

## Hair salons

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From: s.22  
To: bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: October 15, 2020 2:50:55 PM PDT

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

Hi Dr Henry

I hope this gets to you . Your doing a great job and I can imagine how stressful this time has been for you.

I'm writing this to you as a concerned hairstylist .

I'm concerned as a lot of stylist are taking the protocols lightly and I'm afraid things could get bad for my industry .

Masks are not made mandatory , they are strongly suggested which stylist are taking as we don't have to wear them .

We cannot social distance their for masks should be mandatory period . We are playing with fire here. We all know masks work in stoping the spread of the virus.

So I don't understand why they're not mandatory is you cannot social distance . It's only a mater of time before outbreaks start popping up in my industry and I do not want to shut down again.

Salons should be fined for not fallowing protocols .

I hope this reaches you and you take it into consideration before something happens .

s.22

Salon owner and stylist

Sent from my iPhone

## UFCW 1518 - Mandating masks for anyone entering grocery stores

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From: Shelly Hallman <SHallman@ufcw1518.com>  
To: bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: adrian.dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca, Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca,  
darrell\_jones@saveonfoods.com, michael.medline@sobeys.com,  
GSorensen@georgiamain.com, van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX  
<Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>, Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>  
Sent: October 27, 2020 4:58:45 PM PDT  
Attachments: image001.png, BH masks.pdf

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

Please find the attached letter sent on behalf of Kim Novak.

Thank you –

---

Shelly Hallman  
Administrative Assistant to the President  
She / her/ hers



P 604.526.1518 EX 4871  
F 604.540.1520  
TOLL FREE 1.800.661.3708

350 Columbia St. New Westminster, BC V3L 1A6  
[ufcw1518.com](http://ufcw1518.com)

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October 27, 2020

Email

Office of the Provincial Health Officer  
Ministry of Health  
1515 Blanshard St., Victoria BC

**Letter to Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry: Protect front line workers by mandating masks for anyone entering grocery stores**

Dear Dr. Henry,

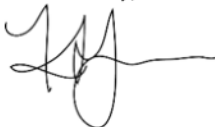
Since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared in March, grocery workers have gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that customers are able to shop safely. They have diligently followed all health and safety precautions mandated by the provincial health authorities and by their employers. They have done their part and now the government must step up efforts to protect these critical workers.

Many grocery stores and retail outlets require customers and workers to wear masks while they are inside. However, many stores require workers to wear masks but do not require customers to wear masks. This double standard endangers workers and is unfair. It creates an expectation of safety for customers but does not extend the same expectation to workers. These policies contravene WorkSafe rules, which ensure workers an expectation of safety while on the job.

COVID-19 cases surged to their highest levels over the weekend, you declared that we are in the second wave of the pandemic. You stated that it is expected that people wear masks when they are out in public. Despite expectations – expectations that have been reinforced by requests from UFCW 1518, from the workers, and from government messaging – many customers still choose not to wear masks while shopping, endangering the workers and worsening the spread of COVID-19.

We ask you to mandate that shoppers wear masks while indoors in order to protect retail workers and slow the spread of COVID-19 transmission. These workers have stepped up for their communities. Now it is time that their government do what is necessary to keep them safe. Mandating mask-wearing while shopping is a simple and effective measure that is consistent with softer asks that the government has already made of the public. It is a fair ask in return for being required to wear masks all day at work.

Yours truly,



Kim Novak  
President, UFCW 1518

cc: Darrell Jones, Save On Foods, PriceSmart, Urban Fare  
Michael Medline, Sobeys, Safeway, FreshCo/Chalo  
Gary Sorenson - IGA, Fresh St Market  
Minister Adrian Dix

350 COLUMBIA STREET, NEW WESTMINSTER, BC V3L 1A6

☎ 1.800.661.3708 📠 604.540.1520 @ reception@ufcw1518.com 🌐 ufcw1518.com

## Retail and Covid

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From: s.22  
To: Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: October 28, 2020 10:08:08 AM PDT

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

Sent from my iPho

Hi Dr Henry. First I'd like to say what a fantastic job you are doing guiding us thru these troubling times. You are amazing and such a compassionate patient person.

I have a concern..... in fact all of my co- workers do..... we work in a department store located in a mall . They are taking all precautions and we have all felt as safe as we can be but now the public is out and about more, not social distancing and to be honest some are very rude, disrespectful and very verbally abusive. Our concern is the mall and store is going to be extending store hours to evening shopping because of Christmas and frankly that is just going to be exposing us workers even more. We all wear masks but it is not mandatory for our customers to wear masks..... the majority do but let's face it it only takes one person to transmit the virus. Our dressing rooms are open but limited but the area can get congested. The store is following the guidelines but the public is not and by opening the stores longer it will just be giving the public more time to be out and about and us workers more chance of being exposed. I was wondering what your thoughts on this are as we as workers are very concerned.

Thank you and again thank you for all your hard work..... you are amazing.

s.22



## re: UFCW 1518 - Mandating masks for anyone entering grocery stores

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From: Follwell, Andrew <Andrew.Follwell@sobeys.com>  
To: bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Kim Novak <KNovak@ufcw1518.com>  
Sent: October 28, 2020 11:40:21 AM PDT  
Attachments: Sobeys Inc.\_B.C. Ministry of Health\_10.28.2020.pdf

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

Good afternoon, please see the attached letter.

Regards,

Andrew

**Andrew Follwell | Vice President Labour Relations & IHM**

4980 Tahoe Blvd | Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 0C7 | 905.238.7124 Ext. 2094 | Cell <sup>s.22</sup>



Sobeys Capital Incorporated  
4980 Tahoe Boulevard  
Mississauga, Ontario L4W 0C7

T 905 238 7124  
sobeyscorporate.com

Dr. Bonnie Henry  
Office of the Provincial Health Officer  
1515 Blanshard St.,  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8W 3C8

October 28, 2020

**Re: Supporting our teammates – Enforcing mandatory face masks in B.C. grocery stores**

Dear Dr. Bonnie Henry,

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, I want to recognize Public Health's tremendous efforts and your continued leadership during what has been an incredibly difficult time. At Sobeys Inc., we remain acutely aware of the impact of this virus and the safety measures required to help keep B.C. communities healthy and well. Throughout the pandemic, our B.C. Safeway, Sobeys and Thrifty Foods teammates have worked around the clock to continue serving Canadian communities safely with industry-leading measures including plexiglass shields, strict physical distancing guidelines, consistent employee hand washing and high-touch surface sanitization. Personal protective equipment is available for all teammates, and our teammates in B.C. are wearing a facial covering at all times while at work.

I must emphasize that we will always comply with all Public Health orders to maintain a safe shopping environment for our teammates and our customers. We know that Public Health has the relevant information and expertise to evaluate risk, and where masks have been mandated for customers in communities across Canada, our teammates have taken immediate action to comply with the orders. We have educated our teammates on the specifics of each order and coached them on the appropriate way to communicate its ruling with customers.

It's important to note that in the communities where Public Health has mandated masks, we've received very little push-back from customers. However, as I'm sure you can appreciate, the safety of our teammates is our top priority, and to protect their physical wellbeing and avoid the escalation of store-level conflicts, we have not made masks mandatory for customers in communities where Public Health has not set a mandate. Our guiding principle from the very start of the pandemic has been to follow the trusted guidance of Public Health, and should you mandate masks in all B.C. grocery stores, we will be fully supportive.

Again, I want to thank your department for your continued support over the past several months. We are proud of our role within the province and are here to support as Public Health provides real, meaningful support to keep our communities healthy and safe.

If you would like to discuss these matters in more detail, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Andrew Follwell  
Vice President, Integrated Health Management and Labour Relations  
Sobeys Inc.

cc: Kim Novak, President, UFCW 1518

## Restaurants Association of Whistler - Letter (Opposition)

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From: s.22  
To: bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: October 28, 2020 12:46:55 PM PDT

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

October 28, 2020  
Dr. Bonnie Henry Office of the Provincial Health Officer  
Ministry of Health  
PO Box 9648  
STN PROV GOVT s.15; s.19  
Victoria BC V8W 9P4 Via  
Email: bonnie.henry@gov.bc.c

Re: Provincial Health Orders Impacts vs. Evidence-Based Decision Making Dear Dr. Henry

I work for a large-scale hotel s.22  
anonymous.

I prefer to remain

I oppose the letter sent to you today from s.22

I am in support of the current regulations set forth and feel that if we resume alcohol sales past 10pm, issues with Covid would move more quickly through the resort town and province. Since the change to this, the loitering has gone down, yelling and talking loudly while spraying droplets has gone down. Intoxicated people are reduced. Safety has gained traction and I can speak for many, that we feel this is a great approach.

While a large portion of my sales and other business have been reduced, your approach is what needs to happen.

Fortunately, the government has many subsidies and grants in place to assist small and medium businesses. They and us may not generate the higher profits we would like, however **safety is the main priority.**

I do hope that you will mandate masks in all public buildings rather than just a guideline. I would also like to see the group limit size for Catering reduced to 10-20 or less, rather than the current 50. With the regulations in place, the hotel I work for, does a good job to uphold the regulations in place. Where I see potential areas of vulnerability are in group environments above 10 people. The people coming to the hotel in these groups, do not necessarily work together or live together. They are gathering in a controlled manner, however with mingling around the resort, in guest rooms sometimes without masks and have too close of contact points, where we are unable to enforce. With the removal of weddings and funerals, this was a great step to stop the spread. The greatest threat I currently see, is group sizes still being at 50 people allowed to gather. Now with private homes going to 6 people, I feel we should adjust the other groups as well.

I appreciate all you are doing for our Province and Country.  
Thank you, for your continued efforts.

s.22

## 296814 – BC Transit

---

From: Transportation, ADM Policy and Programs TRAN:EX  
<ADMPolicyandProgramsTransportation@gov.bc.ca>  
To: s.22  
Cc: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Erinn\_Pinkerton@BCTransit.Com  
Sent: October 29, 2020 10:20:39 AM PDT  
Attachments: 296814 Redirect from HLTH - FW: Passenger capacity /mandatory masks  
s.22

296814 – BC Transit

Dear s.22

I am responding to your email addressed to Provincial Health Officer Bonnie Henry regarding BC Transit and COVID-19.

I know local governments and BC Transit have been working hard to ensure operators and passengers can continue to safely use public transit throughout this pandemic. I appreciated the opportunity to review your feedback, particularly given your role as a BC Transit driver.

As you know, the Ministry of Health and Provincial Health Officer have recommended non-medical masks be worn where physical distancing measures cannot be maintained consistently, such as when riding public transit. As you mention in your email, in line with this recommendation, BC Transit is now requiring passengers to wear face coverings to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. I understand that not everyone is able to wear a mask due to underlying physical or health challenges, including children under five years of age.

BC Transit is responsible for implementing operations decisions concerning COVID-19 safety measures and how it chooses to enforce these safety protocols. As such, you may wish to share your concerns with your employer directly.

Thank you for taking the time to write and share your thoughts.

