

**From:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX](#); [Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 3:33:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [IB Influenza deaths Dec8 3pm.docx](#)

---

Hi all,

Please find attached the IB on influenza-related deaths for approval please. We're working on a time for the release today.

Many thanks,  
Caro

**Carolyn Bru**

Communications Manager  
Government Communications & Public Engagement  
BC Ministry of Health  
Cell: 250-893-9247  
[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)

Page 02 of 93 to/à Page 03 of 93

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX  
**To:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 3:40:45 PM  
**Attachments:** ST Influenza deaths Dec8 3pm.docx

---

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---

**From:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

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**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
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**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 3:53:26 PM  
**Attachments:** ST\_Influenza deaths\_Dec8\_3pm.docx

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s.13; s.22

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That is better from my perspective. Can we add my changes into the statement format?

Thanks

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:41 PM  
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**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 4:02:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [ST Influenza deaths Dec8 3pmbh.docx](#)

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*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
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Mailing address:  
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Page 14 of 93 to/à Page 15 of 93

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**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 4:08:13 PM  
**Attachments:** ST Influenza deaths Dec8 4pm.docx

---

Changes have been made. I have moved the link to the Learn more section.

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:02 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
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Just a few changes and otherwise this looks good.<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
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V8W 9P4*

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s.13; s.22



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Page 19 of 93 to/à Page 20 of 93

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**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 4:38:29 PM

---

Got it. Theresa, is this good to go by you/MD?

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:29 PM  
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s.13; s.22

b

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
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Totally!

A Q from HQ -s.13; s.22

s.13; s.22

s.13; s.22 Any thoughts?

Thanks

Caro

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**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

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**To:** hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
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BC Ministry of Health  
Cell: 250-893-9247  
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**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX  
**To:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 4:44:32 PM

---

Hi Theresa,

The info when to send children to ER is in the learn more section. s.13  
s.13  
think?

what do you

---

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s.13

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s.13; s.22

b

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
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Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
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V8W 9P4

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Totally!

A Q from HQ <sup>s.13; s.22</sup>  
s.13; s.22  
s.13; s.22 Any thoughts?

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**Cc:** [Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX](#); [Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 4:45:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [ST Influenza deaths Dec8 4pm.docx](#)

---

s.13

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s.13; s.22

s.13; s.22 Any thoughts?

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Page 32 of 93 to/à Page 33 of 93

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

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**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 4:48:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [ST Influenza deaths Dec8 447pm.docx](#)

---

Thank you – updated copy attached with change highlighted.

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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:43 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

That is better from my perspective. Can we add my changes into the statement format?  
Thanks

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

*I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em*

Warning: This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:41 PM  
**To:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

We are getting a push from HQ to have it out as a statement instead. Here it is attached. Sorry about that.

---

**From:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Thanks. I got this.

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Hi all,

Please find attached the IB on influenza-related deaths for approval please. We're working on a time for the release today.

Many thanks,  
Caro

**Carolyn Bru**  
Communications Manager  
Government Communications & Public Engagement  
BC Ministry of Health  
Cell: 250-893-9247  
[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)

Page 38 of 93 to/à Page 39 of 93

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

**From:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [GCPE Editors](#)  
**Cc:** [GCPE Communications - Health](#)  
**Subject:** FOR FINAL PREP - HLTH-111095  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:09:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [ST Influenza deaths Dec8 447pm.docx](#)

---

Hi all,

Attached is the statement on influenza related deaths for final prep please. To go out provincewide ASAP on approval.

Many thanks,

Caro

**Carolyn Bru**

Communications Manager

Government Communications & Public Engagement

BC Ministry of Health

Cell: 250-893-9247

[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)

---

## STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

Office of the Provincial Health Officer

[release number]

Dec. 8, 2022

### **Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children and youth**

VICTORIA – Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

“The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

“Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

“It is important to know that death associated with influenza in previously healthy children continues to be rare. Public health officials are monitoring the situation closely, and we urge everyone to do their part by taking steps to protect yourself, your children and loved ones against the flu.

“The children who died included one who was less than five years old, three were between five and nine years and two adolescents were between 15 and 19 years. Death associated with influenza in previously healthy children is a tragic but rare event, and is especially rare in school-age children and teens.

“This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public health. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted as part of the Respiratory surveillance summaries weekly on the BCCDC website.

“You can take measures to prevent influenza and to treat those at higher risk of severe complications. Vaccination remains our best defence. Vaccination against influenza is available to all children age 6 months and older in B.C., and is particularly important for children at highest individual risk of severe outcomes including those with chronic medical conditions, those who need to take Aspirin or ASA for long periods of time, children who are very obese, infants and toddlers.

