic remain at 235,000. B.C.'s June unemployment rate is down 0.4% since May at 13.0%. The rate stood at 5.0% at the start of the pandemic in February. The government's news release is here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FIN0042-001261>

The BC Provincial Health Officer and Minister of Health reported the most recent numbers for COVID-19 in our province. Over a three day weekend study period (July 11-13) 62 new cases were reported for a total of 3,115 cases in British Columbia. There are 208 active cases of COVID-19 in the province and 2,718 people who tested positive have recovered. The government's news release is here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0038-001279>

Federal Update

Despite pressure from US politicians from border states, but in line with US health expert Dr. Fauci who warns that we haven't even begun to see the end of the virus, the Canadian federal government announced today that the **Canada-US border will remain closed to non-essential travel until at least August 21** (was previously scheduled to reopen on July 21). With an estimated 1 in every 100 Americans testing positive for the virus (3.3 million confirmed cases), the risks of spreading the virus to more Canadians is seen as just too great. More information can be found here: <https://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/canada-u-s-agree-to-keep-borders-closed-another-30-days-sources-1.5023287>

Please stay safe and well. Wear masks when in public, and please continue to maintain social distancing when in public. Experts continue to warn of the coming second wave, reminding us that the severity of this wave will depend on the actions we take today.

Sincerely,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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