Sincerely,

Deborah Bowman  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Transportation Policy and Programs Department

Copy to: Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer  
Ministry of Health

Erinn Pinkerton, President and CEO  
BC Transit

## 296814 Redirect from HLTH - FW: Passenger capacity /mandatory masks

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From: Writing Services, Transportation TRAN:EX <Transportation.WritingServices@gov.bc.ca>

From: s.22

Sent: October 8, 2020 11:03 AM

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

Subject: Passenger capacity /mandatory masks

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

As a transit driver s.22 I would like to know what has happened to physical distancing on transit bus's in bc? We're now told that we can have up to 25-30 passengers or more depending on the length of vehicle your driving. We see signs on all the bus stops saying masks are mandatory, we have an announcement that comes on every 3 1/2 min stating the same. Yet you can have 10 passengers on board maybe 1-2 passengers have a mask on, you can have 25 or more and maybe a handful of passengers have a mask on, and sometimes less. We as transit drivers are told not to enforce! These driver areas have been retrofitted with plexiglas, it's not bad but again I say retrofitted, not perfect when you have someone bumbling around looking for there pass, looking for change, and then wanting to ask or comment on something. We need to be scaled back and if that means having more bus's on the road, so be it. So I'm curious when I see on the news about going back where we were a few months ago with certain things, I think maybe transit passengers and drivers are being left out of the loop.

Thanks

s.22

## wearing a mask during an ultrasound exam

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From: s.22  
To: Henry, Bonnie [EXT] <bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca>, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: November 2, 2020 1:22:42 PM PST

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

Hello,

I am writing to you to ask why there are no rules for hospitals regarding patients wearing a mask during medical exams. Im an ultrasound tech s.22 and we have been told that we are NOT allowed to ask a patient to wear a mask for the ultrasound exam. You are aware that the patient is laying on a bed right beside us (hip to hip) for at least 30 minutes (usually longer s.22) in a small room with no ventilation or windows. Our faces are about 1.5 feet apart. How is this safe? I sure don't feel safe at work when my patient doesn't have a mask on! The partner is also in the room and they don't have to wear a mask either!

Please, please address this issue. We are all afraid of getting Covid and bringing it home to our families. We are supposed to "do our job" and "not worry" but how can we do that? If you have to wear a mask to get groceries, why don't you have to wear a mask to get an ultrasound exam? Hospitals are dirty places and everyone is allowed in. Its not clean, theres no clean air unless your standing outside the door!

I eagerly await your response.

Sincerely,

s.22

## Fwd: Gyms and fitness facilities

From: s.22  
To: bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: November 4, 2020 8:12:44 PM PST

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

Hi Dr. Henry,

Below is an email I sent to Dr. Brodtkin at Fraser Health. I am hoping you may give my suggestions some consideration. It is heartbreaking to see other fitness and wellness facilities putting profit over the health of the community and I urge you to give this some attention.

s.22

----- Forwarded message -----

From: s.22  
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 7:59 PM  
Subject: Gyms and fitness facilities  
To: <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>

Hi Dr. Brodtkin

I hope this email finds you well. I can only imagine how busy you are right now but hope you will find time to consider my query.

I am a s.22 in the s.22 for child and youth mental health crises and have worked in various s.22 programs and services. I am also a yoga instructor and realized that the mental health programs and services were not adequately meeting the expanding mental health needs of individuals.

s.22 I opened a yoga studio s.22 with a focus on yoga for mental health. s.22 I also knew the risks of not doing something about the mental health crisis would mean things would be much worse, especially for youth.

I can assure you that my yoga studio operates with the HIGHEST safety standards for COVID. My ask to you is that Fraser Health in collaboration with Worksafe BC mandate stricter requirements with fitness and yoga facilities. I am fearful that the laid back approach to these requirements by my colleagues in the fitness and wellness industry will lead to another mass shut down, or worse, mass outbreaks. Below are my protocols that I hope you consider mandating across the Fraser Region with all gym and fitness facilities.

1. No cancellation fee. Nobody should be penalized for staying home and cancellation fees encourage people to attend when unwell.
2. Mandatory masks at all times except when 6 feet apart (for example once on the yoga mat)
3. Minimum 6 feet distance for low impact activities (ie. yoga) and minimum 8 or 10 feet apart for high intensity exercise.
4. Sanitize hands prior to entry AND upon leaving (because we so often grab a snack on our way out without washing our hands)
5. Daily COVID checks similar to what the schools have enforced for staff and members.
6. Disinfecting of all touch points and surfaces between every class.
7. Mandatory pre-registration to ensure adequate contact tracing.
8. No penalties for instructors cancelling classes last minute if unwell.

I invite you to come for a tour of my yoga studio if you are curious to see how a space can safely operate and provide the essential services of movement and mental health support while maintaining highest cleanliness standards. In addition to the above protocols, I have a high level HVAC system ensuring regular air circulation throughout my facility with an open clean air dump directly into the studio and multiple diffusers throughout the space. The HVAC system is running at all times to ensure maximum circulation of fresh air.

Lastly, because my yoga studio focuses on the mental health benefits of yoga, all of our classes are low impact and do not produce any heavy breathing or sweat. This is very different than other fitness type yoga studios such as s.22 where several COVID cases could be traced to.

Unfortunately, I am aware that these requirements are not mandated or enforced other than some social distancing measures in place by Worksafe. As a s.22 and a s.22, I am requesting that you please mandate these requirements of all fitness facilities and yoga studios before we have a full shut down of essential services.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or would like to view my studio (perhaps a surprise visit to the s.22 to compare may prove interesting for you)

I am passionate about the essential services I am providing in my yoga studio as I have never seen such profound mental health outcomes as I have in my studio, s.22. We need to find a balance with the mental health supports movement and exercise provide, with the safety of the community. I do believe stricter measures are the answer.

Thank you,

--

s.22

s.22



## FW: Mask Wearing Mandatory In Grocery Stores - Letter to Dr. Bonnie Henry

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From: Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca  
To: Health, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Health@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: November 9, 2020 11:20:04 AM PST  
Attachments: image001.png, Masks Mandatory - Dr Henry.pdf

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)

Phone: s.17; s.19

*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:** Shelly Hallman <SHallman@ufcw1518.com>  
**Sent:** November 9, 2020 11:15 AM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Dix.MLA, Adrian LASS:EX <Adrian.Dix.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Mask Wearing Mandatory In Grocery Stores - Letter to Dr. Bonnie Henry

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

Good morning,

Please find the attached letter sent on behalf of Kim Novak.

Thank you.

---

Shelly Hallman  
Administrative Assistant to the President  
She / her/ hers



P 604.526.1518 EX 4871  
F 604.540.1520  
TOLL FREE 1.800.661.3708

350 Columbia St. New Westminster, BC V3L 1A6  
[ufcw1518.com](mailto:ufcw1518.com)

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November 9, 2020

Office of the Provincial Health Officer,  
Ministry of Health,  
1515 Blanshard St., Victoria BC

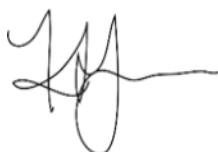
**Letter to Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonny Henry: Please Respond to our Request of October 27, 2020**

Dear Dr. Henry,

Grocery and retail workers continue to do their jobs as cases of COVID-19 rise to alarming levels in British Columbia. Despite your many statements encouraging members of the public to wear masks while in indoor public spaces, an unacceptable number of people continue to shop unmasked. This puts grocery and retail workers at risk.

We are eagerly awaiting a response to our letter of October 27, 2020, which asked that you issue an order to the public to wear masks when entering a grocery or retail store. Please respond to our request – UFCW 1518 members deserve protection from COVID-19, and they deserve certainty about their work situation over the next several weeks.

Yours truly,



Kim Novak  
President, UFCW 1518

cc: Minister Adrian Dix (emailed)

## RE: Mask mandate in retail - safety for staff

---

From: Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca  
To: Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca>, Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Wanamaker, Lori FIN:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>, Hughes, Trevor LBR:EX <Trevor.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Wright, Don J. PREM:EX <Don.J.Wright@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: November 19, 2020 11:14:01 AM PST

I agree, our recommendation is the Minister of Public Safety issue a ministerial directive under the Emergency Programs Act.

That would align with our previous approach of the enforcement pieces coming from PSSG.

Bonnie

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health*

s.15; s.19

*Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)*

Phone: s.17; s.19

*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:** Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** November 19, 2020 10:59 AM  
**To:** Dix, Adrian HLTH:EX <Adrian.Dix@gov.bc.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Wright, Don J. PREM:EX <Don.J.Wright@gov.bc.ca>; Wanamaker, Lori FIN:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Hughes, Trevor LBR:EX <Trevor.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate in retail - safety for staff

Good morning,

I understand talks are underway with Worksafe to ensure they include mask policy in Covid workplace guidelines. I have been contacted today by Save-On and the Retail Council, who favour the mandate approach, to ensure we have clear messaging on support for staff who must enforce the mandate. Customers are confronting each other and staff on the issue of masks and expecting staff to expel those not wearing masks.

The safety of staff is also an employer responsibility in this case. Security guards could be available. Plans need to be in place for those seeking accommodation on mask wearing due to disability. ETc. Ultimately, management should close down briefly if necessary to resolve conflict. I'll leave specifics to the experts.

However, Worksafe should require strategies on this front in the plans -- for grocery clerks just as they do for bouncers in bars, or nurses in ER.

Geoff

### GEOFF MEGGS

Chief of Staff, Premier's Office  
West Annex, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC, V8V 1K7



## Sullivan, Michelle A HLTH:EX

---

**From:** promed-bounces@promedmail.org on behalf of promed-request@promedmail.org  
**Sent:** August 28, 2020 3:25 AM  
**To:** promed@promedmail.org  
**Subject:** ProMED Digest, Vol 98, Issue 75

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### Today's Topics:

1. PRO/AH> Lumpy skin disease - India (03): (MP,AS) cattle, spread (promed@promedmail.org)
2. PRO/PL> Alternaria, peanut - India: (TN) (promed@promedmail.org)
3. PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (378): Americas, influenza, selected countries, WHO, global (promed@promedmail.org)

---

### Message: 1

Date: Thu, 27 Aug 2020 21:40:33 +0000

From: promed@promedmail.org

Subject: PRO/AH> Lumpy skin disease - India (03): (MP,AS) cattle, spread

To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-ahead-post@promedmail.org

Message-ID:

<0100017431dd7c85-25050fff-ad98-4c46-b53e-d159818b51fd-000000@email.amazonses.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

LUMPY SKIN DISEASE - INDIA (03): (MADHYA PRADESH, ASSAM) CATTLE, SPREAD

\*\*\*\*\*

A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

ProMED-mail is a program of the  
International Society for Infectious Diseases  
<<http://www.isid.org>>

In this post:

[1] Madhya Pradesh

[2] Assam

\*\*\*\*\*

[1] Madhya Pradesh

Date: Tue 25 Aug 2020 1:46 a.m. IST

Source: The Free Press Journal [abridged, edited]

<<https://www.freepressjournal.in/india/virus-attack-on-cattle-in-madhya-pradesh>>

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[2] Assam

Date: Wed 26 Aug 2020

Source: Northeast Now [edited]

<<https://nenow.in/north-east-news/assam/lumpy-skin-disease-hits-cattle-of-assam-government-urged-to-raise-awareness.html>>

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Message: 2

Date: Fri, 28 Aug 2020 09:45:26 +0000

From: promed@promedmail.org

Subject: PRO/PL> Alternaria, peanut - India: (TN)

To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-plant-post@promedmail.org

Message-ID:

<010001743475235b-f16b558d-440b-47f8-8b46-4b7b66a98e1a-000000@email.amazonses.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

ALTERNARIA, PEANUT - INDIA: (TAMIL NADU)

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Message: 3

Date: Fri, 28 Aug 2020 10:22:30 +0000

From: promed@promedmail.org

Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (378): Americas, influenza,  
selected countries, WHO, global

To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-edr-post@promedmail.org,  
promed-ahead-post@promedmail.org

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE-19 UPDATE (378): AMERICAS, INFLUENZA CONCERNS,  
SELECTED COUNTRIES, WHO, GLOBAL

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A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

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ProMED-mail rapporteur Kunihiro Iizuka

