

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: September 10, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Maria Sushkova
Subject: COVID-19, Wildfire Situation Update - Sept 10

Importance: High

[CLR Members,](#)

Please find the latest updates on the current situation in the province.

[Vaccine card enhances confidence, increases safety at B.C. events](#)

As we communicated earlier this week, the Province is launching the BC Vaccine Card, a digital or printed document that shows the stage cardholders are at in their COVID-19 vaccine progress.

People can get details about the BC Vaccine Card online at [gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard](https://www.healthgateway.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard) and can get their card online at <https://www.healthgateway.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard>. Once verified, a person will be able to save a digital copy to their mobile device or print a hard copy to present along with their government-issued photo identification when entering designated businesses and events.

The BC Vaccine Card will include a secure, individualized QR code and image showing either “vaccinated” or “partially vaccinated.”

This new requirement is being implemented through orders from the provincial health officer. As of Sept. 13, 2021, one dose of the vaccine will be required for entry in to certain businesses and events. By Oct. 24, 2021, entry to these settings will require people to be fully vaccinated with two doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

By getting vaccinated prior to Sept. 13, 2021, every British Columbian can continue to access the events and settings that are outlined in the PHO orders.

Learn More:

For the PowerPoint about the BC Vaccine Card, visit: [VaccineCard.pdf \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)

To learn more about the vaccine card and how to access yours, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard.html>

Information for businesses, including step-by-step instructions can be found here: gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard-businesses

[B.C. COVID-19 pandemic update](#)

As of Thursday, Sept. 9, 85.3% (3,955,624) of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 77.8% (3,608,067) received their second dose.

In addition, 85.9% (3,716,975) of all eligible adults in B.C. have received their first dose and 78.8% (3,406,522) received their second dose. B.C. is reporting 774 new cases of COVID-19, including three epi-linked cases, for a total of 172,338 cases in the province.

There are 5,594 active cases of COVID-19 in the province and 164,470 people who tested positive have recovered. Of the active cases, 262 individuals are in hospital and 130 are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation.

From Sept. 1-7, people not fully vaccinated accounted for 78.6% of cases, and from Aug. 25-Sept. 7, they accounted for 86.3% of hospitalizations.

Past week cases (Sept. 1-7) – Total 4,694

- Not vaccinated: 3,296 (70.2%)
- Partially vaccinated: 393 (8.4%)
- Fully vaccinated: 1,005 (21.4%)

Past two weeks cases hospitalized (Aug. 25-Sept. 7) – Total 344

- Not vaccinated: 277 (80.5%)
- Partially vaccinated: 20 (5.8%)
- Fully vaccinated: 47 (13.7%)

Past week, cases per 100,000 population after adjusting for age (Sept. 1-7)

- Not vaccinated: 301.4
- Partially vaccinated: 84.8
- Fully vaccinated: 26.0

Past two weeks, cases hospitalized per 100,000 population after adjusting for age (Aug. 25-Sept. 7)

- Not vaccinated: 37.1
- Partially vaccinated: 6.8
- Fully vaccinated: 1.1

After factoring for age, people not vaccinated are 34 times more likely to be hospitalized than those fully vaccinated.

Since December 2020, the Province has administered 7,570,924 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines.

Learn More:

To learn about the BC Vaccine Card and how to access yours, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard.html>

For health measures in the Northern Health region, visit: <https://stories.northernhealth.ca/news/new-health-measures-introduced-northern-health-region>

For the Aug. 31, 2021, modelling presentation, visit: http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/8-31_PHO_modelling.pdf

For the provincial health officer's order on masks in public indoor settings, visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/25217>

For the Aug. 12, 2021, announcement on mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for long-term care workers, visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/25143>

For new health measures in the central Okanagan, visit:

https://www.interiorhealth.ca/AboutUs/MediaCentre/NewsReleases/Documents/IB_COVID_Outbreak_6%20August.pdf

For information on breakthrough cases, visit: http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/7-27_breakthrough_cases.pdf

Or see the BC Centre for Disease Control's (BCCDC) weekly data summary: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data#summary>

Detailed data is posted daily on the BCCDC dashboard: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data>

Or: www.bccdc.ca

To register to be immunized or to learn about getting your second dose,

visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/register>

Or: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/dose-2>

To learn about BC's Restart plan, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/info/restart>

For recent modelling, visit: http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/6-28_PHO_presentation.pdf

For the provincial health officer's orders and guidance, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For guidance on restrictions, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions>

The latest updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and to find a testing centre near you: <http://www.bccdc.ca/> or follow @CDCofBC on Twitter.

