

Forwarded on behalf of Dr. Janet Kow, PHC Senior Medical Director Acute Care and Amanda Harvey, Corporate Director and St. Paul's Site Co-Lead.

*Please share with staff, medical staff, researchers and volunteers and post for those who do not have access to email.*



## **SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020 – TIME PM**

*“A special thanks to all you kids. Thank you for helping your parents work from home... for doing math class around the kitchen table, and for trusting in science.”*

*Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Sunday, March 22*

*“Shut down, stay put, save lives.”*

*Kennedy Stewart, Mayor of Vancouver, Sunday, March 22*

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### **TODAY'S NEWS**

- B.C.'s Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, took a much needed day off today and did not provide a Sunday update.
- As of yesterday (Saturday), B.C. has 424 confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Three confirmed cases are patients at St. Paul's Hospital.
- Across the country, the number of confirmed cases as of this morning is 1,302 and 19 deaths.
- On Monday, the Mayor will Vancouver Council to strengthen enforcement tools, including significant fines, to ensure there's 100 percent compliance with business closures and social distancing.
- Today, the Vancouver Park Board closed all public outdoor recreation facilities within parks and beaches. Parking lots, volleyball, skate parks, field sports, tennis, and more

are now closed to ensure people maintain a social distance of two metres away from each other.

- The House of Commons will convene Tuesday to pass emergency legislation, including \$82 billion in support for families, workers and businesses impacted by COVID-19.
  - To read Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's full statement from this morning, click [here](#).
  - Just a reminder, Canadian Blood Services still needs you. Please book an appointment to donate blood.
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### IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN TODAY'S BULLETIN:

- [Urgent Request to Residents from Providence Health Care](#)
- [Accessing Physician/ Staff COVI-19 testing results](#)
- [Donating Supplies](#)
- [Stats on the first Week of the Greeter Program](#)
- [Daily Applause for Health Care Workers](#)
- [COVID-19 kindness: share your stories!](#)

### URGENT REQUEST TO RESIDENTS FROM PROVIDENCE HEALTH CARE

**The Medical Staff at Providence have written a letter to Dr. Bonnie Henry, providing support and feedback in guiding B.C. through the current COVID-19 crisis. Here's the letter:**

March 22, 2020: An Urgent Request to Residents of British Columbia From the Providence Health Care Medical Staff Association and Medical Staff colleagues from across BC (hospital physicians, surgeons and other medical staff)

By now you've heard direction from our Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, Health Minister Adrian Dix and Vancouver Mayor Kennedy Stewart about how to protect ourselves and our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Among other measures, these experts have urged everyone to practice social and physical distancing in an effort to slow the spread of this virus. Many of you are already adhering to these recommendations.

**But many of you are not.**

We've all heard stories in the last few days of groups of people gathering at parties, basketball games and beaches, despite the urging of officials to stay at home. Perhaps some people do

not believe they will become sick, or don't understand that they can carry and spread the virus to more compromised members of our society. This lack of action will cost lives. Please trust the experts and stay home.

We are BC's Medical Staff. We are at the front line of this fight. We fear an influx of patients that the system cannot handle. We fear for our patients and the need to make decisions about who will get the necessary equipment to survive. We fear for our own safety and the safety of our families.

**We are telling all residents of BC what we have been telling those we love for a week: STAY HOME. RESTRICT CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE.**

Follow the protocols. Start now while we still have a chance to slow down this terrible disease. To our government: if you decide to take stricter measures to enforce these rules, we are on your side. What's good for our entire community must be prioritized. To our residents: This is a threat that hopefully comes along only once in a lifetime. We are asking every resident in every community to do their part to help us stop this virus. When we look back on this unprecedented time in our history, how did you act?

To see the full letter and signatures, click [here](#).

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### **ACCESSING PHYSICIAN/ STAFF COVID-19 TESTING RESULTS**

We understand how stressful it is to wait, but PLEASE DO NOT CALL VIROLOGY, MICROBIOLOGY OR THE GENERAL LAB for your personal COVID-19 testing results.

Positive results will be communicated out to staff and providers as soon as they are available.

Providence is reviewing other mechanisms to support timely report out of negative results as well. In yesterday's PHC update the Virology Laboratory at SPH announced a new fully automated, [high throughput testing method for COVID-19](#) which will help with turnaround times.

But every call that must be answered will divert resources away from the processing of the tests, therefore prolonging response time.

Please refer to the following links for self-care. For Providence staff, click [here](#); for medical staff, click [here](#).

Lab leadership appreciates your support in not phoning directly for results.

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## DONATING SUPPLIES



There has been a lot of social media talk about donating PPE to hospitals and health authorities. This has created confusion amongst staff and the public. In response, Providence posted this message on our social media channels. Please share with your networks.

We'd like to thank every single person and organization who has reached out to St. Paul's Hospital and Providence to donate supplies like hand sanitizer, masks, gloves and more! We'd like to assure everyone that our supplies are currently stable, but we are still accepting donations in the event that we may need them! You may have seen a

social media post circulating with Don Will's email address. While Don is exceptional at sourcing supplies for St. Paul's, his duties extend to all our sites. To make sure he can continue to keep all 17 of our sites fully stocked, we've created a different email you can send your queries about supply donation.

Email [SPHSiteAdmin@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:SPHSiteAdmin@providencehealth.bc.ca) with the following information:

Your name:

Your contact info:

Supplies you have and wish to donate:

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## STATS ON THE FIRST WEEK OF THE GREETER PROGRAM

We're proud to share that 1,180+ hours were filled and covered during the first week of PHC's Greeter Program. In total, more than 90 Providence people stepped up and came together to volunteer their time to be a greeter at a specific PHC site. At the beginning of the week, 150 shifts a day were scheduled. Now, we're covering about 80 shifts a day.

Thank you for taking the time to support our staff, colleagues, patients and residents. Your dedication, courage, and work is appreciated by not only the organization, but also by the people that we serve, thank you.

If you would like to support and be a greeter, please email the Quality Performance & Improvement Team at [PHCclinicalnonclinicalcovid19@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:PHCclinicalnonclinicalcovid19@providencehealth.bc.ca).

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## DAILY APPLAUSE FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

A grassroots movement to thank health care workers around the world is spreading across Vancouver. Dubbed “Public Applause for Health Care Workers” on social media, Vancouverites are standing on their balconies every night at 7pm applauding our health care heroes. Here’s the article from the [Daily Hive](#). #TogetherWeCanDolt and #Cheer4HealthWorkers.

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## COVID-19 KINDNESS: SHARE YOUR STORIES!

As everyone at Providence and across our communities works together to respond to the coronavirus crisis, we want to hear your “good news” health care stories of compassion, kindness, inspiration and generosity. Big or small, we’d love to learn more about the things that are making a difference and giving you a reason to smile. Photos or video are also welcome. We are hoping to share these stories on social media, so please let us know if that is ok.

Email [COVID-19@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:COVID-19@providencehealth.bc.ca) with the subject line “COVID-19 Kindness”.

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## Questions or Concerns?

If you have questions or concerns, please email [COVID-19@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:COVID-19@providencehealth.bc.ca).

## Information and resource links:

PHC has a website for staff, medical staff, and researchers to address concerns, questions, protocols and guidelines around sick-leave and compensation-in-lieu for COVID-19. [Click here](#) to view the website. This website will be updated daily and is accessible from work and home on your mobile or desktop devices. **THIS SHOULD BE YOUR SOURCE OF TRUTH FOR INFORMATION.**