



COMMUNITY UPDATE

The latest from Northern Health

July 21, 2021

Sections

[COVID-19](#)

[Overdose prevention and response](#)

[Organizational news](#)

COVID-19

Northern Health vaccination popup clinics

For more information, please visit the [Northern Health COVID-19 vaccination clinics website](#).

Northern Interior	Northeast	Northwest
<p>Prince George Mass Clinic: Mon-Sat (10:30am-5:30pm) Location: Prince George Civic Centre</p>	<p>Dawson Creek Mass clinic: July 23 (9am-4pm), 22 (12pm - 7pm) Location: Dawson Creek Health Unit</p>	<p>Dease Lake Ongoing clinic (Tuesdays) July 27 (9 am - 11 am) Location: Stikine Health Centre</p>
<p>Quesnel Drive-thru clinic: July 19-23 (4pm - 8pm) July 24 (10am - 4pm) Location: West Fraser Timber Park</p> <p>Mass clinic: Tuesday to Friday (Alternating Saturdays, hours vary) Location: Quesnel Arena #2</p>	<p>Chetwynd Drive-thru Clinic: July 23-24 (10:30am-5:30pm) Location: Spirit Park</p>	<p>Hazelton Ongoing clinic July 22 (9:30 am - 4 pm) Location: Wrinch Memorial Hospital (Cafeteria)</p>
<p>Vanderhoof Mass clinic: July 22, 27, 29 (9am-3pm)</p>	<p>Fort Nelson Mass Clinic: July 22 (1:30pm - 7pm)</p>	<p>Houston Ongoing clinic July 20 (9am to 12pm) and 22 (1pm to</p>

Location: Nechako Senior Citizens Friendship Club	Location: Fort Nelson Health Unit	4pm) Location: Coast Mountain College (Houston campus)
	Fort St. John Mass Clinic: July 20-23 (Clinic Hours Vary) Location: Totem Mall, Old Marks Work Warehouse Mobile clinic (NHVaxVan): July 22 (5pm – 8pm) Location: Baldonnel School Parking lot Mobile clinic (NHVaxVan): July 24 (5pm – 8pm) Location: Taylor Trading post	Kitimat Ongoing clinic (Wednesdays) July 21 (10 am - 4 pm) Location: Kitimat General Hospital
		Prince Rupert Ongoing clinic (Fridays) July 23 (9 am - 4 pm) Location: The CORE space (next to health unit)
		Smithers Mass clinic: July 20-22 (9 am - 3:30 pm) Location: Coast Mountain College
		Terrace Mass clinic: July 21, 22 (9 am - 4 pm) Location: Terrace Sportsplex

Community Toolkit

To empower local partners to share helpful information, we have created a [COVID-19 Community Toolkit](#) - a digital resource for community partners, which includes vaccine clinic information (including clinic schedules), a community guide, trusted information and links, and more!

BC vaccination coverage rates and COVID-19 activity

COVID-19 dashboard

Visit the [COVID-19 surveillance dashboard](#) from the BCCDC for information by local health area (LHA) and community health service area (CHSA).

COVID-19 Numbers

As of July 20, **7,811** cases have been reported in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Cases currently active: **32**
- New cases: **0**
- Currently in hospital: **2**
 - Currently in ICU level care in hospital: **2**
- Deaths in the NH region since the beginning of the pandemic: **157**

For the latest provincial numbers, see the [BC COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated Monday-Friday. The dashboard may not work in all browsers; Chrome is suggested.

As well, for a visual comparison of COVID-19 cases in BC by HSDA to other Canadian and global jurisdictions, see the [COVID-19 Epidemiology app](#). It's updated on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

- [BC COVID-19 pandemic update](#) – July 20, 2021
- [BCCDC Situation Report](#) – July 14, 2021

Trusted links and resources for COVID-19

- [BC Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [HealthLink BC COVID-19 page](#)
- [WHO FAQ](#)
- [Health Canada FAQ](#)
- [COVID-19 content in other languages](#)
- WorkSafe BC - [COVID-19 information and resources](#)
- Northern Health Virtual Primary and Community Care Clinic: **1-844-645-7811**
- Northern Health Environmental Health Officer Line: **1-250-565-7322**
- Non-medical info: call 1-888-COVID19 / 1-888-268-4319 7 days, 7:30 am - 8 pm

For current information on restrictions on travel, gatherings and other issues, see the [Provincial Health Officer's COVID-19 webpage](#).

Overdose prevention and response

Extreme Heat, Wildfire and Harm Reduction

British Columbia is experiencing above average temperatures and with these hot, dry conditions we have witnessed the development of several wildfires across the province. Both extreme heat and wildfires pose significant health risks to community members.

Including:

- People who use substances
- People who are unstably housed or homeless
- Individuals with low socioeconomic status and limited supports

Supporting harm reduction and overdose prevention in community

Harm Reduction (HR) messaging regarding wildfire and high temperature risks encourage individuals stay indoors, keep hydrated and limit outside exposure to heat and smoke.

Although well intended this messaging can pose an increased risk for overdose deaths and limit access to HR supplies. When people are unable to access regular supports due to heat and smoke it can lead to isolation and using drugs alone. Furthermore, people who use stimulants and illicit benzodiazepines are at a greater risk for heat related illness due to the effects these substances have on body temperature.

Recommendations

- NH sites and community partners that distribute HR supplies should ensure their HR supplies are well stocked including naloxone in anticipation of potential courier route closures or shipping delays due to wildfire activity
- Distribute quantities as requested by the clients, do not limit supplies including naloxone as many peers supply others
- Those offering outreach services may wish to extend hours or increase outreach to individuals at risk during this time, and should distribute supplies like naloxone, clean drinking water, electrolyte replacement, sunscreen, food and bowls for watering pets
- Familiarize yourself with overdose prevention apps like [Life Guard App](#) or [BeSafe App](#), and the [National Overdose Response Line](#) (NORS) for additional support over the phone
- Work with local community action team (CAT) tables, municipalities, community groups, first nation communities and peer organizations to assess and understand specific community needs and barriers that exist due to changing situations

Organizational news

NEW Long-term Care/Assisted Living Digest – Issue 25: Information for residents and families

The long-term care task group is producing updates once a month for residents and families of long-term care homes and assisted living facilities.

[Issue 25](#) of the long-term care and assisted living digest is now available. This issue provides an update on changes to long-term care and assisted living visitor policies effective July 19, 2021, information about volunteers in facilities, and the re-opening plan for adult day programs.

Emergency preparedness planning

With the recent heatwave, and current wildfire and flood situations, we have put together [resource lists](#) to help keep important information at hand.