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[4] WHO: daily new cases reported (as of 27 Aug 2020)  
Date: Thu 27 Aug 2020  
Source: WHO [abridged, edited]  
<<https://covid19.who.int/table>>

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End of ProMED Digest, Vol 98, Issue 75

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## Sullivan, Michelle A HLTH:EX

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**From:** promed-bounces@promedmail.org on behalf of promed-request@promedmail.org  
**Sent:** December 2, 2020 3:30 PM  
**To:** promed@promedmail.org  
**Subject:** ProMED Digest, Vol 102, Issue 3

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

### Today's Topics:

1. PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (515): USA ACIP recommendations, Europe schools, WHO, global (promed@promedmail.org)

---

### Message: 1

Date: Wed, 2 Dec 2020 23:26:06 +0000

From: promed@promedmail.org

Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (515): USA ACIP recommendations, Europe schools, WHO, global

To: promed-post@promedmail.org, promed-edr-post@promedmail.org, promed-ahead-post@promedmail.org

Message-ID:

<0100017625c6fd08-851c2571-6373-4b1d-a47d-3b735074c36b-000000@email.amazonses.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (515): ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON IMMUNIZATION PRACTICES RECOMMENDATIONS, EUROPE SCHOOLS, WHO, GLOBAL

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A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

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International Society for Infectious Diseases

<<http://www.isid.org>>

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Date: Tue 1 Dec 2020

Source: US News and World Report [edited]

<<https://www.usnews.com/news/health-news/articles/2020-12-01/health-care-workers-nursing-home-residents-to-get-first-vaccines-panel>>

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[3] WHO updates (as of 1 Dec 2020)  
[A] Weekly epidemiological update  
Date: Tue 1 Dec 2020  
Source: Emergency Situational Updates [abridged, edited]  
<<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/weekly-epidemiological-update---1-december-2020>>

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End of ProMED Digest, Vol 102, Issue 3

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## RE: Masks for K-12 please!!

---

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mckee, Geoffrey [BCCDC] <geoffrey.mckee@bccdc.ca>, Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>  
Sent: September 27, 2021 8:50:06 AM PDT

Yes, that is one things. I also would like to know if there is more in the staggering and suspending of assemblies etc. that we could look at. Given the high rates in some communities should we be adding in these additional measures to areas where additional orders are in place (e.g. the north, Interior and Fraser East).

Bonnie  
Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)  
Phone: s.17; s.19

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---

**From:** Mckee, Geoffrey [BCCDC] <geoffrey.mckee@bccdc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 27, 2021 6:56 AM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: Masks for K-12 please!!

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

Thanks Bonnie. Even with the data showing very little difference between 5-8 and 9-11 year olds in the rates, I think it is going to be very difficult not to consider masking for K-3.

Cheers,

Geoff

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 26, 2021 9:28 AM  
**To:** Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC]; Mckee, Geoffrey [BCCDC]  
**Subject:** FW: Masks for K-12 please!!

**EXTERNAL SENDER.** If you suspect this message is malicious, please forward to [spam@phsa.ca](mailto:spam@phsa.ca) and **do not** open attachments or click on links.

---

Fyi, I am forwarding a selection of the many, many emails I continue to receive so you are aware.

Bonnie  
Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
s.15; s.19

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**From:** s.22

**Sent:** September 26, 2021 9:21 AM

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

**Subject:** Masks for K-12 please!!

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

Hello Dr. Henry,

Please read this very short article from the US CDC where they show that unmasked students are more likely to have COVID transmission in schools. This work is current (ie. not from last year) which is important since we were not dealing with the delta variant last year.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7039e1.htm>

What this article shows is that masking works. There are already 8-9 clear examples of transmission in schools - by my count 7 clusters and 2 outbreaks - and no doubt more than what we are aware of since many young kids are asymptomatic. Virtually ALL of the transmission in these schools has been in classes under Grade 5. This is no accident and as you know there are two reasons for that - kids who cannot be vaccinated and no mask requirement.

You need to mandate masks for K-3 kids right away. Things are going to get very bad very quickly - in my opinion they already are because the data show skyrocketing cases in the under 10 age group without a similar trend in every other age group. Your unwillingness to accept that young kids can wear masks if they are expected to is starting to get dangerous. Your unwillingness to accept that some people have to be told what to do (mask their young children in this case) is getting dangerous. Some people will only do something if they are told they must. Please - just put in place a K-12 mask mandate. Delta is very contagious and transmission in schools will be terrible this fall and winter unless something is done differently.

Thank you for reading this,

s.22

s.22 teacher

Sent from my iPhone

## RE: Masks for K-12 please!!

---

From: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Mckee, Geoffrey [BCCDC] <geoffrey.mckee@bccdc.ca>, Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>  
Sent: September 27, 2021 8:59:58 AM PDT

Thanks Geoff,

I also wonder if these were needed for the younger grades only as the 12-17 do seem protected relatively with vaccination.

B

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health

s.15; s.19

Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
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**Subject:** Re: Masks for K-12 please!!

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I scheduled a quick touch base with the school MHOs later this afternoon and can discuss options in addition to the exposure notification processes.

Here are some options that could be considered, either regionally or provincially:

- Capacity limits on assemblies and gatherings
- Physical distancing requirements in line with the practices last year
- Extending masking requirements (instead of recommendations) to K-3
- Limitations on extracurricular activities, particularly inter-school activities (tournaments etc.)
- Cohorting to grades or classes (rather than the more challenging cohort model from last year) - this would be much more operationally challenging and probably only feasible as a measure of last resort before school closures

Cheers,  
Geoff

---

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

**Sent:** September 27, 2021 8:50 AM

**To:** Mckee, Geoffrey [BCCDC]; Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC]

**Subject:** RE: Masks for K-12 please!!

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Yes, that is one things. I also would like to know if there is more in the staggering and suspending of assemblies etc. that we could look at. Given the high rates in some communities should we be adding in these additional measures to areas where additional orders are in place (e.g. the north, Interior and Fraser East).

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Geoff

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Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health

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Hello Dr. Henry,

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<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7039e1.htm>

What this article shows is that masking works. There are already 8-9 clear examples of transmission in schools - by my count 7 clusters and 2 outbreaks - and no doubt more than what we are aware of since many young kids are asymptomatic. Virtually ALL of the transmission in these schools has been in classes under Grade 5. This is no accident and as you know there are two reasons for that - kids who cannot be vaccinated and no mask requirement. You need to mandate masks for K-3 kids right away. Things are going to get very bad very quickly - in my opinion they already are because the data show skyrocketing cases in the under 10 age group without a similar trend in every other age group. Your unwillingness to accept that young kids can wear masks if they are expected to is starting to get dangerous. Your unwillingness to accept that some people have to be told what to do (mask their young children in this case) is getting dangerous. Some people will only do something if they are told they must. Please - just put in place a K-12 mask mandate. Delta is very contagious and transmission in schools will be terrible this fall and winter unless something is done differently.

Thank you for reading this,

s.22

s.22 teacher

Sent from my iPhone

## Update to K-12 slides

---

From: Smolina, Kate [BCCDC] <Kate.Smolina@bccdc.ca>  
To: Henry, Bonnie [EXT] <bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca>, Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC] <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>  
Cc: Sandhu, Jat [BCCDC] <jat.sandhu@bccdc.ca>, Sandhu, Jatinder HLTH:IN <jat.sandhu@bccdc.ca>  
Sent: September 28, 2021 11:46:41 AM PDT  
Attachments: Pediatric\_slides\_28Sept2021.pptx

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

Hi Bonnie and Reka,  
Attached please find the updated K-12 slides to give you a better sense of what has happened over the last week.  
Thank you,  
Kate

# COVID-19 in Children

28 September 2021

Team: Kate Smolina, Haoyu Su, Hind Sbihi, Chris Mill, Rose Jose, Caren Rose, Naveed Janjua

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## Face Coverings (COVID-19) PHO order

---

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Daly, Patty [VCH] <Patricia.Daly@vch.ca>, XT:Lysyshyn, Mark Dr. HLTH:IN <Mark.Lysyshyn@vch.ca>, XT:HLTH Taki, Richard <Richard.Taki@vch.ca>, XT:HLTH Brodtkin, Elizabeth <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>, XT:Tyler, Ingrid FRHA:IN <ingrid.tyler@fraserhealth.ca>, Kerwin, Oona <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>, XT:HLTH Kosatsky, Tom <tom.kosatsky@bccdc.ca>, XT:Henderson, Sarah ENV:IN <Sarah.Henderson@bccdc.ca>, Lakey, William PSA:EX <William.Lakey@gov.bc.ca>, XT:HLTH Stanwick, Richard <richard.stanwick@viha.ca>, XT:HLTH Fyfe, Murray <murray.fyfe@viha.ca>, Cole Diplock <Cole.Diplock@viha.ca>, Luttrell, Gethsemane <Gethsemane.Luttrell@VIHA.CA>, XT:HLTH Pollock, Sue <sue.pollock@interiorhealth.ca>, XT:Mema, Dr. Silvina HLTH:IN <Silvina.Mema@interiorhealth.ca>, Zimmerman, Courtney <Courtney.Zimmerman@interiorhealth.ca>, Jong Kim (Jong.Kim@northernhealth.ca) <Jong.Kim@northernhealth.ca>, Gray, Andrew Dr. HLTH:IN <andrew.gray@northernhealth.ca>, Corneil, Trevor [NH] <Trevor.Corneil@northernhealth.ca>, Quibell, Doug <Doug.Quibell@northernhealth.ca>, Behn Smith, Daniele HLTH:EX <Daniele.BehnSmith@gov.bc.ca>, XT:McDonald, Shannon HLTH:IN <Shannon.McDonald@fnha.ca>, Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>, Therrien, Darlene HLTH:EX <Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca>, Miller, Haley HLTH:EX <Haley.Miller@gov.bc.ca>, McCaskill, Darrin WCB:EX <Darrin.McCaskill@worksafebc.com>, Brocklehurst, Thomas WCB:EX <Tom.Brocklehurst@worksafebc.com>, Lovelace, Mary WCB:EX <Mary.Lovelace@worksafebc.com>, Harkness, Gordon WCB:EX <Gordon.Harkness@worksafebc.com>, Sedun, Jeanne AEST:EX <Jeanne.Sedun@gov.bc.ca>, Brewster, Kevin AEST:EX <Kevin.Brewster@gov.bc.ca>, Tanaka, Sandra AEST:EX <Sandra.Tanaka@gov.bc.ca>, Beddall, Scott EDUC:EX <Scott.Beddall@gov.bc.ca>, Docking, Christie M HLTH:EX <Christie.Docking@gov.bc.ca>, Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>, McKee, Geoffrey [BCCDC] <geoffrey.mckee@bccdc.ca>, Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Matthew G PSSG:EX <Matthew.G.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Winegarden, Cole PSSG:EX <Cole.Winegarden@gov.bc.ca>, Brazier, Heather M EMBC:EX <Heather.Brazier@gov.bc.ca>, Ying-udomrat, Will HLTH:EX <Will.Ying-udomrat@gov.bc.ca>, Thiessen-Wale, Katherine HLTH:EX <Katherine.ThiessenWale@gov.bc.ca>, XT:Amos, Heather HLBC:IN <heather.amos@bccdc.ca>, Yamanaka, Michael W PSA:EX <Michael.Yamanaka@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: September 28, 2021 5:20:37 PM PDT  
Attachments: Face Coverings September Sept. 28 final.pdf  
Good afternoon.

Attached is a revision to this order, which integrates school masking requirements into the order, consistent with the Ministry of Education requirement for mask wearing to grade 4 and up, and for public places the age was moved from 12 to 9 years. Also, the order does not require mask wearing while doing exercise or sport in general society, whereas it does require mask wearing for exercise or sport in school, with the exception of high intensity exercise.

