

Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: November 5, 2021 8:43 AM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Maria Sushkova
Subject: CLR INFO - Weekly Update - Nov 5

Importance: High

[CLR Members,](#)

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

Premier's statement on his health

Premier John Horgan has released the following statement regarding the latest state of his health:

"The surgery and biopsy that were done last week were successful and I am grateful to the amazing health-care team for all the support I've received. The pathology confirmed that the growth in my throat was cancerous.

"My prognosis is good and I expect to make a full recovery. In the next couple of weeks I will need to start radiation treatment, which will conclude toward the end of December.

"During that time, I will continue to participate virtually in briefings, cabinet meetings, and other important meetings like the Council of the Federation. For in-person events, Minister Mike Farnworth and other cabinet ministers may attend in my place.

Federal Updates

[Federal proof of vaccination for travellers now available](#)

Started Oct. 30, the **Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination** became required when travelling in Canada by air, rail or cruise ship.

The Government of Canada has said the federal proof of vaccination can also be used for international travel. Before leaving, all travellers are encouraged to check the Government of Canada's travel requirements and the requirements of the country to which they are travelling.

As with the B.C. Vaccine Card, the new federal proof of vaccination can be accessed through Health Gateway, the Ministry of Health's web service, by phone or in person at most Service BC offices.

Two doses of any federally approved COVID-19 vaccines, with the second dose administered at least 14 days before travel, are required to be considered fully vaccinated. Canadians who are not fully vaccinated must complete testing requirements and mandatory quarantine when returning to Canada.

B.C.'s Vaccine Card will continue to be used for non-essential activities in B.C., including going to a restaurant or sporting event.

The Government of Canada has also indicated it will allow people in B.C. to use the BC Vaccine Card to travel within Canada until Nov. 30, 2021, while the new federal proof of vaccination is rolled out.

Learn More:



To access the Government of Canada proof of vaccination card, visit [gov.bc.ca/covidtravel](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/covidtravel)

To learn more about B.C.'s COVID-19 travel requirements, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/travel/current>

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

Government of Canada announces additional Canadian airports accepting international passenger flights

As a next step in increasing travel opportunities, Transport Canada is easing the restriction on international flight arrivals. The department is expanding the scope of the existing Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) that currently directs international passenger flights into 10 Canadian airports.

Effective on November 30, 2021, international flights carrying passengers will be permitted to land at the following additional Canadian airports:

- St. John's International
- John C. Munro Hamilton International
- Region of Waterloo International
- Regina International
- Saskatoon John G. Diefenbaker International
- Kelowna International
- Abbotsford International
- Victoria International

These airports, in cooperation with the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canada Border Services Agency and Transport Canada, are working to implement the measures necessary to start safely welcoming international passengers as of November 30.

Update on Policy on COVID-19 Vaccination for the Core Public Administration

A new policy requiring vaccination was announced by the Government of Canada on October 6 and applies to approximately 268,000 federal public servants in the Core Public Administration (CPA) including members and reservists of the RCMP. This requirement applies whether employees are teleworking, working remotely or working on-site.

As early as November 15, public servants who refuse to disclose their status or who are unwilling to be fully vaccinated will be placed on administrative leave without pay.

Vaccination is now a condition of employment for the CPA. Like other conditions of employment, this requires the collection of information for compliance and to meet the health and safety objectives of the policy. Taken together, more than a quarter of a million employees fall within the federal public service requirements announced on October 6.

Novavax COVID-19 vaccine submitted for regulatory approval to Health Canada

Another COVID-19 vaccine could soon be on the market as Novavax has finished submitting their rolling application to seek regulatory approval of its vaccine to Health Canada.

The Novavax COVID-19 vaccine is the first protein-based vaccine candidate of its kind. The vaccine was created using recombinant nanoparticulate technology from the first strain of SARS-Cov-2.

Novavax has released data from vaccine trials conducted in June 2021 in U.S. and Mexico. With 30,000 participants in the trials, the U.S.-based company saw a 100% protection against moderate and severe cases of COVID-19 with an overall efficacy of 90.4%. Earlier trials in the U.K. saw the efficiency of the vaccine at 89.3%.

In June, Novavax wrote that it was prepared to be "on track to reach manufacturing capacity of 100 million doses per month by the end of the third quarter and 150 million doses per month by the end of the fourth quarter of 2021," if it received regulatory approval.

Provincial Updates

B.C. finalizes proof of vaccination policy to protect workers

The Government of B.C. is requiring that all direct government employees are fully vaccinated by Nov. 22, 2021.

The vaccination policy applies to any employee working for the BC Public Service, regardless of whether the employee works on site or remotely.

Providing proof must be done by showing a digital or paper version of the BC Vaccine Card indicating the person has been fully vaccinated. Employees who do not provide proof of vaccination, or refuse to disclose their vaccination status by Nov. 22, 2021, will be considered unvaccinated.

BC Public Service employees who do not have at least one dose of the vaccine by Nov. 22, where there is not an approved exemption based on a medical condition or other legitimate grounds, will be placed on unpaid leave for three months.

Partially vaccinated employees – those who have received only one dose – may be offered alternative work arrangements and will be required to provide proof of full vaccination within 35 days of having received their first dose. Partially vaccinated employees who are not fully vaccinated within that timeline will be placed on unpaid leave. Employees who are still unvaccinated after the three-month unpaid leave may be terminated.

