

Subject: FW: Covid-19 Updates - December 22, 2021 - Additional Restrictions due to Omicron
Date: Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at 9:19:27 AM Pacific Standard Time
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Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png

Province strengthens COVID-19 measures for safer holiday season

The provincial health officer is implementing additional measures to address rising COVID-19 case counts that could result in increased hospitalizations and critical care admissions and the potential to overstress the health-care system.

Revised provincial health officer orders will take effect on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2021, at 11:59 p.m.

The restrictions will extend to Jan. 18, 2022, at 11:59 p.m.

At Spectrum, we have had a number of people go to hospital in the past month with other illnesses and they have received excellent care and attention. The ability of our hospitals to serve everyone who needs care is the target of these measures. Please keep your bubbles small and stay safe and healthy.

Public health orders in effect Dec 23



Gatherings limited to your household plus one other







No indoor organized gatherings of more than 10 people



All indoor venues reduced to 50% capacity, including restaurants, bars, and clubs



Adult gyms, fitness centers, and recreation facilities

household plus one other household or 10 guests, all vaccinated	gatherings of any size, incl. parties, celebrations	to 50% capacity, incl. concerts, movies, sports	centres, dance studios closed
			
Bars and nightclubs closed	Maximum 6 people per table and no mingling at restaurants & pubs	All events and venues required to scan the BC Vaccine Card QR code	No sports tournaments

COVID-19 IN BC

As of December 22, 2021

These restrictions are in effect until January 18, 2022.

- [Indoor organized gatherings](#) of any size are not allowed. This includes gatherings like New Year's Eve parties, weddings or other celebrations
- [Indoor events at venues](#) can only have 50% capacity. This includes events like concerts, sports or movies
- [Bars, nightclubs and lounges are closed](#)
- [Restaurants, cafes and pubs](#) can have a maximum of 6 people at each table
- [Adult gyms, fitness centres and dance studios](#) are closed

As of December 20, 2021

These restrictions are in effect until January 31, 2022.

- [Indoor personal gatherings](#) are limited to your household plus 10 visitors or 1 other household. Everyone 12 + must be fully vaccinated
- [At restaurants, cafes and pubs](#), customers must stay seated and cannot move between or visit other tables. Masks are required when not seated
- [All sports tournaments](#) and related travel are not allowed

More of the BC Government Announcement here:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0234-002431>

British Columbia is cancelling thousands of scheduled surgeries, shutting down bars and gyms and limiting gatherings in an effort to prevent the Omicron COVID variant from overwhelming hospitals.

The highly transmissible variant is causing “explosive” outbreaks in the Lower Mainland in particular, and now makes up about 50 per cent of new cases each day, health officials said today.

“It is inevitable now that most of us in the province will be exposed at some point,” said provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry. She said new information on Omicron showed measures announced Friday were inadequate.

Henry said B.C. will record more than 1,300 new cases on Tuesday, more than previous daily records that overwhelmed hospital capacity in the third and fourth waves.

<https://thetyee.ca/News/2021/12/21/Omicron-Brings-New-Lockdown-Rules/>

Booster Shots

Risk-based rollout with proven results

- B.C.’s immunization rollout continues to be based on risk – with priority given first to those most at-risk of severe illness and death.
 - Clinically extremely vulnerable
 - Long-term care
 - Seniors (65+)
 - Indigenous adults
 - Healthcare workers
 - Two doses of AZ
- The age-based rollout will continue at an accelerated pace – with invites sent out when appointments can be guaranteed.

COVID-19 IN BC

More of the powerpoint presentation used on December 21, 2021 available here:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/CovidMeasures.pdf>

To get your booster shot, ensure you are registered with Get Vaccinated BC.

- <https://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc.ca/s/>
- 1-833-838-2323
- Telephone for the deaf – Dial 711

Once you get your invite, be sure to check different locations – some are booked up until January, others have appointments available the next day.
Let us know if you have any questions or need any assistance.
Happy Holidays!

Ernie Baatz

Executive Director

Spectrum Society for Community Living

Express yourself. Build your network. Find your voice.

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Be Calm, Be Kind, Be Safe

Unceded Coast Salish Territories of the Musqueam,
Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.