Two other general changes are to provide the option for barriers between worker and the public in inside public spaces, as that had been inadvertently omitted from the previous order, and it clarifies that mask wearing is required in a place of worship and attached premises operated by a faith community when used for secular purposes.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)  
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1  
T 250.952.1701 C<sup>s.17</sup> F. 250.952. 1713 [brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX

**Sent:** September 2, 2021 12:17 PM

**To:** Daly, Patty [VCH] <Patricia.Daly@vch.ca>; XT:Lysyshyn, Mark Dr. HLTH:IN <Mark.Lysyshyn@vch.ca>; Taki, Richard <Richard.Taki@vch.ca>; Elizabeth Brodtkin (elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca) <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>; Tyler, Ingrid <ingrid.tyler@fraserhealth.ca>; Kerwin, Oona <Oona.Kerwin@fraserhealth.ca>; Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; Reka Gustafson <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>; XT:HLTH Kosatsky, Tom <tom.kosatsky@bccdc.ca>; XT:Henderson, Sarah ENV:IN <Sarah.Henderson@bccdc.ca>; Lakey, William PSA:EX <William.Lakey@gov.bc.ca>; richard.stanwick@viha.ca; XT:HLTH Fyfe, Murray <murray.fyfe@viha.ca>; 'Cole Diplock' <Cole.Diplock@viha.ca>; Luttrell, Gethsemane <Gethsemane.Luttrell@VIHA.CA>; XT:HLTH Pollock, Sue <sue.pollock@interiorhealth.ca>; XT:Mema, Dr. Silvina HLTH:IN <Silvina.Mema@interiorhealth.ca>; Zimmerman, Courtney <Courtney.Zimmerman@interiorhealth.ca>; Jong Kim (Jong.Kim@northernhealth.ca) <Jong.Kim@northernhealth.ca>; Andrew Gray (andrew.gray@northernhealth.ca) <andrew.gray@northernhealth.ca>; Quibell, Doug <Doug.Quibell@northernhealth.ca>; Behn Smith, Daniele <Daniele.BehnSmith@gov.bc.ca>; XT:McDonald, Shannon HLTH:IN <Shannon.McDonald@fnha.ca>; Hryciuk, Lorie <Lorie.Hryciuk@gov.bc.ca>; Rongve, Ian HLTH:EX <Ian.Rongve@gov.bc.ca>; Therrien, Darlene HLTH:EX <Darlene.Therrien@gov.bc.ca>; Miller, Haley HLTH:EX <Haley.Miller@gov.bc.ca>; McCaskill, Darrin <Darrin.McCaskill@worksafebc.com>; Brocklehurst, Tom <Tom.Brocklehurst@worksafebc.com>; Lovelace, Mary WCB:EX (Mary.Lovelace@worksafebc.com) <Mary.Lovelace@worksafebc.com>; Harkness, Gordon <Gordon.Harkness@worksafebc.com>; Sedun, Jeanne AEST:EX <Jeanne.Sedun@gov.bc.ca>; Brewster, Kevin AEST:EX <Kevin.Brewster@gov.bc.ca>; Tanaka, Sandra AEST:EX <Sandra.Tanaka@gov.bc.ca>; Beddall, Scott EDUC:EX (Scott.Beddall@gov.bc.ca) <Scott.Beddall@gov.bc.ca>; Docking, Christie M HLTH:EX <Christie.Docking@gov.bc.ca>; Nicholls, Cloe EDUC:EX <Cloe.Nicholls@gov.bc.ca>; Mckee, Geoffrey [BCCDC] <geoffrey.mckee@bccdc.ca>; Reka Gustafson <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>; Lipp, Jamie <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Matthew <Matthew.G.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Cole Winegarden (Cole.Winegarden@gov.bc.ca) <Cole.Winegarden@gov.bc.ca>; Brazier, Heather <Heather.Brazier@gov.bc.ca>; 'Will.Ying-udomrat@gov.bc.ca' <Will.Ying-udomrat@gov.bc.ca>; Thiessen-Wale, Katherine HLTH:EX <Katherine.ThiessenWale@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** Face Coverings (COVID-19) PHO order

Good afternoon. Attached is the "Face Coverings (COVID-19)" PHO order that will posted to the PHO website.

This confirms the details of the previously announced province wide mandatory mask order, reinstating many of the previous requirements that were in the Minister of PSSG mandatory mask order. It is set to expire on October 31.

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)  
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1  
T 250.952.1701 C<sup>s.17</sup> F. 250.952. 1713 [brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca)



## ORDER OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICER

(Pursuant to Sections 30, 31, 32, 39 (3), 53, 54 (1) (h), 67 (2) and  
69 *Public Health Act*, S.B.C. 2008)

### ***FACE COVERINGS (COVID-19) – SEPTEMBER 28, 2021***

The *Public Health Act* is at:

<http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/content/complete/statreg/08028/?xsl=/templates/browse.xsl>  
(excerpts enclosed)

**TO: BRITISH COLUMBIANS AND VISITORS TO BRITISH COLUMBIA**

#### **WHEREAS:**

- A. On March 17, 2020 I provided notice under section 52 (2) of the *Public Health Act* that the transmission of the infectious agent SARS-CoV-2, which has caused cases, clusters and outbreaks of a serious communicable disease known as COVID-19 among the population of the Province of British Columbia, constitutes a regional event, as defined in section 51 of the *Public Health Act*;
- B. The presence of virus variants of concern in the Province, in particular the Delta variant, has heightened the risk to the population generally due to the highly transmissible nature of the Delta variant.
- C. Vaccines, which prevent or reduce the risk of infection with SARS-CoV-2, have been and continue to be made available to persons in British Columbia;
- D. While substantial progress has been made in vaccinating the population of BC, there remains significant numbers of unvaccinated people, resulting in increases in cases, hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions. The increase in cases, hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions is primarily, although not exclusively, amongst the unvaccinated.
- E. A person infected with SARS-CoV-2 can infect other people with whom the infected person is in contact;
- F. Unvaccinated persons are at higher risk than vaccinated persons of being infected with SARS-CoV-2 and of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 to other persons.
- G. Most infections occur between unvaccinated people, however, due to the highly transmissible nature of the Delta variant, and in view of the substantial numbers of people in BC who

remain unvaccinated, vaccinated people continue to be likely to be exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus and to contract COVID-19.

- H. Evidence is emerging that, although to a lesser extent than unvaccinated people, people who are vaccinated can contract the SARS-CoV-2 virus and be a source of transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus to others, further perpetuating the transmission chain.
- I. Unvaccinated people are at a much higher risk of serious complications of COVID-19, which can result in hospitalization, admission to intensive care units and death. In addition to serious impacts on the health of a person who contracts COVID-19, high numbers of seriously ill people can overtax the health care system to the extent that the health care system can be compromised in its ability to deliver health care to other seriously ill people, further endangering public health.
- J. With the onset of fall, the province is entering a period of time when people will be gathering indoors more frequently due to cooler weather and the resumption of kindergarten to grade 12 education and post-secondary education. An increase in indoor gatherings and events is anticipated also due to the relaxation of restrictions on gatherings and events which were relaxed on June 30. The gathering of people indoors facilitates and is expected to accelerate the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 within BC.
- K. Properly worn, face coverings are one measure that has been shown to suppress the transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19. The non-wearing of masks by people gathering indoors, some of whom might be infected and some of whom might be susceptible to infection, interferes with the suppression of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.
- L. I recognize the effect of the measures I am putting in place to protect the health of the residents of BC and, with this in mind, have engaged and will continue to engage in a process of reconsideration of these measures, based upon the information and evidence available to me, including infection rates, sources of transmission, the presence of clusters and outbreaks, particularly in facilities, the number of people in hospital and in intensive care, deaths, the emergence of and risks posed by virus variants of concern, vaccine availability, immunization rates, the vulnerability of particular populations and reports from the rest of Canada and other jurisdictions, with a view to balancing the interests of the people affected by the Order, including constitutionally protected interests, against the risk of harm to residents of BC created by the presence of unvaccinated persons in BC.
- M. I further recognize that constitutionally-protected interests include the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. These rights and freedoms are not, however, absolute and are subject to reasonable limits, prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society. These limits include proportionate, precautionary and evidence-based restrictions to prevent loss of life, serious illness and disruption of our health system and society. When exercising my powers to protect the health of the public from the risks posed by COVID-19, I am aware of my obligation to choose measures that limit the Charter rights and freedoms of British Columbians less intrusively, where doing so is consistent with public health principles;

N. In addition, I recognize the interests protected by the *Human Rights Code* and have taken these into consideration when exercising my powers to protect the health of the public from the risks posed by COVID-19.

O. I have reason to believe and do believe that

- (a) the presence of the public, operators, workers, school staff persons and students, post-secondary staff persons and students, in indoor settings where they intermingle with each other without wearing a face covering constitutes a health hazard under the *Public Health Act*;
- (b) in order to mitigate the risk of the transmission of SARS-CoV-2 arising from the presence of the public, operators and workers, school staff persons and students, post-secondary staff persons and students, in indoor settings where they intermingle without wearing a face covering, it is necessary for me to exercise the powers in sections 30, 31, 32, 39, 53, 54, and 67 (2) of the *Public Health Act* **TO ORDER** as follows:

**THIS ORDER REPLACES MY ORDER MADE ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2021 WITH RESPECT TO FACE COVERINGS IN INDOOR PUBLIC SPACES.**

### **Definitions**

**1** In this order:

**“classroom”** means an inside area in which a school or, post-secondary institution provides instruction in an educational or training program;

**“face covering”** means either of the following that covers the nose and mouth of a person:

- (a) a medical or non-medical mask;
- (b) a tightly woven fabric;

but does not include a small or large clear plastic face shield

**“fitness facility”** means a place used for fitness activities, including a gym, except in a school space or a post-secondary space, fitness studio or dance studio;

**“high intensity physical activity”** means an activity involving sustained increased respiration rates and elevated heart rates;

**“hotel”** includes a motel, inn, bed and breakfast, hostel or other place in which rooms are maintained for the accommodation of the public;

**“indoor public space”** means the indoor area of any of the following but does not include a working area

- (a) a building or structure that is provided for the common use of all occupants and invitees of the building or structure, including lobbies, hallways, public bathrooms and elevators, that is used as
  - (i) a retail business,
  - (ii) a service business,

- (iii) an office building other than office, cubicle or other room in an office building to which a member of the public has been invited by an operator or worker for the purpose of receiving a service;
- (iv) a hotel,
- (v) a restaurant, pub, bar or other business that prepares and sells food or drink,
- (vi) a mall or shopping centre,
- (vii) a pharmacy,
- (viii) a fitness facility or a sport facility,
- (ix) a place in which a non-profit organization provides goods or services to the public,
- (x) a place that provides cultural, entertainment or recreational services or activities, including a theatre, cinema, concert hall, arcade, billiard hall, museum, gallery or library, or
- (xi) a conference centre, community hall or other place that hosts public events;
- (xii) a courthouse; or
- (xiii) a place of worship and attached premises operated by a faith community when used for secular purposes;
- (b) a taxi, limousine, perimeter seating vehicle, perimeter seating bus, vehicle used for a commercial ride sharing service or other vehicle for hire;
- (c) a public transportation vehicle;
- (d) the indoor or sheltered portion or a terminal, station or other location at which persons
  - (i) load onto or unload from a public transportation vehicle, or
  - (ii) wait to load onto a public transportation vehicle;
- (e) an airport, heliport or seaplane terminal.