“While children typically have the highest respiratory virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu) which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

“Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your child’s fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days since this may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

“With multiple respiratory illnesses circulating and an early start to influenza season, everyone needs to take prevention measures. This means staying home if you’re sick, frequently washing your hands and following proper respiratory etiquette such as covering your coughs and properly disposing of tissues and wearing a mask when appropriate.”

**Learn More:**

To view the weekly pediatric influenza-related deaths, visit, <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/data-reports/respiratory-diseases>

To learn more about when to take children to the emergency department, visit: <http://www.bcchildrens.ca/about/news-stories/stories/when-to-bring-your-child-to-the-emergency-department>

To learn more about the influenza vaccines,  
visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>  
and <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

**Media contact:** Ministry of Health Communications  
250 952-1887 (media line)

**From:** [Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [GCPE Communications - Health](#); [Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX](#); [Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX](#); [Plan, Jake GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Linda's on this - FOR FINAL PREP - HLTH-111095  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:10:51 PM

---

Linda Stagg  
Senior Editor, Editorial Services | Communications Operations  
Mobile: 250 882-8673 | Working at Home: 250 472-1835

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:10 PM  
**To:** GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** GCPE Communications - Health <[CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FOR FINAL PREP - HLTH-111095

Hi all,

Attached is the statement on influenza related deaths for final prep please. To go out provincewide ASAP on approval.

Many thanks,

Caro

**Carolyn Bru**

Communications Manager

Government Communications & Public Engagement

BC Ministry of Health

Cell: 250-893-9247

[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)



**From:** [Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [GCPE Communications - Health](#); [Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX](#); [Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX](#); [Plan, Jake GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: For Final review/Approval - HLTH/PHO STMT - DRAFT: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:38:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [DRAFT.pdf](#)

---

Hello, Caro –

To go ASAP on Approval – provincewide.

Distribution will be largely the same as anything COVID-related.

Grant and Linda each had a go at this. But edits kept to a minimum.

Linda Stagg

Senior Editor, Editorial Services | Communications Operations

Mobile: 250 882-8673 | Working at Home: 250 472-1835

---

**From:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** DRAFT: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary -

NR Number: Not Approved

NR Type: Statement

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: December 8, 2022 at 6:11 pm

Media Distribution Lists: 000.0 - Victoria, 000.1 - Burnaby, 000.2 - Vancouver, 064.0 - Richmond, 076.0 - Surrey, BUSIN\_BUSINESS, CCM\_ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCFI\_FILIPINO, CCFR\_FRENCH, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, COVID, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain, MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN, PROVI\_PROVINCE WIDE

No Lead Organization

Headline: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved

Dec. 8, 2022

Ministry of Health

STATEMENT

Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

VICTORIA - Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

"The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

"Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

"It is important to know that death associated with influenza in previously healthy children continues to be rare. Public-health officials are monitoring the situation closely, and we urge everyone to do their part by taking steps to protect yourself, your children and loved ones against the flu.

"The children who died included one who was younger than five years old, three were between five and nine, and two adolescents were between 15 and 19. Death associated with influenza in previously healthy children is a tragic, but rare event and is especially rare in school-age children and teens.

"This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public-health officials. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted weekly as part of the respiratory surveillance summaries on the BCCDC website.

"You can take measures to prevent influenza and to treat those at higher risk of severe complications. Vaccination remains our best defence. Vaccination against influenza is available to all children six months and older in B.C. This is particularly important for children at highest individual risk of severe outcomes, including those with chronic medical conditions, those who need to take Aspirin or ASA for long periods of time, children who are very obese, infants and toddlers.

"While children typically have the highest respiratory-virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu), which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours, and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

"Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your child's fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days. This may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

"With multiple respiratory illnesses circulating and an early start to influenza season, everyone needs to take preventative measures. This means staying home if you're sick, frequently washing your hands and following proper respiratory etiquette, such as covering your coughs, properly disposing of tissues and wearing a mask when appropriate."

Learn More:

To view the weekly pediatric influenza-related deaths, visit:

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To learn more about the influenza vaccines, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>  
and: <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

Contact:

Ministry of Health  
Communications  
250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

---

## STATEMENT

Not Approved  
Dec. 8, 2022

Ministry of Health

### **Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth**

VICTORIA – Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

“The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

“Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

“It is important to know that death associated with influenza in previously healthy children continues to be rare. Public-health officials are monitoring the situation closely, and we urge everyone to do their part by taking steps to protect yourself, your children and loved ones against the flu.

“The children who died included one who was younger than five years old, three were between five and nine, and two adolescents were between 15 and 19. Death associated with influenza in previously healthy children is a tragic, but rare event and is especially rare in school-age children and teens.

“This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public-health officials. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted weekly as part of the respiratory surveillance summaries on the BCCDC website.

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“While children typically have the highest respiratory-virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu), which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours, and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

“Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your

child's fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days. This may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

“With multiple respiratory illnesses circulating and an early start to influenza season, everyone needs to take preventative measures. This means staying home if you're sick, frequently washing your hands and following proper respiratory etiquette, such as covering your coughs, properly disposing of tissues and wearing a mask when appropriate.”

