

## Joleen Kaminski

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**From:** CLRInfo  
**Sent:** June 11, 2021 8:15 AM  
**To:** Ken McCormack  
**Cc:** Maria Sushkova  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Update - June 11

**Importance:** High

### [CLR Members,](#)

Please find the recent updates on the COVID-19 situation.

### [Joint statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response, latest updates](#)

Thursday, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix issued the following joint statement regarding updates on the COVID-19 response in British Columbia:

“Today, we are reporting that 74.9% of all adults in B.C. and 72.8% of those 12 and older have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. In total, 3,823,103 doses of Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in B.C., 443,562 of which are second doses.

“It is important to note that invitations to book a second dose will only be sent after eight weeks. At this point, given the strong demand, appointments are being booked in most locations two to three weeks later.

“We have had 153 new cases of COVID-19, for a total of 145,996 cases in British Columbia. There are currently 1,910 active cases of COVID-19 in the province and a further 142,314 people who tested positive have recovered. Of the active cases, 176 individuals are currently hospitalized, 49 of whom are in intensive care. The remaining people are recovering at home in self-isolation.”

### **Learn More:**

For the June 10, 2021, modelling presentation, visit: [http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/6-10\\_PHO\\_presentation.pdf](http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/6-10_PHO_presentation.pdf)

### **BC's Restart plan**

To see the May 25, 2021, presentation, visit: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/files/BCRestartPlan.pdf>

### **The latest vaccine information:**

For information on getting your second dose: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/dose-2>

Register for your vaccine now: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/register> Or call 1 833 838-2323

For vaccine information, visit the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) dashboard: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/data> Or: [www.bccdc.ca](http://www.bccdc.ca)

### **Provincial health officer's orders and guidance:**

Orders: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Guidance on restrictions: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions>

### [Travel rules to ease for fully vaccinated Canadians in July](#)

The federal government unveiled plans Wednesday to ease border restrictions in early July for fully vaccinated Canadians and permanent residents, but acknowledged a national vaccine passport system in the works to verify that people have been immunized won't be ready in time.

The changes also mean qualifying travellers who arrive by air can skip government-mandated quarantine hotels.

Starting early next month, fully vaccinated Canadians, permanent residents and other essential travellers will be subject to a shorter quarantine – measured in days, not weeks – as long as they test negative for COVID-19, Ottawa announced Wednesday. The new rules will apply to people who travel to Canada more than two weeks after their final shot, Health Minister Patty Hajdu said.

The loosening of restrictions are only a first step and do not change how unvaccinated or partly vaccinated travellers will be treated. The government also made no changes to who is allowed entry to Canada – currently only Canadians, permanent residents and those undertaking essential travel are permitted.

Hajdu did not provide an exact date for the revised rules, saying Ottawa is still working with the Canada Border Services Agency and the federal immigration department on an implementation plan.

### **[Additional funding for business recovery grant](#)**

The Province is adding millions in additional funding to keep the Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant operating until the expected start of Step 3 of BC's Restart plan on July 1, 2021.

To date, the business recovery grant program has committed \$290 million to support businesses impacted by the pandemic. After applications close on July 2, 2021, the total investment of the Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant program is expected to reach \$430 million. As of June 3, 2021, more than 10,000 grants have been awarded to B.C. businesses. Over 41% of these grants have been awarded to tourism-related businesses.

The Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant is delivering over \$130 million to hospitality and accommodation businesses impacted by the recently lifted health orders. The Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant will close on June 4, 2021.

Many programs that provide ongoing supports for businesses remain in place as the economy continues to reopen. This includes federal programs, such as the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy, as well as provincial programs, such as the Increased Employment Incentive and the COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave reimbursement program.

### **Learn More:**

For more information on the Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant program, including the application process and eligibility, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/economic-recovery/business-recovery-grant>

For more information on StrongerBC, visit: <https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/>

For more information on the supports in place for businesses, visit: <https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/supporting-bc-businesses>

### **[COVID-19 Paid Sick-Leave Reimbursement Program](#)**

The application for employers to apply for the B.C. government's COVID-19 Sick-Leave Reimbursement Program will be available on WorkSafeBC's online services portal in mid-June. Through the program, employers who do not have an existing sick-leave program can apply to be reimbursed for up to three days of wages paid to workers for COVID-19 related sick leave. The reimbursement program is available for sick leave taken from May 20 until the program ends on Dec. 31, 2021.

### **How to apply**

To apply for reimbursement, employers must be:

1. Registered for [WorkSafeBC insurance coverage](#) and

2. Signed up for [WorkSafeBC's employer online services](#) in order to access the COVID-19 Sick-Leave Reimbursement application. If you're not already signed up, you can sign up now to ensure you receive reimbursement quickly.

### **How to sign up for WorkSafeBC's online services**

For instructions on how to sign up for online services, please [watch this video](#) or read these [instructions for signing up](#).

#### **Learn More:**

For more information, please visit the B.C. government's [website on COVID-19 sick leave](#).

### **[Pfizer confirms delivery of 2m vaccine doses weekly until end of August](#)**

The federal government has confirmed Pfizer will deliver two million doses of its COVID-19 vaccine each week through to the end of August.