**“operator”** in relation to an indoor public space means an owner or operator of the indoor public space;

**"perimeter seating"** has the same meaning as in the Passenger Transportation Regulation;

**"perimeter seating bus"** has the same meaning as in the Passenger Transportation Regulation;

**"personal service"** means a service provided by a person to or on the body of another person, and includes services provided at a barbershop, beauty parlour, health spa, massage parlour, nail salon, tattoo shop, sauna or steam bath;

**“physical barrier”** means a barrier which is designed, installed and maintained in accordance with WorkSafeBC guidance at <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/health-safety/information-sheets/covid-19-health-safety-designing-effective-barriers?lang=en>;

**“post-secondary space”** means

- (a) a building or structure that is operated by a post-secondary institution and provided for the common use of all students and staff of the post-secondary institution, including lobbies, hallways, public bathrooms,
- (b) classrooms, laboratories, gyms and other indoor areas of a building or structure that is operated by a post-secondary institution where students receive educational instruction, services or programming, and,
- (c) vehicles supplied or contracted by the post-secondary institution for the transport of students, if more than one person is present in the vehicle

**“post-secondary institution”** includes an entity that provides any of the following programs:

- (a) an educational or training program provided under
  - (i) the *College and Institute Act*,
  - (ii) the *Royal Roads University Act*,
  - (iii) the *Thompson Rivers University Act*,
  - (iv) the *University Act*, or
  - (v) the *Private Training Act*;
- (b) a program provided in accordance with a consent given under the *Degree Authorization Act*;
- (c) a theological education or training program provided under an Act;

**“post-secondary staff person”** means an employee, faculty, or other person acting on behalf of a post-secondary institution including a volunteer engaged in post-secondary related activities, and any other person in a post-secondary space who is not a “student” or “visitor”;

**“public transportation vehicle”** includes a bus, train or ferry;

**“retail business”** means a business that sells retail goods, including a grocery store, department store, clothing store, liquor or cannabis store, or sporting goods store;

**“service business”** means a business that provides a service, including

- (a) dry cleaning or laundry services,
- (b) insurance services,
- (c) banking services,
- (d) funeral services,

- (e) personal services,
- (f) accounting, legal, engineering or other professional services, or
- (g) the services of a tradesperson;

**“school staff person”** means an employee, or other person acting on behalf of a school, including a volunteer engaged in school-related activities, and any other person in a school space who is not a “student” or “visitor”;

**“school”** means an entity that operates any of the following:

- (a) a school as defined in the *School Act*;
  - (b) a francophone school as defined in the *School Act*;
  - (c) a Provincial school as defined in the *School Act*;
  - (d) an independent school as defined in the *Independent School Act*;
- but does not include an entity that operates a First Nation school certified as an independent school under the *Independent School Act*;

**“school space”** means

- (a) a building or structure that is operated by a school and provided for the common use of all students and staff of the school, including lobbies, hallways, public bathrooms,
- (b) classrooms, laboratories, gyms and other indoor areas of a building or structure that is operated by a school where students receive educational instruction, services or programming, and;
- (c) vehicles supplied or contracted by the school, including private vehicles for the transport of students, if more than one person is present in the vehicle;

**“sport facility”** means a place used for sport activities, including a gym, ice arena, pool, gymnastics facility or indoor field;

**“student”** means a person who participates in an educational or training program provided by a school or a post-secondary institution;

**“visitor”** means a person who is present in an indoor public space, school or post-secondary institution, including a parent of or caregiver to a student, but does not include the operator of the indoor public space, a worker, a student or staff person;

**“worker”** means an employee or person acting on behalf of an operator of the indoor public space who works in a workplace;

**“working area”** means an inside area of a workplace which is accessed by workers of the workplace and to which the public does not have unrestricted access;



**“workplace”** does not include a worker’s private residence

**Face coverings required in indoor public spaces, school spaces and post-secondary spaces – visitors**

- 2** (1) Except as provided under section 3 a visitor must wear a face covering, in accordance with subsection (2), while inside an indoor public space, a school space or a post-secondary space.
- (2) A face covering must be worn in a manner that covers the nose and mouth.
- (3) A visitor who is not wearing a face covering as required in subsection (2), must not be inside an indoor public space, school space or post-secondary space.

**Exemption from use of face covering in indoor public spaces, school spaces and post - secondary spaces - visitors**

- 3** (1) Section 2 (2) does not apply as follows:
- (a) to visitor who is less than 9 years of age;
  - (b) to a visitor who is unable to wear a face covering because of
    - (i) a psychological, behavioural or health condition, or
    - (ii) a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;
  - (c) to a visitor who is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person;
  - (d) if the face covering is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the visitor wearing it;
  - (e) while inside a courtroom;
  - (f) while the visitor is consuming food or drink at a location designated for those purposes by the operator of the indoor public space, school space, or post-secondary space and while seated;
  - (g) while the visitor is participating in exercise activity or sport at a fitness facility or sport facility;
  - (h) while the visitor inside a vehicle on a ferry;
  - (i) while communicating with a person for whom visual cues, facial expressions, lip-reading or lip movements are essential.
  - (j) except in a school space, the visitor is delivering a presentation or lecture, if
    - (i) there is a distance of two metres separating the visitor and a person attending the presentation or lecture, or
    - (ii) there is a physical barrier between the visitor and the persons attending the presentation or lecture.

### **Face coverings required in indoor public spaces – operators and workers**

- 4** (1) Except as provided under sections 5 and 6, an operator or worker must wear a face covering while inside an indoor public space in accordance with subsection (2);
- (2) Whether provided in an indoor public space or a working area, an operator or worker must wear a face covering
- (a) when providing a personal service to a client
  - (b) serving a customer in a restaurant, pub, bar or other business that prepares and sells food or drink
  - (c) serving customers in a retail business.
- (3) A face covering must be worn in a manner that covers the nose and mouth.
- (4) An operator or worker who does not wear a face covering due to the application of an exemption in section 5 must not provide a face to face service to a visitor, unless there is a physical barrier between the operator or worker and the visitor.

### **Exemption from use of face covering in indoor public spaces – operators and workers**

- 5** Section 4 (3) does not apply to an operator or worker as follows:
- (a) If the operator or worker is unable to wear a face covering because of
    - (i) a psychological, behavioural or health condition, or
    - (ii) a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;
  - (b) if the operator or worker is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person;
  - (c) if the face covering is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the operator or worker;
  - (d) while the operator or worker is consuming food or drink at a location designated for those purposes by the operator of the indoor public space and while seated;
  - (e) the operator or worker is participating in an exercise activity or sport at a fitness facility or sport facility;
  - (f) while inside a vehicle on a ferry;
  - (g) while inside a courtroom;
  - (h) while communicating with a person for whom visual cues, facial expressions, lip-reading or lip movements are essential,
  - (i) there is a physical barrier which blocks the transmission of droplets between
    - i. the worker and other workers, or
    - ii. the worker and a visitor.

### **Face coverings required in post-secondary spaces – students and post-secondary staff persons**

- 6** (1) Except as provided under section 7, students and post-secondary staff persons must wear a face covering in accordance with subsection (2) while inside a post-secondary space
- (2) A face covering must be worn in a manner that covers the nose and mouth.
- (3) A student or a post-secondary staff person who is not wearing a face covering as provided in subsection (2) must not be inside a post-secondary institution space.

### **Exemptions from use of face coverings – post-secondary students**

- 7** Section 6 (2) does not apply to a student as follows:
- (a) If the student is unable to wear a face covering because of
    - (i) a psychological, behavioural or health condition, or
    - (ii) a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;
  - (b) if the student is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person;
  - (c) if the face covering is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the student;
  - (d) while the student is consuming food or drink and while seated;
  - (e) while participating in physical activity organized by the post-secondary institution or at a fitness facility or sport facility;
  - (f) while communicating with a person for whom visual cues, facial expressions, lip-reading or lip movements are essential;
  - (g) if the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask, for example while actively playing a wind instrument;
  - (h) if the student is behind a barrier separating the student from other persons, for example a divider or cubicle;
  - (i) if the student is in a room by themselves;
  - (j) if the student is in a post-secondary space and no other students, post-secondary staff persons or members of the public are present.
  - (k) the student is delivering a presentation or lecture if
    - (i) there is a distance of two metres separating the student delivering the presentation or lecture and students and other persons attending the presentation or lecture, or
    - (ii) there is a physical barrier between the student delivering the lecture and the students and the persons attending the presentation or lecture.

### **Exemptions from use of face coverings – post-secondary staff persons**

- 8** Section 6 (2) does not apply to a post-secondary staff person as follows:
- (a) If the post-secondary staff person is unable to wear a face covering because of
    - (i) a psychological, behavioural or health condition, or
    - (ii) a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;
  - (b) if the post-secondary staff person is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person;
  - (c) if the face covering is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the post-secondary staff person ;
  - (d) while the post-secondary staff person is consuming food or drink at a location designated for those purposes by the post-secondary institution and while seated;
  - (e) while participating in physical activity organized by the post-secondary institution or at a fitness facility or sport facility operated by the post-secondary institution;
  - (f) while communicating with a person for whom visual cues, facial expressions, lip-reading or lip movements are essential;
  - (g) if the post-secondary staff person is in a room by themselves;
  - (h) if the post-secondary staff person is in an office or other indoor area of a building or structure operated by the post-secondary institution and if no students or members of the public are present,
  - (i) if the post-secondary staff person is delivering a presentation or lecture or teaching if
    - i. there is a distance of two metres separating the post-secondary staff person and students or
    - ii. if there is a physical barrier between the post-secondary staff person and students.

### **Face coverings required in school spaces – school students and school staff persons**

- 9** (1) Except as provided under section 10, students in Grades 4 to 12 and school staff persons must wear a face covering, in accordance with subsection (2) while inside a school space
- (2) A face covering must be worn in a manner that covers the nose and mouth.
- (3) A school staff person who is not wearing a face covering as provided in subsection (2) must not be inside a school space.

### **Exemptions from use of face coverings – school students**

- 10** Section 9 (2) does not apply to a student as follows:

- (a) If the student is unable to wear a face covering because of
  - (i) a psychological, behavioural or health condition, or
  - (ii) a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;
- (b) if the student is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person;
- (c) if the face covering is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the student;
- (d) while the student is consuming food or drink and while seated;
- (e) while participating in a high intensity fitness activity organized by the school or at a fitness facility or sport facility operated by the school;
- (f) while communicating with a person for whom visual cues, facial expressions, lip-reading or lip movements are essential;
- (g) if the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask, for example while actively playing a wind instrument;
- (h) if the student is behind a barrier separating the student from other persons, for example a divider or cubicle;
- (i) if the student is in a room by themselves;
- (j) if the student is in a school space and no other students, school staff, visitors or other persons are present.

### **Exemptions from use of face coverings –school staff persons**

**11** Section 9 (2) does not apply to a school staff person as follows:

- (a) If the school staff person is unable to wear a face covering because of
  - (i) a psychological, behavioural or health condition, or
  - (ii) a physical, cognitive or mental impairment;
- (b) if the school staff person is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person;
- (c) if the face covering is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the school staff person ;
- (d) while the school staff person is consuming food or drink at a location designated for those purposes by the school and while seated;
- (e) while participating in physical activity organized by the school or at a fitness facility or sport facility operated by the school;
- (f) while communicating with a person for whom visual cues, facial expressions, lip-reading or lip movements are essential;
- (g) if the school staff person is in a room by themselves;
- (h) if the school staff person is in an office or other indoor area of a building or structure operated by the school and if no students or members of the public

are present,

**Signage**

- 12** Operators of indoor public spaces, schools, and post-secondary institutions must post a signage at the entrance to all indoor areas covered by this order notifying that face coverings are required to be worn in accordance with this order.

