

Public Health Update **Feb 5, 2021**

Extended COVID-19 restrictions:

The rate of infection in BC has been moving slightly downward in recent weeks, but still isn't declining as quickly as we hoped. The pandemic restrictions have been extended with no end date.

The extension applies to all of the current public health orders, including bans on social gatherings in private homes and all events at public and private venues.

Detailed information and reminders:

Social interaction and gatherings

- Socialize with only those in your immediate household. No gatherings of any size.
 - Do NOT gather indoors or outdoors with anyone who does not live with you.
 - You may take a walk with a friend, but do NOT turn it into a group activity.
 - People who live alone may socialize with 2 people within their core social bubble.
- Funerals and weddings may proceed with your immediate household ONLY, 10 people maximum. Receptions are not allowed.
- Places of worship cannot hold in-person services until the end of this order.
- Travel outside of local regions is restricted to essential travels.

Continued precautions

- Masks are mandatory in any indoor public areas like retail places and grocery stores.
- Maintain good hygiene.
- Social and physical distancing, standing 2 metres apart when in public spaces.
- Disinfecting high-touch surfaces and items.
- Stay at home when feeling ill.
- Get tested when you have symptoms such as fever, try cough, shortness of breath, etc.

We need to protect the progress we have made so far. Continuing with the current restrictions will also buy time for us to flatten the curve and distribute vaccines to the public. Keeping case



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counts low will help make sure our healthcare system has room to respond if the variants of the virus take off.