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To learn more about the influenza vaccines, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>  
and: <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

**Contact:**

Ministry of Health  
Communications  
250 952-1887 (media line)

---

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: [news.gov.bc.ca/connect](https://news.gov.bc.ca/connect)

**From:** [Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [GCPE Communications - Health](#); [Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX](#); [Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX](#); [Plan, Jake GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: For Final review/Approval - HLTH/PHO STMT - DRAFT: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:40:22 PM

---

That was quick!

Final coming – and going - ASAP

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:40 PM  
**To:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <[Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** GCPE Communications - Health <[CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX <[Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca)>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>; Plan, Jake GCPE:EX <[Jake.Plan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jake.Plan@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: For Final review/Approval - HLTH/PHO STMT - DRAFT: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Approved and thanks!

---

**From:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <[Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:39 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** GCPE Communications - Health <[CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX <[Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca)>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>; Plan, Jake GCPE:EX <[Jake.Plan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jake.Plan@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: For Final review/Approval - HLTH/PHO STMT - DRAFT: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Hello, Caro –

To go ASAP on Approval – provincewide.  
Distribution will be largely the same as anything COVID-related.

Grant and Linda each had a go at this. But edits kept to a minimum.

Linda Stagg  
Senior Editor, Editorial Services | Communications Operations  
Mobile: 250 882-8673 | Working at Home: 250 472-1835

---

**From:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <[Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:36 PM  
**To:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <[Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** DRAFT: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary -

NR Number: Not Approved

NR Type: Statement

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: December 8, 2022 at 6:11 pm

Media Distribution Lists: 000.0 - Victoria, 000.1 - Burnaby, 000.2 - Vancouver, 064.0 - Richmond, 076.0 - Surrey, BUSIN\_BUSINESS, CCM\_ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCFI\_FILIPINO, CCFR\_FRENCH, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, COVID, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain, MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN, PROVI\_PROVINCE WIDE

No Lead Organization

Headline: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved

Dec. 8, 2022

Ministry of Health

## STATEMENT

Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

VICTORIA - Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

"The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

"Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

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"This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public-health officials. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted weekly as part of the respiratory surveillance summaries on the BCCDC website.

"You can take measures to prevent influenza and to treat those at higher risk of severe complications. Vaccination remains our best defence. Vaccination against influenza is available to all children six months and older in B.C. This is particularly important for children at highest individual risk of severe outcomes,

including those with chronic medical conditions, those who need to take Aspirin or ASA for long periods of time, children who are very obese, infants and toddlers.

"While children typically have the highest respiratory-virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu), which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours, and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

"Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your child's fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days. This may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

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<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/data-reports/respiratory-diseases>

To learn more about when to take children to the emergency department, visit:

<http://www.bccchildrens.ca/about/news-stories/stories/when-to-bring-your-child-to-the-emergency-department>

To learn more about the influenza vaccines, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>

and: <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

Contact:

Ministry of Health

Communications

250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>



**From:** [Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [GCPE Communications - Health](#); [Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX](#); [Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX](#); [Plan, Jake GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Final - HLTH/PHO STMT - Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:42:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [2022HLTH0233-001870.pdf](#)

---

Thank you, Caro.

Here is your Final, which will fly provincewide ASAP.

Linda Stagg  
Senior Editor, Editorial Services | Communications Operations  
Mobile: 250 882-8673 | Working at Home: 250 472-1835

---

**From:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <[Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:41 PM  
**To:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <[Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary -

Permalink: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/27949>

News ID: NEWS-27949  
NR Number: 2022HLTH0233-001870  
NR Type: Statement  
State: Planned  
Planned Release Date: December 8, 2022 at 6:11 pm  
Media Distribution Lists: 000.0 - Victoria, 000.1 - Burnaby, 000.2 - Vancouver, 064.0 - Richmond, 076.0 - Surrey, BUSIN\_BUSINESS, CCM\_ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCFI\_FILIPINO, CCFR\_FRENCH, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, COVID, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain, MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN, PROVI\_PROVINCE WIDE  
Lead Organization: Ministry of Health  
Headline: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

This email was auto-generated.

For Immediate Release  
2022HLTH0233-001870  
Dec. 8, 2022

Ministry of Health

#### STATEMENT

Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

VICTORIA - Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

"The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

"Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

"It is important to know that death associated with influenza in previously healthy children continues to be rare. Public-health officials are monitoring the situation closely, and we urge everyone to do their part by taking steps to protect yourself, your children and loved ones against the flu.

"The children who died included one who was younger than five years old, three were between five and nine, and two adolescents were between 15 and 19. Death associated with influenza in previously healthy children is a tragic, but rare event and is especially rare in school-age children and teens.