**Order does not prevent further requirements**

- 13** Nothing in this order prevents an operator, school or post-secondary institution from having additional requirements in relation to face coverings.

This Order expires at midnight on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Pursuant to section 54 (1) (h) of the *Public Health Act*, and in accordance with the emergency powers set out in Part 5 of the *Public Health Act*, I will not be accepting requests for reconsideration of this Order.

You are required under section 42 of the *Public Health Act* to comply with this Order. Failure to comply with this Order is an offence under section 99 (1) (k) of the *Public Health Act*.


If you fail to comply with this Order, I have the authority to take enforcement action against you under Part 4, Division 6 of the *Public Health Act*.

You may contact me at:

Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer  
4th Floor, 1515 Blanshard Street  
PO Box 9648 STN PROV GOVT, Victoria BC V8W 9P4  
Fax: (250) 952-1570  
Email: [ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ProvHlthOffice@gov.bc.ca)

DATED THIS: 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021

SIGNED:



Bonnie Henry  
MD, MPH, FRCPC  
Provincial Health Officer

DELIVERY BY: Posting to the BC Government the BC Centre for Disease Control websites.

Enclosure: Excerpts of the *Public Health*

## ENCLOSURE

### Excerpts of the *Public Health Act* [SBC 2008] c. 28

#### **Definitions**

##### **1 In this Act:**

**"health hazard"** means

- (a) a condition, a thing or an activity that
  - (i) endangers, or is likely to endanger, public health, or
  - (ii) interferes, or is likely to interfere, with the suppression of infectious agents or hazardous agents, or
- (b) a prescribed condition, thing or activity, including a prescribed condition, thing or activity that
  - (i) is associated with injury or illness, or
  - (ii) fails to meet a prescribed standard in relation to health, injury or illness;

#### **When orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made**

**30** (1) A health officer may issue an order under this Division only if the health officer reasonably believes that

- (a) a health hazard exists,
  - (b) a condition, a thing or an activity presents a significant risk of causing a health hazard,
  - (c) a person has contravened a provision of the Act or a regulation made under it, or
  - (d) a person has contravened a term or condition of a licence or permit held by the person under this Act.
- (2) For greater certainty, subsection (1) (a) to (c) applies even if the person subject to the order is complying with all terms and conditions of a licence, a permit, an approval or another authorization issued under this or any other enactment.

#### **General powers respecting health hazards and contraventions**

**31** (1) If the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, a health officer may order a person to do anything that the health officer reasonably believes is necessary for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to determine whether a health hazard exists;

- (b) to prevent or stop a health hazard, or mitigate the harm or prevent further harm from a health hazard;
  - (c) to bring the person into compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it;
  - (d) to bring the person into compliance with a term or condition of a licence or permit held by that person under this Act.
- (2) A health officer may issue an order under subsection (1) to any of the following persons:
- (a) a person whose action or omission
    - (i) is causing or has caused a health hazard, or
    - (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
  - (b) a person who has custody or control of a thing, or control of a condition, that
    - (i) is a health hazard or is causing or has caused a health hazard, or
    - (ii) is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the person's licence or permit;
  - (c) the owner or occupier of a place where
    - (i) a health hazard is located, or
    - (ii) an activity is occurring that is not in compliance with the Act or a regulation made under it, or a term or condition of the licence or permit of the person doing the activity.

### **Specific powers respecting health hazards and contraventions**

- 32** (1) An order may be made under this section only
- (a) if the circumstances described in section 30 [*when orders respecting health hazards and contraventions may be made*] apply, and
  - (b) for the purposes set out in section 31 (1) [*general powers respecting health hazards and contraventions*].
- (2) Without limiting section 31, a health officer may order a person to do one or more of the following:
- (a) have a thing examined, disinfected, decontaminated, altered or destroyed, including
    - (i) by a specified person, or under the supervision or instructions of a specified person,
    - (ii) moving the thing to a specified place, and
    - (iii) taking samples of the thing, or permitting samples of the thing to be taken;
  - (b) in respect of a place,
    - (i) leave the place,



- (ii) not enter the place,
  - (iii) do specific work, including removing or altering things found in the place, and altering or locking the place to restrict or prevent entry to the place,
  - (iv) neither deal with a thing in or on the place nor dispose of a thing from the place, or deal with or dispose of the thing only in accordance with a specified procedure, and
  - (v) if the person has control of the place, assist in evacuating the place or examining persons found in the place, or taking preventive measures in respect of the place or persons found in the place;
  - (c) stop operating, or not operate, a thing;
  - (d) keep a thing in a specified place or in accordance with a specified procedure;
  - (e) prevent persons from accessing a thing;
  - (f) not dispose of, alter or destroy a thing, or dispose of, alter or destroy a thing only in accordance with a specified procedure;
  - (g) provide to the health officer or a specified person information, records, samples or other matters relevant to a thing's possible infection with an infectious agent or contamination with a hazardous agent, including information respecting persons who may have been exposed to an infectious agent or hazardous agent by the thing;
  - (h) wear a type of clothing or personal protective equipment, or change, remove or alter clothing or personal protective equipment, to protect the health and safety of persons;
  - (i) use a type of equipment or implement a process, or remove equipment or alter equipment or processes, to protect the health and safety of persons;
  - (j) provide evidence of complying with the order, including
    - (i) getting a certificate of compliance from a medical practitioner, nurse practitioner or specified person, and
    - (ii) providing to a health officer any relevant record;
  - (k) take a prescribed action.
- (3) If a health officer orders a thing to be destroyed, the health officer must give the person having custody or control of the thing reasonable time to request reconsideration and review of the order under sections 43 and 44 unless
- (a) the person consents in writing to the destruction of the thing, or
  - (b) Part 5 [*Emergency Powers*] applies.

### **General emergency powers**

- 54** (1) A health officer may, in an emergency, do one or more of the following:
- (h) not reconsider an order under section 43 [*reconsideration of orders*], not review an order under section 44 [*review of orders*] or not reassess an order under section 45 [*mandatory reassessment of orders*];
- (2) An order that may be made under this Part may be made in respect of a class of persons or things, and may make different requirements for different persons or things or classes of persons or things or for different geographic areas.

### **Offences**

- 99** (1) A person who contravenes any of the following provisions commits an offence:
- (k) section 42 [*failure to comply with an order of a health officer*], except in respect of an order made under section 29 (2) (e) to (g) [*orders respecting examinations, diagnostic examinations or preventive measures*];

## Fwd: Updated Slide Deck

---

From: Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Scott MacDonald <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>, MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Stephen Brown <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: September 28, 2021 8:42:40 PM PDT  
Attachments: Briefing\_Covid19\_20210928\_16-9PPP\_DRAFT856AM.pptx  
Steve asked me to send you this. We should talk tomorrow about masking and vaccination of staff. FH wants to move on masking in FH east and I want to have a conversation about vaccines.  
My best,  
Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Ministry of Health  
Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca  
s.17; s.19

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX" <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** September 28, 2021 at 9:03:18 AM PDT  
**To:** "Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX" <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, "MacDonald, Alex HLTH:EX" <Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>, "van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX" <Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** "XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN" <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>, "Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX" <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Updated Slide Deck

Hello,  
Please find the updated slide deck attached. This version includes vaccine effectiveness and reflects Kate's edits.  
Happy to make any additional edits or amendments.  
I will send this version to the graphics team so they can get a head start on formatting.  
Leah  
Leah Holoiday  
COVID-19 Communications  
250 880 2378

## COVID-19 Update

- Prepared for BC Ministry of Health
- September 28, 2020



Stay Informed Via These Resources:  
**[gov.bc.ca/Covid-19](https://gov.bc.ca/Covid-19) | [bccdc.ca](https://bccdc.ca) | 1-888-COVID19**

Symptom Self-Assessment:  
**[covid19.thrive.health](https://covid19.thrive.health)**



# Vaccine Effectiveness (VE): 2 Doses | British Columbia (BC), Canada

Vaccines: mRNA (Pfizer Comirnaty & Moderna Spikevax), AstraZeneca Vaxzevria

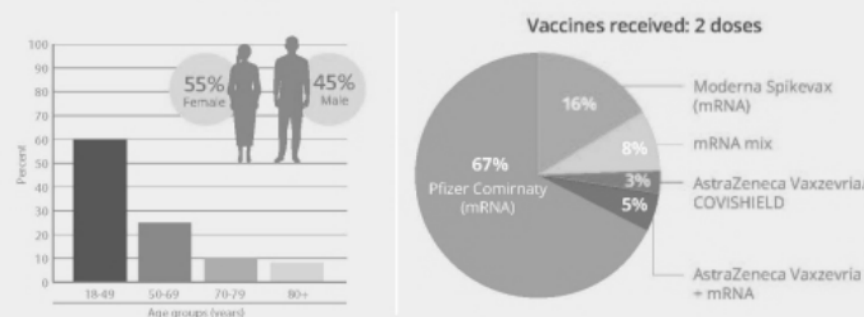
Population: 18+ year olds, excluding long term care residents

Research method: Test-negative design

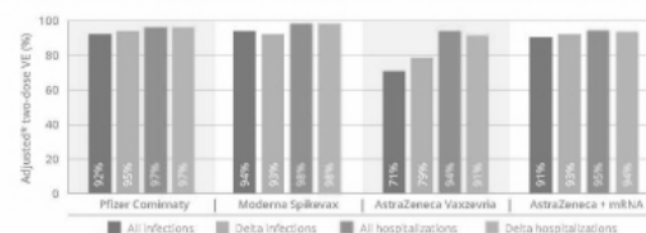
Study period: May 30 - Sept 11, 2021, during rise of Delta variant in BC

Sample size: 246,548  
Cases: 17,073 Controls: 229,475

## Participant characteristics

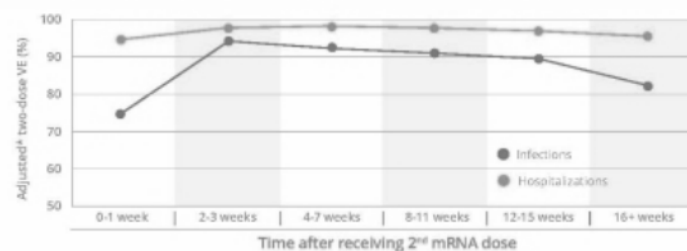


## 2 doses of any vaccine are highly protective, including against the Delta variant

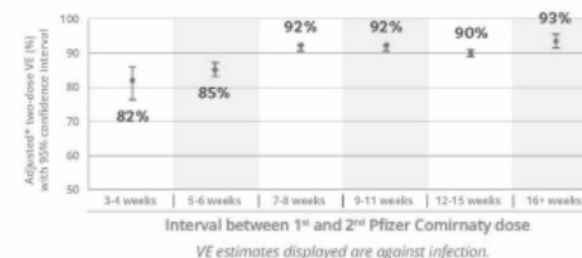


- Hospitalization risk in vaccinated people reduced by more than 90%
- Infection risk reduced by more than 90% for mRNA recipients and 70% for Vaxzevria
- Mixed doses (mRNA and Vaxzevria) offers protection similar to 2 mRNA doses

## Strong protection > 80-90% against infection maintained at least 4 months after the 2<sup>nd</sup> mRNA dose (monitoring continues, including for AstraZeneca Vaxzevria)



## Protection is even stronger when the interval between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose is more than 6 weeks



\*Adjusted for: age group, gender, epidemiological week (22 - 36) and health regions

Skowronski DM, Setayeshgar S, Zou M et al. Two-dose vaccine effectiveness against SARS-CoV-2 infection and hospitalization, including Delta variant: a test-negative design in British Columbia, Canada.