The proof of vaccination policy will be in effect until public health concerns regarding COVID-19 are reduced to a level, prescribed by government, to enable workplaces to operate without restrictions or a vaccination requirement.

Indoor mask mandate extended

British Columbia's provincial health officer has extended the mask mandate that requires masks be worn in all indoor public spaces throughout B.C.

The previous order, which was set to expire on Oct. 31, 2021, has been extended to continue to slow the transmission of COVID-19.

Masks are required in all public indoor settings for all people five and older, regardless of vaccination status.

Masks may be removed temporarily in indoor public places:

- to identify the individual wearing the mask;
- to consume food or beverage at a location designated for this purpose;
- while participating in a sport or fitness activity in a sport facility;
- or while receiving a personal or health service that requires the mask to be removed.

People who cannot wear a mask or who cannot put on or remove a mask without the assistance of others are exempt. A person may not be able to wear a mask for a psychological, behavioural or health condition or due to a physical, cognitive or mental impairment.

Learn More:

For information on the latest 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>

More than 3,000 unvaccinated health workers in B.C. on unpaid leave, Dix says



B.C. health officials said Monday that 3,325 health-care workers, or about 2.6% of the workforce, are not yet vaccinated against COVID-19 and have been placed on unpaid leave.

Health Minister Adrian Dix said that as of midnight Sunday, about 122,000 of B.C.'s 127,500 health-care workers have been fully vaccinated, or almost 96%. Another 2,064 workers have received one dose, while the remainder is not vaccinated and on leave.

Hospitals across the province are facing staffing pressures, including those in Kamloops, Abbotsford, North Vancouver, Richmond and New Westminster, Dix said, and as a result, surgeries are being postponed.

Provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry said officials have been speaking with health workers about their vaccination concerns, but some remain strongly opposed to the vaccines.

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

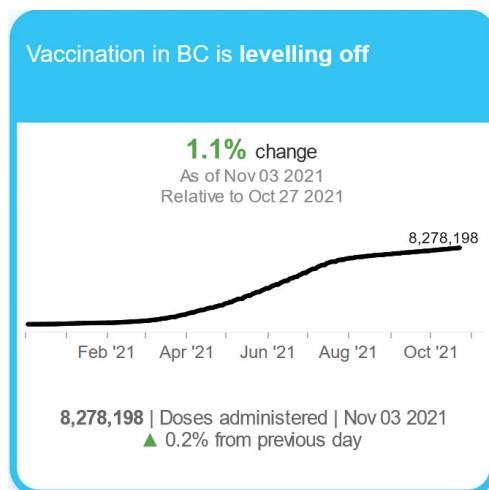
As of Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021, **90.1%** (4,176,649) of eligible people 12 and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 85.6% (3,968,494) have received their second dose.

In addition, 90.5% (3,915,733) of all eligible adults in B.C. have received their first dose and 86.2% (3,728,579) have received their second dose.

B.C. is reporting 596 new cases of COVID-19, including two epi-linked cases, for a total of 207,716 cases in the province.

There are currently 4,451 active cases of COVID-19 in the province, and 200,749 people who tested positive have recovered. Of the active cases, 438 individuals are in hospital and 130 are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation.

[Immunization dashboard](#)



Business & Economy

[Apprenticeship Recognition Month celebrates the skilled trades](#)

The Government of British Columbia has proclaimed November 2021 as Apprenticeship Recognition Month. Throughout November, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training and the Industry Training Authority (ITA) will be highlighting the many roles apprentices play in supporting a strong economy and building a stronger B.C., as well as opportunities for people to start a career in the skilled trades.

The ITA is raising awareness of the different career paths with Find Your Trade, a campaign promoting trades apprenticeships and careers. Find Your Trade encourages British Columbians to explore the skilled trades through its website – www.findyourtrade.ca – which showcases more than 100 trades programs and career options, a quiz to find your trade and live webinars to give prospective apprentices opportunities to learn more about trades first-hand.

WorkBC.ca is launching a new Career Education Resources microsite created specifically for B.C. educators. Linking WorkBC resources to the Ministry of Education's career education curriculum, the new section of WorkBC.ca features

lesson plans that showcase labour-market information, career discovery tools and interactive activities to encourage students to pursue various careers, including those in the skilled trades.

Workplace Safety

[WorkSafeBC: New resource to help employers reduce risk from mobile equipment and vehicles](#)

In the past 10 years, there were over 550 serious injuries and fatalities due to workers on foot being struck by vehicles or mobile equipment. To prevent struck-by incidents, it's important to understand the factors that contribute to the risk, and how to apply effective controls to reduce that risk.

WorkSafeBC's new information sheet, [Reducing the risk of workers being struck by vehicles or mobile equipment](#), breaks down the risk factors, from work equipment and environment to the type of tasks, and details how employers can manage that risk by identifying, assessing, and controlling those factors.

For more information and resources, visit WorkSafeBC's pages about [managing risk](#) in your workplace.



Stay safe.

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

#



CONSTRUCTION LABOUR RELATIONS ASSOCIATION OF BC

#

97 Sixth Street,
New Westminster, BC V3L 5H8

O 604-524-4911

F 604-524-3925 **C** 604-968-4911

E kenm@clra-bc.com **W** www.clra-bc.com

CONFIDENTIALITY DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this transmission may contain privileged and confidential information. It is intended for review only by the person(s) named above. Dissemination, distribution or duplication of this communication is strictly prohibited by all recipients unless expressly authorized otherwise. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message. Thank you.