"This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public-health officials. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted weekly as part of the respiratory surveillance summaries on the BCCDC website.

"You can take measures to prevent influenza and to treat those at higher risk of severe complications. Vaccination remains our best defence. Vaccination against influenza is available to all children six months and older in B.C. This is particularly important for children at highest individual risk of severe outcomes, including those with chronic medical conditions, those who need to take Aspirin or ASA for long periods of time, children who are very obese, infants and toddlers.

"While children typically have the highest respiratory-virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu), which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours, and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

"Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your child's fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days. This may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

"With multiple respiratory illnesses circulating and an early start to influenza season, everyone needs to take preventative measures. This means staying home if you're sick, frequently washing your hands and following proper respiratory etiquette, such as covering your coughs, properly disposing of tissues and wearing a mask when appropriate."

Learn More:

To view the weekly pediatric influenza-related deaths, visit:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/data-reports/respiratory-diseases>

To learn more about when to take children to the emergency department, visit:

<http://www.bcchildrens.ca/about/news-stories/stories/when-to-bring-your-child-to-the-emergency-department>

To learn more about the influenza vaccines, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>  
and: <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

Contact:

Ministry of Health  
Communications  
250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

---

## STATEMENT

For Immediate Release  
2022HLTH0233-001870  
Dec. 8, 2022

Ministry of Health

### **Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth**

VICTORIA – Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

“The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

“Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

“It is important to know that death associated with influenza in previously healthy children continues to be rare. Public-health officials are monitoring the situation closely, and we urge everyone to do their part by taking steps to protect yourself, your children and loved ones against the flu.

“The children who died included one who was younger than five years old, three were between five and nine, and two adolescents were between 15 and 19. Death associated with influenza in previously healthy children is a tragic, but rare event and is especially rare in school-age children and teens.

“This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public-health officials. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted weekly as part of the respiratory surveillance summaries on the BCCDC website.

“You can take measures to prevent influenza and to treat those at higher risk of severe complications. Vaccination remains our best defence. Vaccination against influenza is available to all children six months and older in B.C. This is particularly important for children at highest individual risk of severe outcomes, including those with chronic medical conditions, those who need to take Aspirin or ASA for long periods of time, children who are very obese, infants and toddlers.

“While children typically have the highest respiratory-virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu), which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours, and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

“Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your child’s fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days. This may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

“With multiple respiratory illnesses circulating and an early start to influenza season, everyone needs to take preventative measures. This means staying home if you’re sick, frequently washing your hands and following proper respiratory etiquette, such as covering your coughs, properly disposing of tissues and wearing a mask when appropriate.”

**Learn More:**

To view the weekly pediatric influenza-related deaths, visit:

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To learn more about when to take children to the emergency department, visit:

<http://www.bcchildrens.ca/about/news-stories/stories/when-to-bring-your-child-to-the-emergency-department>

To learn more about the influenza vaccines, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>  
and: <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

**Contact:**

Ministry of Health  
Communications  
250 952-1887 (media line)

---

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: [news.gov.bc.ca/connect](https://news.gov.bc.ca/connect)

**From:** [Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX](#); [Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX](#); [hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants](#)  
**Cc:** [Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX](#); [Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:43:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [2022HLTH0233-001870.pdf](#)

---

Final statement attached and going out shortly.

Many thanks to you all!

---

**From:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:04 PM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; [hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>](#)  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Minister approved - please send out today.

Thank you.

Theresa

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:58 PM  
**To:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; [hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>](#)  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

s.13

Bonnie

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

*I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen*

*Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em*

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---

**From:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:54 PM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Thanks Dr. Henry.

s.13

Theresa

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:52 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

s.13

s.13 Please just leave at seek care.

Bonnie

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

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*is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.*

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**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:48 PM

**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Thank you – updated copy attached with change highlighted.

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:45 PM

**To:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

s.13

B

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

*I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em*

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---

**From:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:41 PM

**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>



**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

How do people get the anti-viral drug for treatment? By visiting ER or primary care provider?

s.13

Still waiting to hear back from the Minister.  
Theresa

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:29 PM

**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <[Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca)>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <[hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <[Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

s.13; s.22

b

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

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---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:46 PM

**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Totally!

A Q from HQ s.13; s.22  
s.13; s.22

s.13; e 22 Any thoughts?

Thanks  
Caro

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:43 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

That is better from my perspective. Can we add my changes into the statement format?  
Thanks

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

*I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em*

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---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:41 PM

**To:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

We are getting a push from HQ to have it out as a statement instead. Here it is attached. Sorry about that.

---

**From:** Ho, Theresa HLTH:EX <Theresa.Ho@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Thanks. I got this.

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants <hlthmaea@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Wigmore, Matthew GCPE:EX <Matthew.Wigmore@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FOR QUICK APPROVAL: IB - Influenza-related deaths

Hi all,

Please find attached the IB on influenza-related deaths for approval please. We're working on a time for the release today.