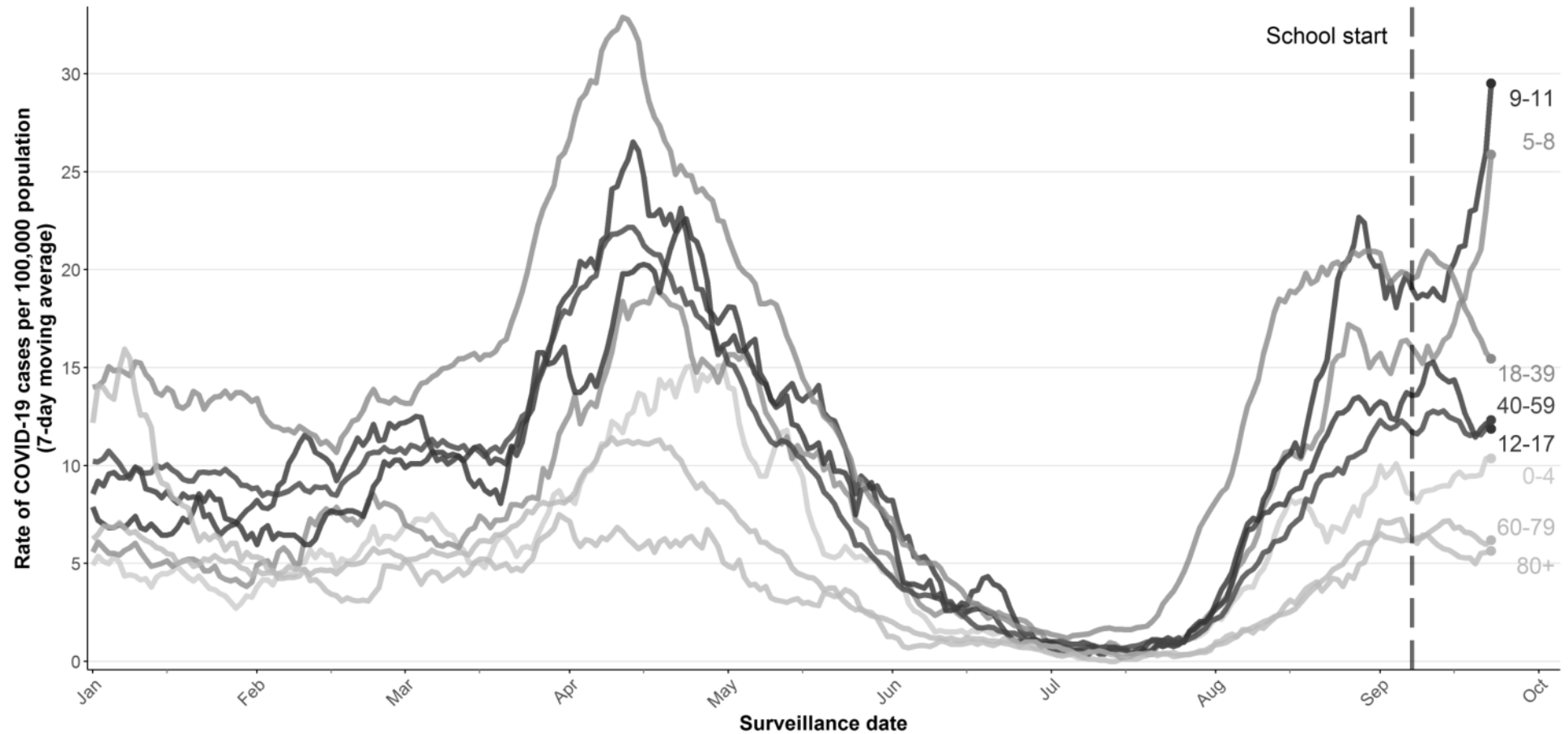
## Pediatric COVID-19 Profile

### Last week: Sept. 17 – Sept. 23, 2021



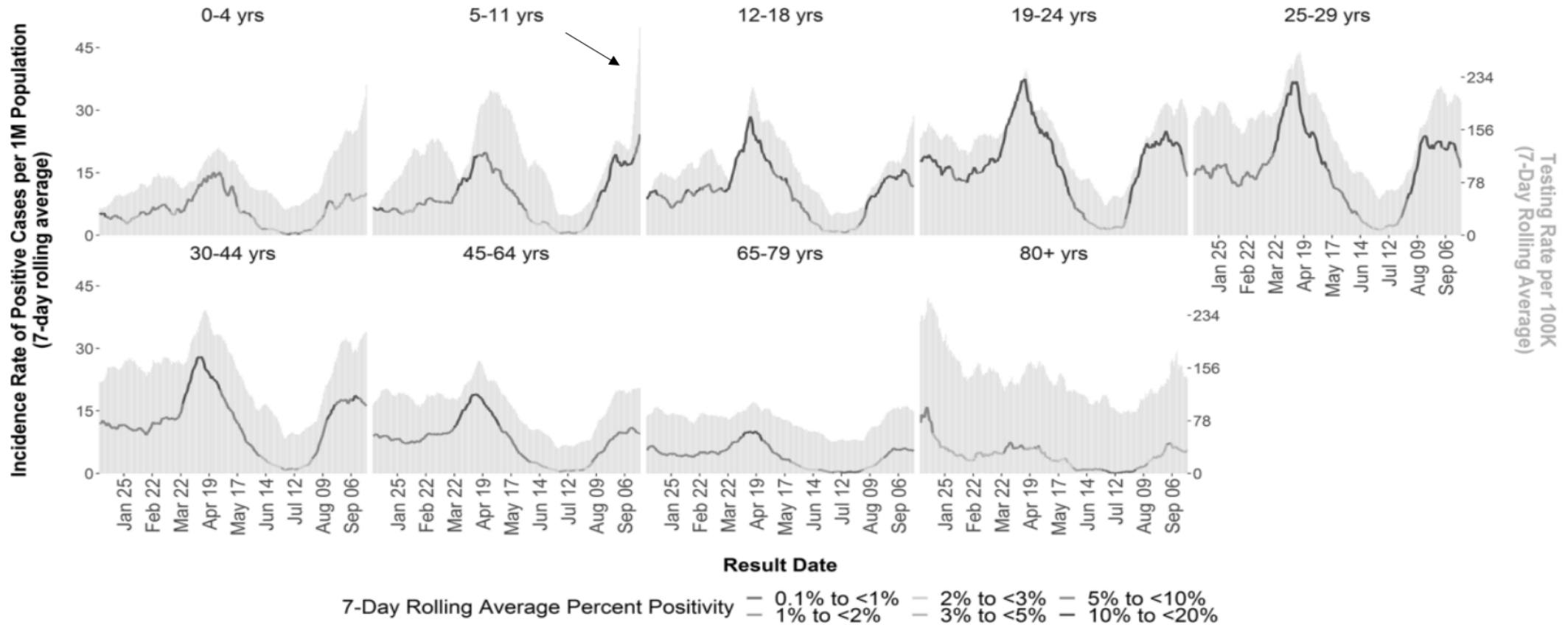
Age group: 0-4		Age group: 0-4		Age group: 0-4		Age group: 0-4	
4534	total cases	92	ever hospitalized	10	ever in critical care	2	total deaths
167	last week	2	last week	1	last week	0	last week
Age group: 5-11		Age group: 5-11		Age group: 5-11		Age group: 5-11	
10,412	total cases	41	ever hospitalized	3	ever in critical care	0	total deaths
658	last week	1	last week	0	last week	0	last week
Age group: 12-17		Age group: 12-17		Age group: 12-17		Age group: 12-17	
11,056	total cases	41	ever hospitalized	6	ever in critical care	0	total deaths
261	last week	1	last week	0	last week	0	last week

# Rate of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population



\* Data based on surveillance date (i.e. lab result date, or when not available, date reported to public health)  
Data range: Jan 01 2021 - Sep 22 2021

