

Subject: COVID-19 Updates - April 19, 2021 - Staying Close to Home
Date: Monday, April 19, 2021 at 5:54:05 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Ernie Baatz
To: Ernie Baatz
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png

Provincial Update on Covid 19 Measures

In [today's press conference](#), the Premier, the Minister of Health and the Provincial Health Officer all spoke about the need to reduce contacts over the next five weeks, until after the May long weekend, ending May 24, 2021. As more people get vaccinated, the number of infections and the number of people who end up in hospital will decline. But right now, we are seeing 1,000 people per day getting infected, and when there are that many people getting sick, it is much easier for the disease to spread in the community. There will be more information by the end of the week on new restrictions on travel, and the current restrictions on indoor dining are continued for the next five weeks, to May 24th, 2021.

Health Minister Adrian Dix reminded us of the priorities that these measures are meant to advance for the Province:



COVID-19 IN BC

Five Goals to reduce transmission, support our healthcare system and get BC ready for life after COVID

Engage British Columbians, employers and community partners to:

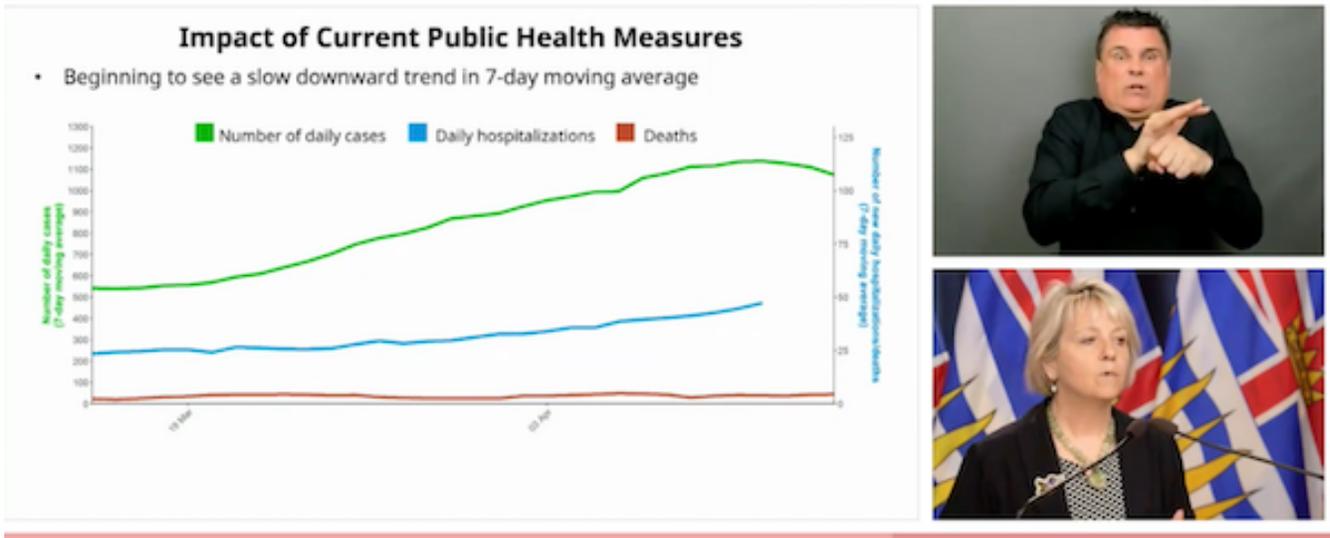
- Suppress transmission rate to lowest rate possible for at-risk populations until a vaccine is provided.
- Avoid overwhelming BC's healthcare system and provide quality care to both non-COVID-19 and COVID-19 patients.

Balanced with:

- Meeting the ongoing physical and mental health needs of the non-COVID-19 patients and populations.
- Getting people back to work and rebuilding the economy.
- Supporting the social fabric of our families and communities.

1. Reduce transmission to protect vulnerable populations.
2. Protect our healthcare system from being overwhelmed, putting both covid and non-covid patients at risk.
3. Meeting the ongoing physical and mental health needs of everybody in BC.

The restrictions added on March 29th, the circuit breaker, have made an impact on the number of infections.



“As a result of the current levels of transmission in B.C., the provincial health officer orders that were set to expire today will be extended for a further five weeks, through to May 24, 2021, at midnight.

“This includes the current restrictions on restaurants, pubs, bars and indoor group fitness activities. The Expedited Workplace Closure order also remains in place.

“New orders will be in put in place later this week under the Emergency Program Act, to restrict vacation and recreation travel outside of your health authority.

“Our hospitals are stretched, our health-care workers exhausted. They are taking care of our friends and loved-ones and we need to take care of them through our actions, so they can continue to do their jobs for us.

“Let’s do our part, to use our layers, to stay local and err on the side of caution, so we can put COVID-19 behind us.”

Vaccinations:

People born 1981 and earlier (40+) can get the AstraZeneca vaccine at eligible pharmacies with vaccine supply in the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, the Interior and Northern B.C. Find an eligible pharmacy near you.

Anyone ages 40 years old and older can call a pharmacy on the list and get an appointment for a vaccine at their local pharmacy. You can check [this list sorted by community](#) to confirm a pharmacy near you that has appointments available.

Age Based Vaccinations:

For the online registration system, it is a two step process. First you register, and then they contact you when

you can book an appointment. They will be **registering** all age groups by the end of this week, but they are still booking appointments for 62 and 63 year olds.

I'm born in 1981 or earlier (40+) or I'm Indigenous and born in 2003 or earlier (18+)
- You can register now.

People who are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) (including all people served by CLBC)
- You can register now. Please let us know if you need any assistance with getting your vaccination.

I'm born in 1986 or earlier (age 35+)

- You can start registering April 20 at 12 pm.

I'm born in 1991 or earlier (age 30+)

- You can start registering April 21 at 12 pm.

I'm born in 1996 or earlier (age 25+)

- You can start registering April 22 at 12 pm.

I'm born in 2003 or earlier (age 18+)

- You can start registering April 23 at 12 pm.

Do you have a plan to get your first shot? Please let us know if you don't know where to get your vaccination and help increase the safety of everyone in the community.

Ernie Baatz

Executive Director

Spectrum Society for Community Living

Express yourself. Build your network. Find your voice.

www.spectrumsociety.org

cell: 604-644-1474

Be Calm, Be Kind, Be Safe