Many thanks,  
Caro

**Carolyn Bru**

Communications Manager  
Government Communications & Public Engagement  
BC Ministry of Health  
Cell: 250-893-9247  
[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX  
**To:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** GCPE Communications - Health; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX; Plan, Jake GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: The Final - HLTH/PHO STMT - Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth  
**Date:** December 8, 2022 5:47:39 PM

---

Thank you so much, Linda!

---

**From:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:43 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** GCPE Communications - Health <CommH@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX <Cale.Cowan@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; Plan, Jake GCPE:EX <Jake.Plan@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: The Final - HLTH/PHO STMT - Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Thank you, Caro.

Here is your Final, which will fly provincewide ASAP.

Linda Stagg  
Senior Editor, Editorial Services | Communications Operations  
Mobile: 250 882-8673 | Working at Home: 250 472-1835

---

**From:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 5:41 PM  
**To:** Stagg, Linda R GCPE:EX <Linda.Stagg@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary -

Permalink: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/27949>

News ID: NEWS-27949  
NR Number: 2022HLTH0233-001870  
NR Type: Statement  
State: Planned  
Planned Release Date: December 8, 2022 at 6:11 pm  
Media Distribution Lists: 000.0 - Victoria, 000.1 - Burnaby, 000.2 - Vancouver, 064.0 - Richmond, 076.0 - Surrey, BUSIN\_BUSINESS, CCM\_ALL CULTURAL COMMUNITY, CCCH\_CHINESE, CCFI\_FILIPINO, CCFR\_FRENCH, CCID\_INDIGENOUS, CCPE\_PERSIAN, CCSA\_SOUTH ASIAN, COVID, LEGIS\_PRESS GALLERY, LMain, MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN, PROVI\_PROVINCE WIDE  
Lead Organization: Ministry of Health  
Headline: Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

This email was auto-generated.

Ministry of Health

## STATEMENT

Provincial health officer's statement on influenza-related deaths in children, youth

VICTORIA - Dr. Bonnie Henry, provincial health officer, has issued the following statement on influenza-associated deaths in children and youth:

"The BC Centre for Disease and Control is aware of six reports of influenza-associated deaths among children and youth in B.C. this season, with investigations ongoing. My thoughts are with families and communities impacted by the loss of a loved one.

"Early findings indicate some of the children experienced secondary bacterial infections contributing to severe illness, which can be a complication of influenza.

"It is important to know that death associated with influenza in previously healthy children continues to be rare. Public-health officials are monitoring the situation closely, and we urge everyone to do their part by taking steps to protect yourself, your children and loved ones against the flu.

"The children who died included one who was younger than five years old, three were between five and nine, and two adolescents were between 15 and 19. Death associated with influenza in previously healthy children is a tragic, but rare event and is especially rare in school-age children and teens.

"This is an unusual season with unusual characteristics, including an early and intense surge in cases. With this unusual pattern, enhanced surveillance has been implemented that includes reporting of pediatric influenza-related deaths to public-health officials. As the information is confirmed, updates on pediatric influenza-related deaths will be posted weekly as part of the respiratory surveillance summaries on the BCCDC website.

"You can take measures to prevent influenza and to treat those at higher risk of severe complications. Vaccination remains our best defence. Vaccination against influenza is available to all children six months and older in B.C. This is particularly important for children at highest individual risk of severe outcomes, including those with chronic medical conditions, those who need to take Aspirin or ASA for long periods of time, children who are very obese, infants and toddlers.

"While children typically have the highest respiratory-virus infection rates, most children with influenza and other respiratory viruses typically recover safely at home without the need for medical intervention. For children at high risk of severe complications, parents should consider talking to their care provider about early access to an anti-viral drug called oseltamivir (Tamiflu), which is most effective against influenza if started within 12 hours, and ideally not later than 48 hours after illness onset.

"Parents of all children should seek care if your child experiences difficulty breathing, or if your child's fever goes away and comes back or persists longer than five days. This may indicate a possible bacterial infection.

"With multiple respiratory illnesses circulating and an early start to influenza season, everyone needs to take preventative measures. This means staying home if you're sick, frequently washing your hands and following proper respiratory etiquette, such as covering your coughs, properly disposing of tissues and

wearing a mask when appropriate."

Learn More:

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To learn more about when to take children to the emergency department, visit:

<http://www.bccchildrens.ca/about/news-stories/stories/when-to-bring-your-child-to-the-emergency-department>

To learn more about the influenza vaccines, visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/flu>

and: <https://immunizebc.ca/influenza>

Contact:

Ministry of Health

Communications

250 952-1887 (media line)

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

Page 66 of 93 to/à Page 75 of 93

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:39 PM  
**To:** Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thanks all. Just waiting for Minister Dix's approval now.