"That means more than nine million doses arriving in July and another 9.1 million in August," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said during the last Friday media briefing, adding Ottawa has also negotiated an option for three million more doses to be delivered in September.

A total of 51 million doses are now set to arrive by the end of September. Canada has so far received 29 million of those doses, while 25 million have been administered by the provinces.

Pfizer has proven to be the most consistent provider of vaccines in Canada since the mass inoculation campaign began last December. Dr. Bonnie Henry described deliveries from Moderna as "spotty" and that recipients of that vaccine would have the option of accepting the Pfizer vaccine for their second dose in a bid to provide as many second doses as possible.

### **[Moderna asks Health Canada to approve COVID-19 vaccine for kids 12-17](#)**

The company is asking regulators to approve the use of its vaccine for adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17.

Study results released in May found the vaccine was 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 among the 2,500 adolescent participants who received two doses of the Moderna product.

"No significant safety concerns have been identified to date. The majority of adverse events were mild or moderate in severity. The most common solicited local adverse event was injection site pain," the company said in their release, adding it also intends to seek approval from U.S. and European regulators.

So far the Pfizer product is the only vaccine approved for youths. But reports emerged last month that some B.C. youths had been mistakenly given shots with the Moderna vaccine despite the fact it has not been approved for those age groups.

Bonnie Henry said health officials have implemented more processes to make sure the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are not mixed up at clinics.

### **[Government of Canada funds five new projects to encourage vaccine uptake in Canada](#)**

Jun 8, Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, announced five new projects receiving funding through the [Immunization Partnership Fund](#) (IPF) to support vaccination efforts across Canada.

Four provincial and one national Community Health Centre (CHC) Associations will receive funding to increase COVID-19 vaccine knowledge and access for those disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 within their communities. The four provincial organizations—British Columbia Association of Community Health Centres, Manitoba Association of Community Health, Ontario's Alliance for Healthier Communities, and the Nova Scotia Association of Community Health Centres—will assess the gaps in COVID-19 vaccine confidence and access within their provinces and implement tailored strategies to ensure their vaccination efforts meet these distinct needs.

At a national level, the Canadian Association of Community Health Centres (CACHC) will receive funding to support its work as a coordinating body to align and consolidate the vaccination strategies and best practices developed through the provincial projects.

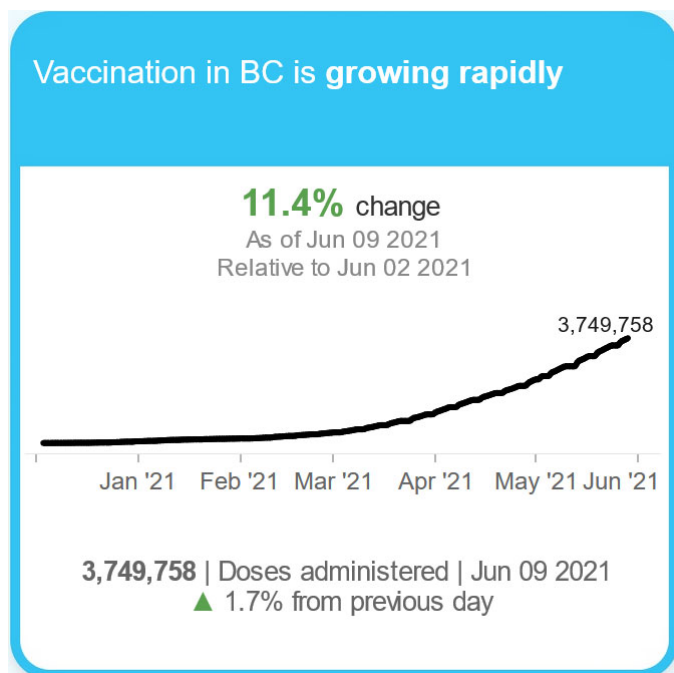
### [Government of Canada COVID-19 update for Indigenous Peoples and communities, week of June 9](#)

Based on Statistics Canada’s 2020 population projections, as of June 8, 2021, over 80% of individuals aged 18 and older in First Nations, Inuit and territorial communities have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Over 72% of individuals aged 12 and older in First Nations, Inuit and territorial communities have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of this group, 41% have received their second dose.

Indigenous leadership, including the guidance offered by Elders and Knowledge Keepers, have been central in promoting vaccine confidence, encouraging communities to get vaccinated and ensuring people have the information and resources needed to stay healthy and combat COVID-19. In most provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples aged 12 and older are currently eligible to register for their first vaccine dose.

Canada recognizes that First Nations and Inuit are among the most at risk during the pandemic, in particular, those in remote and fly-in communities are uniquely at risk. Additional support is currently available through the Indigenous Community Support Fund. This fund helps Indigenous communities and organizations prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19, and address specific needs identified by communities and their members. First Nations, Inuit and Métis also have access to all other measures provided through the Government of Canada’s [COVID-19 Economic Response Plan](#). This includes measures such as the recent proposed extension of the Canada Recovery Benefit and of the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit.

### [Immunization dashboard](#)



Stay safe.

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