New measures for fully vaccinated international travellers to Canada came into force

September 7, the Government of Canada allowed [fully vaccinated](#) foreign nationals meeting the conditions to enter Canada for discretionary (non-essential) purposes. This decision is based on the latest available data, scientific evidence and epidemiological situation both in Canada and internationally.

At each step of Canada's phased approach to easing border measures, the public health indicators and importation of cases at the border and variants of concern among incoming travelers have been monitored. For instance, as the volume of travellers has increased in recent months, the border test positivity rate has remained low. Between August 9 and 26, the positivity rate for fully vaccinated travellers randomly selected for testing at the border was 0.19% (112 positive tests out of 58,878 completed). While cases are currently increasing in Canada, the illness severity and hospitalization rates remain manageable as Canada's vaccination rates continue to rise.

Starting **September 7, 2021**, fully vaccinated foreign nationals are eligible to enter Canada for discretionary (non-essential) reasons, such as tourism; however, these individuals **must**:

1. [be fully vaccinated](#): a traveller must have received, and show proof of, the full series of a vaccine — or combination of vaccines — [accepted by the Government of Canada](#) **at least 14 days** prior to entering Canada
2. currently, those vaccines are manufactured by Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD, and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)
3. have a valid [pre-arrival COVID-19 molecular test](#) result taken no more than 72 hours before their scheduled flight or their arrival at the land border crossing, or a previous positive test result taken between 14 and 180 days before departure to Canada. **Antigen tests, often called "rapid tests," are not accepted.**
4. be asymptomatic
5. submit their mandatory information via [ArriveCAN](#), including proof of vaccination in English or French and a quarantine plan
6. be admissible under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*, and
7. take a test on arrival, if selected

Associated links:

- [Find out if you can enter Canada](#)
- [ArriveCAN](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccinated travellers entering Canada](#)
- [Entering Canada by land and air during COVID-19](#)
- [Entering Canada by water during COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19: For unvaccinated children under 12 without symptoms and travelling with fully vaccinated parents or guardians](#)
- [COVID-19: For travellers over 12 without symptoms who are medically exempt from receiving a vaccination](#)
- [Fully vaccinated travellers entering Canada during COVID-19](#)

As B.C. pauses on moving to Step 4 of COVID restart plan, officials hope the vaccine card will help

B.C. health officials say while Step 4 of the COVID [restart plan](#) did not launch Tuesday, if enough people step up to get vaccinated by Oct. 24, more events with more capacity could happen.

As the details around the vaccine card were outlined Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 7 was also the earliest date B.C. could move to the final stage before trying to get back to “normal.”

Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry said at the press conference that with the Delta variant, they saw a bigger strain on the hospitals and more people becoming very sick, so they had to put more restrictions in place again. She added they are watching what is happening with the transmission in the U.S. and the U.K. really closely.

Officials hope that as more people get immunized to meet the BC vaccine card requirements, restrictions could be lifted and adapted.

Majority of businesses plan mandatory vaccination

According to a new [poll by KPMG](#) in Canada, 62% of Canadian small- and medium-sized businesses are making or plan to make COVID-19 vaccinations mandatory for their employees.

The poll also found that the vast majority of businesses support mandatory vaccinations and vaccine passports to avoid another lockdown. When implementing a mandatory proof of vaccination policy, a key legal consideration for employers is the actual safety risks in their workplace, particularly where there is close contact with co-workers or vulnerable people. As well, some workplaces are a higher safety risk, such as health care or long-term care for the elderly, education, childcare and emergency services.