Megan<sup>s.13; s.22</sup>

Thanks,  
Caro

---

**From:** Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:15 PM  
**To:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Good by me, thanks folks.

---

**From:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thanks Caro. Let us know on the other part, but otherwise, I'm good. I will leave this to Krystal to take a look at too.

---

**From:** "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 4:01 PM  
**To:** "Harris, Megan GCPE:EX" <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX" <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, "Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX" <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>, "Machell, Aileen PREM:EX" <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, "Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX" <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Oops sorry about that. Dragged the wrong doc 😊

---

**From:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 4:00 PM



**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thanks Caro... that is an IB

---

**From:** "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3:54 PM  
**To:** "Harris, Megan GCPE:EX" <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX" <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, "Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX" <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>, "Machell, Aileen PREM:EX" <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, "Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX" <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Dr. Henry is okay with having the statement. I have made some edits as per her requests (minor ones).<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13 s.13; s.22

This version

is with MO and DBH for approval.

---

**From:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:43 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thank you Caro.<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

s.13; s.22

Megan

---

**From:** "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3:40 PM  
**To:** "Harris, Megan GCPE:EX" <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX" <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>, "Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX" <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>, "Machell, Aileen PREM:EX" <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, "Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX" <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

And here it is as a statement.

---

**From:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:38 PM  
**To:** Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX <Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Just read it... this is a statement<sup>s.13</sup>  
thoughts..." if it isn't in a statement voice.

100% please switch back if Tim is in agreement. We can't give "our

Also, Chris noted that this has already been given to media outlets in media responses for those interested. So do we need to issue again?

Some thoughts...

Megan

---

**From:** "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX" <[Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3:34 PM

**To:** "Harris, Megan GCPE:EX" <[Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca)>, "Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX" <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>, "Machell, Aileen PREM:EX" <[Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca)>, "Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX" <[Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Krystal.Northey@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>, "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Dropping the Editors list and adding Krystal.

s.13

---

**From:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <[Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:33 PM

**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>; Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <[Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca)>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

s.13

---

**From:** "Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX" <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3:26 PM

**To:** "Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX" <[Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca)>, "Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX" <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>, GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>, "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thanks, all<sup>s.13</sup>

Updating the CC ....

---

**From:** Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <[Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:25 PM

**To:** Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

No concerns to timing on our end, pre-cleared to go whenever ready in late aft or early evening once all approvals are in.

---

**From:** Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:24 PM

**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Understood. Standing by.

Grant

---

**From:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:23 PM

**To:** GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Hello editors,

A heads up that we're working on an urgent PHO statement about influenza deaths among children. We're aiming to get it to you around 4:15 p.m. We're working with Robyn to get a time in the calendar. TBD.

Thanks,

Raina

**Raina Delisle** (she/her)

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Ministry of Health

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia

Office: 778-405-1980

Mobile: 250-886-5601

## Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:37 PM  
**To:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX; Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX; GCPE Editors  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

s.13

Grant

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Hi Megan,

Please find attached the draft IB for the influenza-related deaths in children and youths. It's with Dr. Henry and MO for approval.

Thanks,  
Caro

---

**From:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

s.13

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**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3:26 PM  
**To:** "Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX" <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>, "Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX" <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>, "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thanks, all.<sup>s.13</sup>

---

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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:25 PM

**To:** Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <[Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca)>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:24 PM

**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

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Grant

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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:23 PM

**To:** GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>

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Thanks,

Raina

**Raina Delisle** (she/her)

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Ministry of Health

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia

Office: 778-405-1980

Mobile: 250-886-5601

## Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:35 PM  
**To:** Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out  
**Attachments:** IB\_Influenza deaths\_Dec8\_3pm.docx

Hi Tim,

It is the same IB, now in our template.

Thanks,  
Caro

---

**From:** Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Hi folks, can you make sure to flag anything like this to Krystal as soon as or before it is going to the editors?

Is this akin to the previously considered PHSA bulletin?

---

**From:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <[Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:23 PM  
**To:** GCPE Editors <[GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <[Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca)>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <[Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

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Thanks,  
Raina

**Raina Delisle** (she/her)  
Senior Public Affairs Officer  
Ministry of Health  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia  
Office: 778-405-1980  
Mobile: 250-886-5601

## Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:35 PM  
**To:** Northey, Krystal GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out  
**Attachments:** IB\_Influenza deaths\_Dec8\_3pm.docx

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**From:** Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:33 PM  
**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>; Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

s.13

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**From:** "Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX" <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3:26 PM  
**To:** "Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX" <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>, "Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX" <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>, GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** "Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX" <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>, "Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX" <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

Thanks, all. <sup>s.13</sup>

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**From:** Croft, Robyn J GCPE:EX <Robyn.Croft@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:25 PM  
**To:** Kerr, Grant GCPE:EX <Grant.Kerr@gov.bc.ca>; Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Editors

<GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

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**To:** Delisle, Raina GCPE:EX <Raina.Delisle@gov.bc.ca>; GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

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Grant

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**Sent:** December 8, 2022 3:23 PM

**To:** GCPE Editors <GCPEEDIT@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Shewchuk, Chris GCPE:EX <Chris.Shewchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Bru, Carolyn GCPE:EX <Carolyn.Bru@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** HEADS UP: New PHO statement going out

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**Raina Delisle** (she/her)

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Ministry of Health

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Government of British Columbia

Office: 778-405-1980

Mobile: 250-886-5601



**From:** [Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX](#); [Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Flu vaccine / respiratory illness season update  
**Date:** December 1, 2022 12:08:13 PM

---

Yes, I absolutely could do Monday and that gives more time before the holidays and is more timely in terms of influenza is surging right now.

B

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

*I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em*

*Warning: This email is intended only for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. Any distribution, disclosure, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this in error, please telephone or e-mail the sender immediately and delete the message.*

---

**From:** Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <[Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 1, 2022 12:02 PM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <[Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca)>; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <[Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Flu vaccine / respiratory illness season update

Hi Dr. Henry – we were working through the events calendar for the next few weeks and wanted to check in with you about the timing for the media briefing.

What would you think about going out *before* Dec 7? Specifically, Monday Dec 5.

s.13

What do you think? Feasible?

Thanks for your thoughts on this,

**Sage Aaron, Assistant Deputy Minister** (she/her)

Government Communications and Public Engagement | Government of BC

617 Government St, Victoria, BC V8W 9V1 | 778-678-0832

ləkʷəŋən Territory

**From:** [Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX](#)  
**To:** [Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX](#); [Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Flu vaccine / respiratory illness season update  
**Date:** December 1, 2022 12:08:41 PM

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Or Tuesday the 6th

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4*

*I gratefully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional unceded territory of the Lekwungen Peoples, specifically the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. Hay'sxw'qu Si'em*

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**From:** Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <[Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 1, 2022 12:02 PM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <[Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca)>; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <[Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Flu vaccine / respiratory illness season update

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**Sage Aaron, Assistant Deputy Minister** (she/her)

Government Communications and Public Engagement | Government of BC  
617 Government St, Victoria, BC V8W 9V1 | 778-678-0832  
ləkʷəŋən Territory

## Liu, Susan GCPE:EX

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**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX  
**Sent:** December 1, 2022 5:10 PM  
**To:** 'Sauve, Laura [CWBC]'; Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC]; Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Wong, Jason [BCCDC]; XT:Amos, Heather HLBC:IN; Minhas, Sableen; Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX; Berndt, Eric GCPE:EX; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX; Skowronski, Danuta [BCCDC]  
**Subject:** RE: Influenza

Hi Laura,

We have been working on increasing communications particularly around influenza in children and planning for vaccination before the holidays. I know the comms folk have reached out to a number of physicians and we were talking again this am. I am also looking at doing a media avail likely early next week to raise awareness. I agree this is important to do now, we will keep in touch, Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4

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-----Original Message-----

From: Sauve, Laura [CWBC] <lsauve@cw.bc.ca>  
Sent: November 30, 2022 9:12 PM  
To: Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC] <aamir.bharmal@bccdc.ca>; Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Wong, Jason [BCCDC] <Jason.Wong@bccdc.ca>; XT:Amos, Heather HLBC:IN <heather.amos@bccdc.ca>; Minhas, Sableen <sableen.minhas@phsa.ca>; Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Berndt, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Berndt@gov.bc.ca>; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca>; Skowronski, Danuta [BCCDC] <Danuta.Skowronski@bccdc.ca>  
Subject: RE: Influenza

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi -

I wanted to loop back to this question - the head of pediatrics in Kelowna wrote to me today asking about whether there would be more messaging. I would be happy to assist, and I suspect there would be a number of pediatricians interested in supporting such messaging.

" We just lost<sup>s.22</sup>

and I understand a similar case happened at

BCCH in the past week or two.<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

Is the province mounting a public messaging campaign to motivate parents to immunize their kids against influenza?

Thanks,

Tom"

Thanks

Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC] <aamir.bharmal@bccdc.ca>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 9:51 AM

To: Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie [EXT] <bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca>; Sauve, Laura [CWBC] <lsauve@cw.bc.ca>

Cc: Wong, Jason [BCCDC] <Jason.Wong@bccdc.ca>; Amos, Heather [BCCDC] <heather.amos@bccdc.ca>; Minhas, Sableen <sableen.minhas@phsa.ca>; Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Berndt, Eric GCPE:EX <Eric.Berndt@gov.bc.ca>; Greer, Shannon <Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca>; Skowronski, Danuta [BCCDC] <Danuta.Skowronski@bccdc.ca>

Subject: Re: Influenza

Thanks Sara. Also including Dr Danuta Skowronski from the BCCDC who is a subject matter expert in this area.

