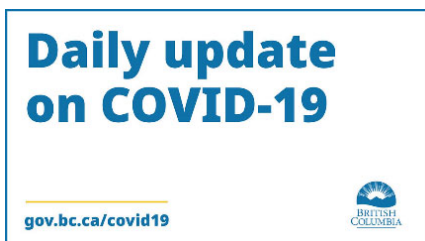


Joleen Kaminski

From: CLRInfo
Sent: February 3, 2022 3:36 PM
To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Maria Sushkova
Subject: CLR INFO - Feb 3

Importance: High



[CLR Members,](#)

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

Provincial Update

[COVID-19 pandemic update](#)

As of Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, 90% (4,483,908) of eligible people five and older in B.C. have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and 84.1% (4,191,488) have received their second dose.

B.C. is reporting 1,776 new cases of COVID-19, including four new epi-linked cases, for a total of 327,625 cases in the province.

There are 25,959 active cases of COVID-19 in the province, and 297,682 people who tested positive have recovered. Of the active cases, 988 COVID-positive individuals are in hospital and 136 are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation. **Learn More:**

For the Feb. 1, 2022, presentation on COVID-19 hospitalizations: https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Feb_1_2022_Slidedeck.pdf

For information on when to get a COVID-19 test: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/when-to-get-a-covid-19-test>

For information on COVID-19 treatments including Paxlovid: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/about-covid-19/treatments>

[Updates to PHO order, BC Vaccine Card requirement for 12-year-olds adjusted](#)

As previously announced, the provincial health officer order on gatherings and events has been updated to remove the prohibition on individual or group fitness, exercise and dance exercise, allowing these to happen with the safety requirements in place. This change took effect on Jan. 20, 2022.

The order also allowed sports tournaments for children and youth as of Feb. 1, 2022. Adult sports tournaments remain prohibited.

In addition, the order will change the proof of vaccination requirement for 12-year-olds to only require one dose of vaccine for entry to an event or setting where proof of vaccination is required.

[More rapid tests for K-12 sector](#)

Further pandemic supports are coming for B.C. students and schools, with 300,000 rapid antigen test kits to be delivered in phases. The first phase will be rural and remote school districts for use by students with symptoms of COVID-19.

The Ministry of Health and the BC Centre for Disease Control continue to advise how rapid antigen tests are best used as part of the provincial pandemic response, including if additional tests will be deployed for use in the K-12 sector. [Learn more](#)

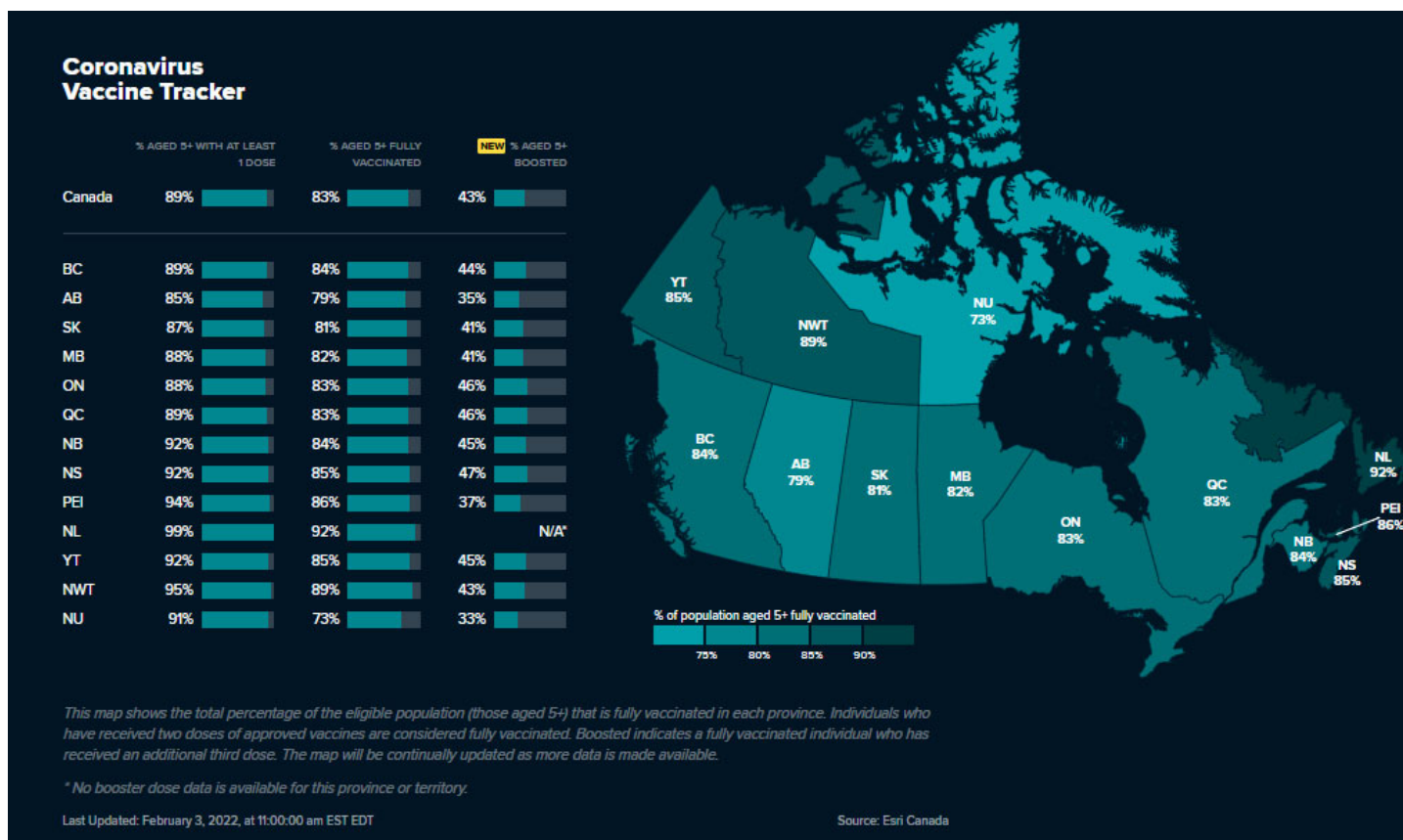
[B.C. now has access to Pfizer’s Paxlovid to fight severe illness from COVID-19](#)