Key poll findings:

- **62%** are implementing or plan to implement mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for employees.
- **84%** agree that vaccines are key to avoiding another lockdown and should be mandatory.
- **84%** support vaccine passports to perform certain jobs or enter certain places.
- **85%** of male respondents support vaccine passports vs. **79%** of women; Support for mandatory vaccination was also slightly higher among men (**85%**) vs. women (**81%**).
- **90%** feel they are well-prepared and organized in bringing employees back to the workplace safely.

To learn more, [visit](#).

Maximum allowable rent increase capped at 1.5% for 2022

B.C.'s maximum allowable rent increase amount for 2022 is being set at 1.5%, based on inflation. This increase cannot take effect prior to Jan. 1, 2022. If landlords choose to increase rent, they must provide a full three months' notice to tenants using the correct notice of rent increase form.

The Province enacted a rent freeze at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The freeze has since been extended to Dec. 31, 2021.

The 2022 maximum allowable rent increase is significantly less than what it would have been prior to changes made by the Province in 2018 that limited rent increases to inflation. Prior to that change, maximum rent increases could include an additional 2% on top of inflation.

B.C. landlords can only increase rent once annually. The Province also recently banned renovictions (evictions to complete renovations to a property) by requiring landlords to apply to the Residential Tenancy Branch for pre-approval before ending a tenancy.

Learn More:

For more information about the annual allowable rent increase, visit:

www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/housing-tenancy/residential-tenancies/during-atenancy/rent-increases

B.C. wildfires: quick statistics

The wildfire situation is continually evolving, and the information below is current as of 7 p.m. (Pacific time) on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021. For real-time updates on evacuation alerts and orders, visit:

<https://twitter.com/EmergencyInfoBC>. For the latest wildfire information, visit: www.bcwildfire.ca.

Fires:

- Wildfires burning in B.C.: 209
- Since April 1, 2021:
 - 1,584 wildfires
 - 868,604 hectares of area burned
- Active fires by fire centre:
 - Cariboo: 25
 - Coastal: 13
 - Kamloops: 59
 - Northwest: 5
 - Prince George: 52
 - Southeast: 55

Resources:***Updated weekly and current as of Sept. 2**

- Firefighters and other personnel fighting the fires: 2,522
- Out-of-province firefighters: 434
- Helicopters and planes supporting ground crews: 63

Evacuations:

- Evacuation orders: 4 (-1)
- Evacuation alerts: 14 (-10)
- Properties:
 - Number of properties on order: 243
 - Number of properties on alert: 325 (-2,546)

Supports available:

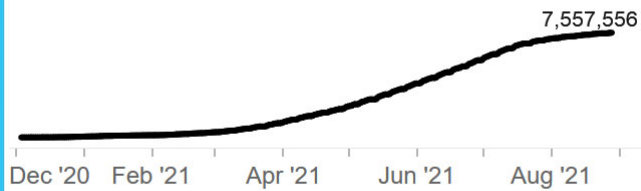
- To help people and communities manage and recover from the impacts of wildfires, the Province has assembled a list of the key resources people may need.
Go to www.EmergencyInfoBC.ca and click on “recovery and supports.”
- To register for Emergency Support Services: <https://ess.gov.bc.ca/> or call toll-free: 1 800 585-9559.
- For up-to-date information on current wildfire activity, burning restrictions, road closures and air quality advisories, call 1 888 3-FOREST (1 888 336-7378)
or visit: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status>

[Immunization dashboard](#)

Vaccination in BC is levelling off

1.0% change

As of Sep 08 2021
Relative to Sep 01 2021



7,557,556 | Doses administered | Sep 08 2021
▲ 0.2% from previous day

Stay safe.

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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97 Sixth Street,
New Westminster, BC V3L 5H8

📞 604-524-4911

📠 604-524-3925 📠 604-968-4911

✉ kenm@clra-bc.com 🌐 www.clra-bc.com

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