Regards,

Aamir

--

Aamir Bharmal, MD MPH CCFP FRCPC

Medical Director, Public Health Response BC Centre for Disease Control

---

From: Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 9:46 AM

To: Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC]; Henry, Bonnie [EXT]; Sauve, Laura [CWBC]

Cc: Wong, Jason [BCCDC]; Amos, Heather [BCCDC]; Minhas, Sableen; Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX; Berndt, Eric GCPE:EX; Greer, Shannon

Subject: Re: Influenza

EXTERNAL SENDER. If you suspect this message is malicious, please forward to spam@phsa.ca and do not open attachments or click on links.

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Hi everyone,

Thanks for your proactive approach to communications and your willingness to collaborate on getting these messages out.

The team at Government Strategic Communications team is going to work out a plan for how to best support this need and we will loop back with this group.

I've copied my colleagues Sage Aaron, Eric Berndt, and Shannon Greer for their awareness. We will loop back to the group if there's any questions!

Warmly,

Sara Thaw

Director, Digital Communications | Strategic Communications Government Communications & Public Engagement

Sara.thaw@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Sara.thaw@gov.bc.ca> | +1 250 883 0374

Pronouns: she/her

With gratitude, living, learning and working on the territory of the lək'wəŋən

People<<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.songheesnation.ca%2Fcommunity%2Fk-ng-n-traditional-territory&data=05%7C01%7Cbonnie.henry%40gov.bc.ca%7Ccff2b00aa1844f21808b08dad35a96e7%7C6fdb52003d0d4a8ab036d3685e359adc%7C0%7C0%7C638054683281612094%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PDPpZKHjpteGc83aQracUw%2B4BCUidiOfDUayE1KhyIM%3D&reserved=0>>.

From: "Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC]" <aamir.bharmal@bccdc.ca>

Date: Friday, November 25, 2022 at 9:21 AM

To: "Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX" <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, "Sauve, Laura [CWBC]" <lsauve@cw.bc.ca>

Cc: "Wong, Jason [BCCDC]" <Jason.Wong@bccdc.ca>, Sara Thaw <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>, "XT:Amos, Heather HLBC:IN" <heather.amos@bccdc.ca>, "Minhas, Sableen" <sableen.minhas@phsa.ca>

Subject: Re: Influenza

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Thanks Bonnie/Laura - also pulling in Heather/Sableen from BCCDC Comms as they had the same question re: proactive communications.

Regards,

Aamir

--

Aamir Bharmal, MD MPH CCFP FRCPC

Medical Director, Public Health Response BC Centre for Disease Control

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 8:55 AM

To: Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC]; Sauve, Laura [CWBC]

Cc: Wong, Jason [BCCDC]; Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX

Subject: RE: Influenza

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Yes, we have been messaging about the importance of influenza vaccination in children since the media avail last week but unfortunately the media were more focused on mask mandates. I am copying Sara Thaw who is leading some of our communications efforts. Laura I particularly wonder if you would be willing to do some media messages about the importance of immunizing children for influenza (and covid) right now. Sara can work with us to get some strong messages out in the next week or so. I think it would be good to have pediatrics specialists like yourself to augment messages from people like me and the MHOs.

My best,  
Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT Victoria, BC V8W 9P4

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From: Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC] <aamir.bharmal@bccdc.ca>  
Sent: November 24, 2022 4:20 PM  
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Wong, Jason [BCCDC] <Jason.Wong@bccdc.ca>  
Subject: FW: Influenza

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Bonnie – see below. Anything that's being planned from your office/Ministry?

Regards,  
Aamir

From: Sauve, Laura [CWBC] <lsauve@cw.bc.ca<mailto:lsauve@cw.bc.ca>>  
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 4:16 PM  
To: Bharmal, Aamir [BCCDC] <aamir.bharmal@bccdc.ca<mailto:aamir.bharmal@bccdc.ca>>  
Subject: Influenza

Hi Aamir – do you know if there are any public health measures or messaging planned around the influenza surge in children?



Certainly pediatricians across the country have been encouraging kids to get influenza vaccination, and have done a bunch of media both on the layers of protection, the importance of influenza vaccine and staying home when sick – and also talking about when to seek care (along with Child Health BC).  
And obviously things like individual school closures are determined by the MHOs in the RHAs.

But it would be nice to ensure that messages from PH and clinicians line up.

Thanks  
Laura

Laura Sauvé, MD, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC  
Medical Lead (Interim), Infection Prevention & Control, PHSA Pediatric Infectious Diseases Specialist, Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia Clinical Assistant Professor, UBC

Ph: 604-875-3049 | Pager: 41-02275 | Email: lsauve@cw.bc.ca<mailto:lsauve@cw.bc.ca>

[cid:image001.jpg@01D900B2.D62DBA40]PHSA Infection Prevention and Control “Empowering everyone to prevent infections”

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