Dr. Bonnie Henry said Tuesday that some British Columbians will now have access to a new medication in the fight against COVID-19.

B.C. has received 4,000 treatment courses of Pfizer’s antiviral pill Paxlovid, which will be available to some critically extremely vulnerable people in designated groups. This includes people undergoing cancer treatment, recent transplant patients and the severely immunocompromised, for example.

Federal Update

[COVID-19 vaccine and booster tracker: How many Canadians are vaccinated?](#)



Canada is ramping up its vaccine program in an effort to deliver booster doses to eligible Canadians. A booster shot is an additional dose of a COVID-19 vaccine that enhances its effectiveness. Provincial governments have opened up eligibility for booster doses in an effort to fight the latest wave of infections, driven by the Omicron variant.

On a per-capita basis, Canada has the highest level of access to vaccines due to agreements with Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Medicigo, Sanofi-GlaxoSmithKline, Novavax and J&J. So far, Health Canada has approved the Moderna Spikevax, Pfizer-BioNTech Cominarty, AstraZeneca Vaxevria and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccines for use in Canada.



Government
of Canada

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du Canada

Canada

Program

Economic Recovery

[Apply for funding to support workers and employers towards economic recovery - Sectoral Workforce Solutions](#)

The Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program (SWSP) helps key sectors of the economy to develop and implement solutions to address current and emerging workforce needs.

The Program will support projects that focus on a range of industry-driven activities such as training and reskilling workers, helping employers retain and attract a skilled and diverse workforce and other creative solutions to help sectors address labour market needs. Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with other sectoral stakeholders and provincial or territorial governments to implement wide-scale industry solutions.

Sectors that may be prioritised for funding include agriculture and agri-food, construction, information and communications technology, manufacturing, natural resources, tourism and hospitality, transportation.

Eligible organizations can apply for funding at a minimum of \$5,000,000 and maximum of \$50,000,000.

To learn more about eligibility criteria and deadlines to apply, [visit](#).

Industry News

[Government of Canada promotes in-demand skilled trades as a first-choice career path](#)

Jan 31, the Federal Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, launched an advertising campaign to promote the skilled trades as a strong first-choice career path for youth and young adults.

Also launched as part of this campaign is Canada.ca/skilled-trades, a comprehensive website that offers a one-stop national repository for information about the skilled trades. [Learn more](#)

[Canada Supporting Sustainable and Innovative Construction With Wood](#)

Natural Resources Canada's [Green Construction through Wood](#) (GCWood) program, which encourages the use of wood in non-traditional construction projects, such as tall and low-rise non-residential buildings and bridges. The program aims to position Canada as a world leader in innovative timber construction systems and technologies and in the low-carbon economy.

On Feb 3, Jonathan Wilkinson, Federal Minister of Natural Resources, announced an \$887,000 investment to support the replacement of the Duchesnay Creek Bridge that connects the City of North Bay and the Nipissing First Nation. The Government of Ontario contributed \$17 million. This high-visibility project will help promote the use of mass timber in highway bridges across Canada. By building with wood, this project will result in a total carbon benefit of 991 metric tonnes of CO₂, which is equivalent to taking over 190 cars off the road for a full year.

[Pan-Canadian Geoscience Strategy: Enhancing Data, Knowledge and Access for a Stronger Future](#)

Today, Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources, endorsed the Pan-Canadian Geoscience Strategy, outlining Canada's intention to produce world-leading geoscience to meet growing global demand for responsibly sourced minerals and metals. Accessible geoscience data can help lower exploration costs, inform evidence-based land use decisions and support geo-hazard risk management and climate change mitigation — resulting in a more competitive minerals and metals sector and serving the public good.

[Outstanding achievement recognized at consulting engineering awards](#)



The technical expertise and innovation behind some of British Columbia’s most important transportation projects were honoured at the B.C. Transportation Consulting Engineers Awards on Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022.

Design and contract preparation – structures: Associated Engineering (B.C.) Ltd. was the recipient of the 2021 award for two Highway 16 bridge replacements on Haida Gwaii. In 2022, BGC Engineering Inc. and Gygax Engineering Associates Ltd. were recognized for their Highway 99 Ten Mile Slide Stabilization Project, 17

kilometres northeast of Lillooet.

Construction management and supervision services: Stantec Consulting Inc. was the 2021 recipient for its work on improving the Highway 93 and Highway 95 intersection in Radium by constructing a new roundabout. In 2022, WSP Canada Inc. won the award for its complex Lower Lynn Interchange Improvements project in North Vancouver.

For more information about the winners of the 2021 and 2022 B.C. Transportation Association of Consulting Engineering Companies Awards, visit:

2021: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/celebrating-british-columbia/celebrating-excellence-transportation/consulting-engineers-awards-2021>

2022: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/celebrating-british-columbia/celebrating-excellence-transportation/consulting-engineers-awards-2022>



Stay safe,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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