## Case incidence rate, test positivity and testing rate by age Jan. 1, 2020 – Sep. 21, 2021

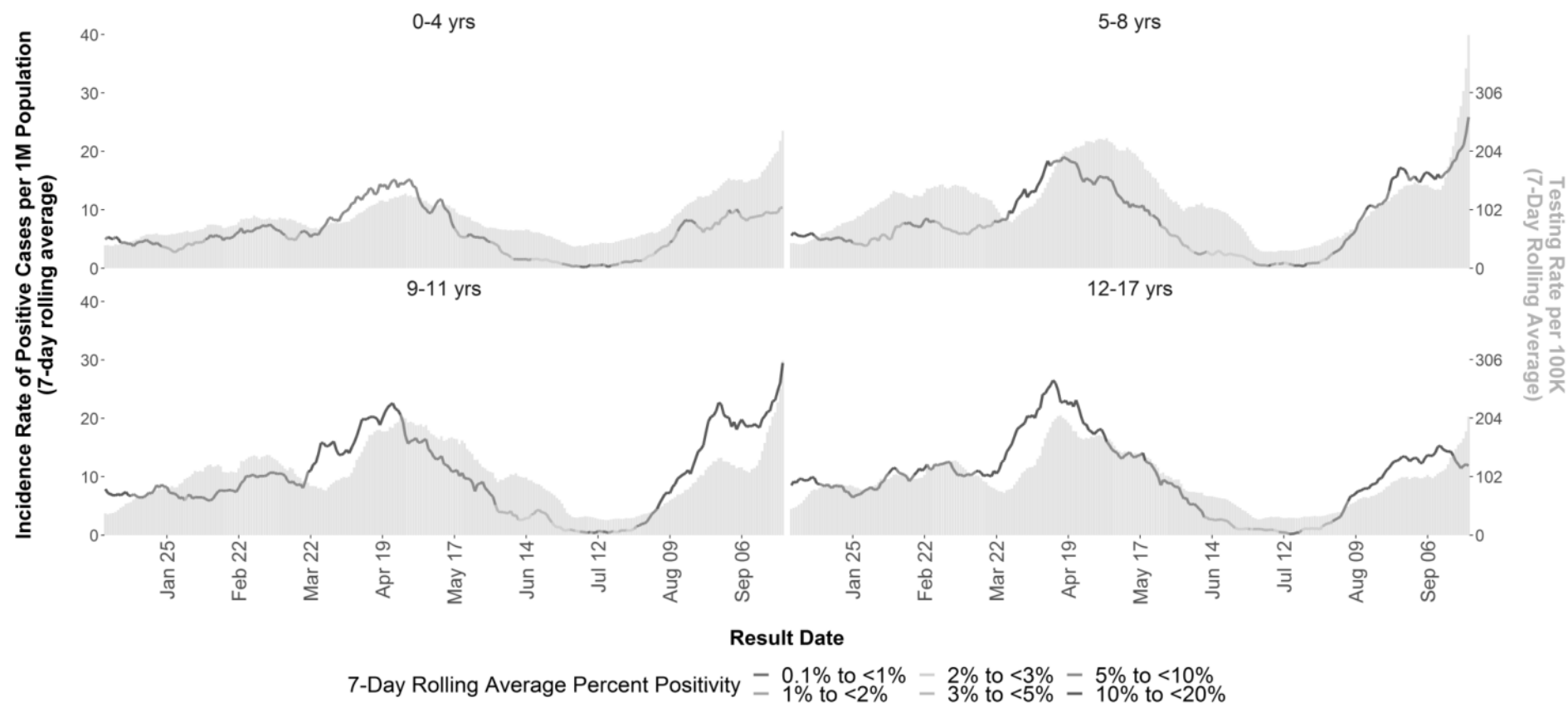


Data source: PLOVER 21-Sep-2021

COVID-19 IN BC

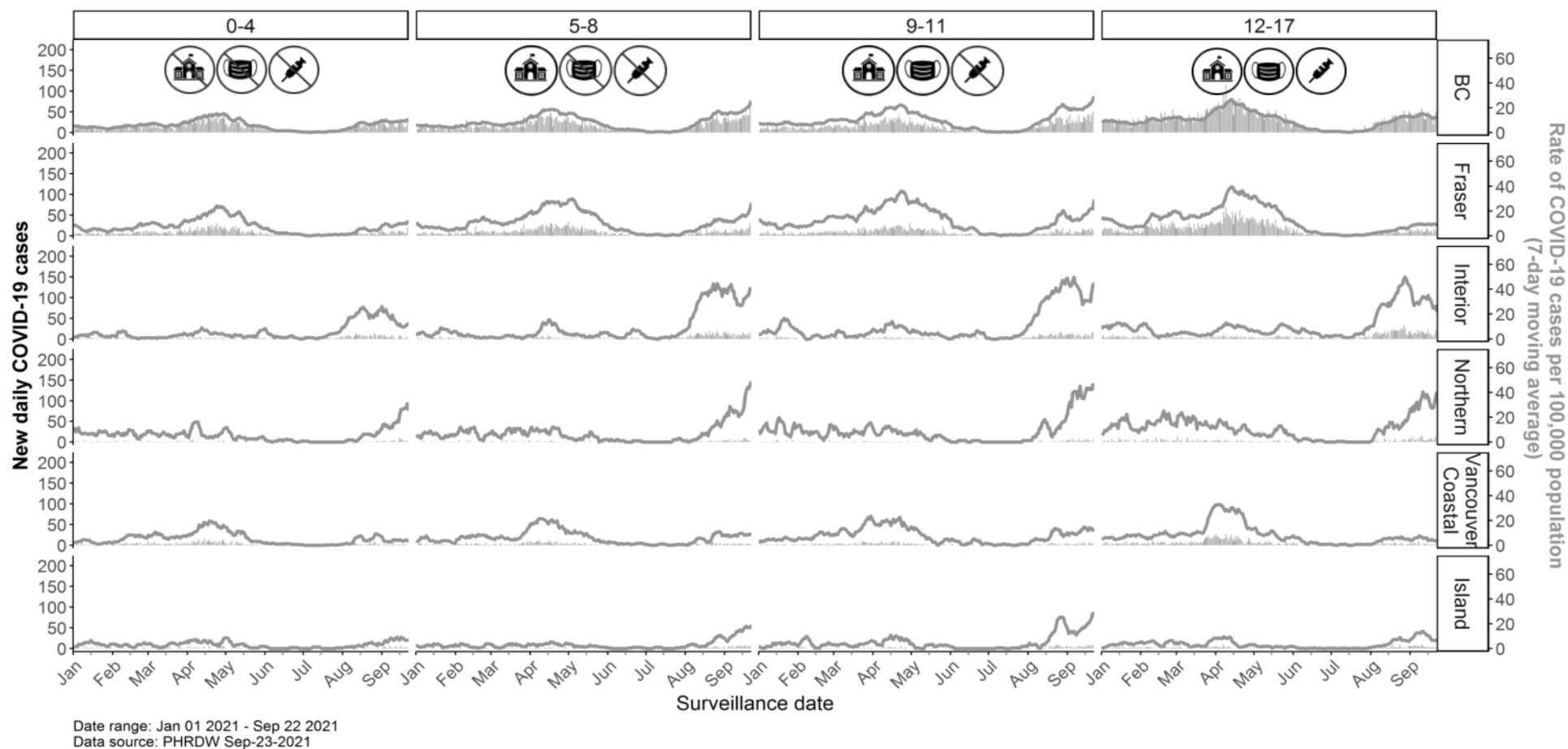


## Case incidence rate, test percent positivity, and testing rate by age, Jan. 1, 2020 – Sep. 22, 2021



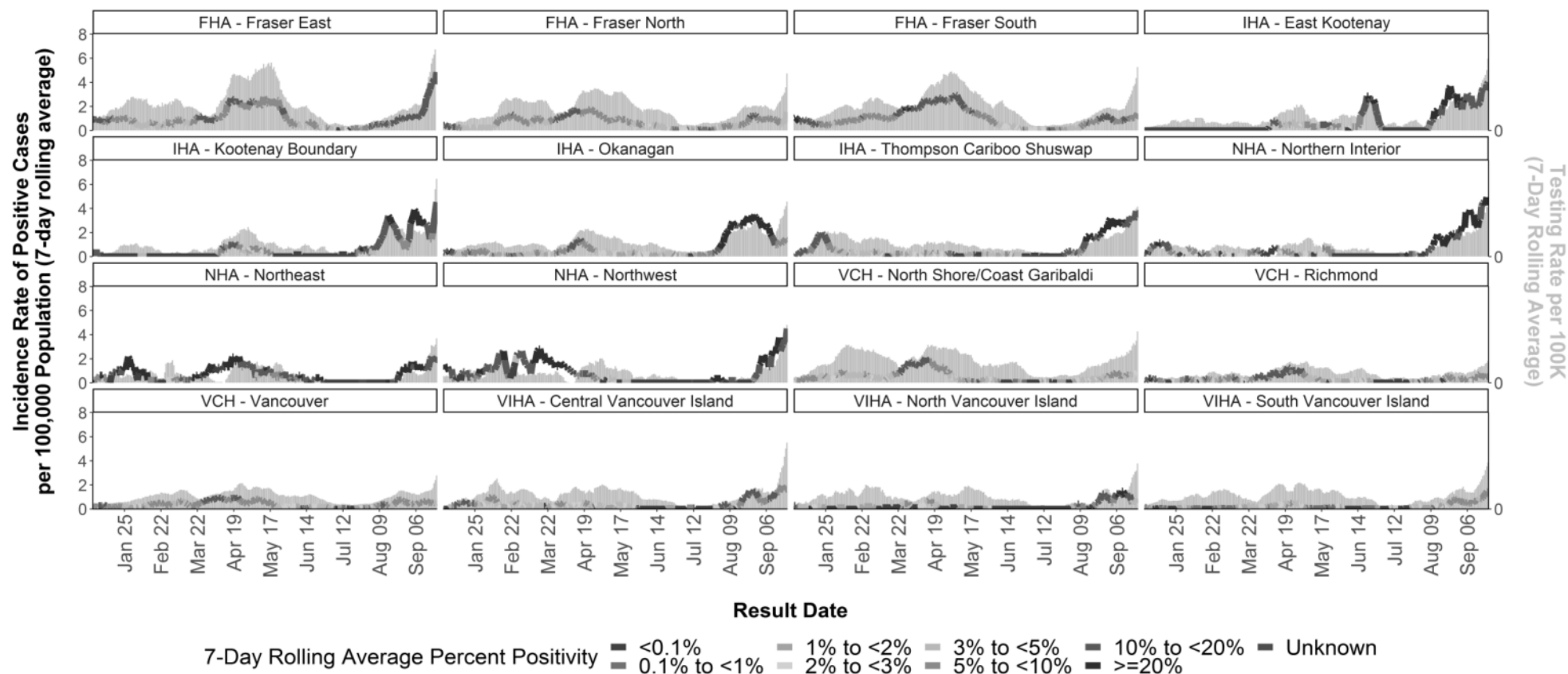
Data source: PLOVER 22-Sep-2021

## In regions with highly vaccinated adult populations, diagnosis rates are lower in all age groups, including children



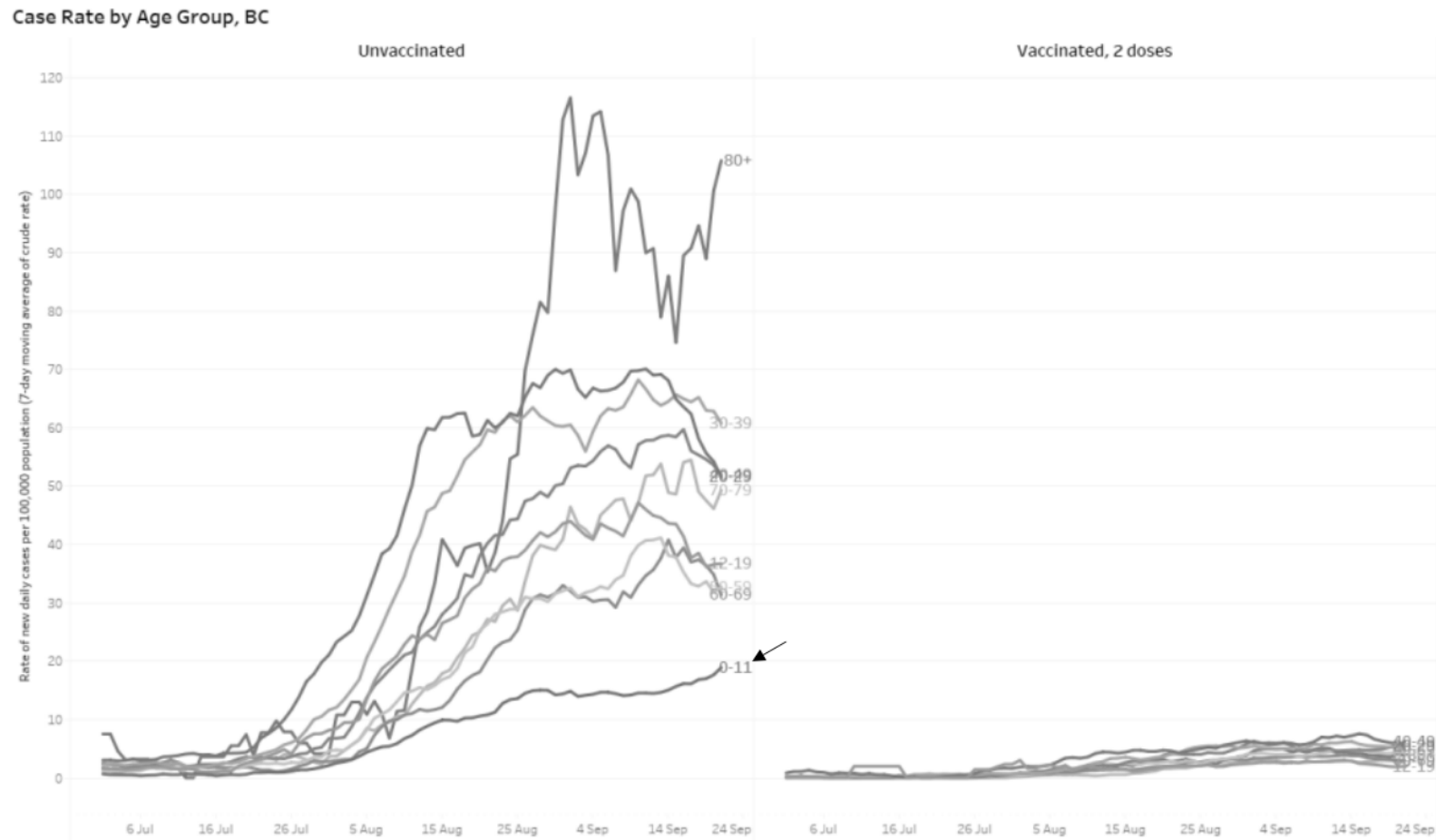
# Diagnosis rate, testing rates and test positivity among 5-11 year olds vary by region

Case incidence rate, test percent positivity, and testing rate by HSDA (Public Payers Only).  
Jan 1 2021 - Sep 22, 2021.

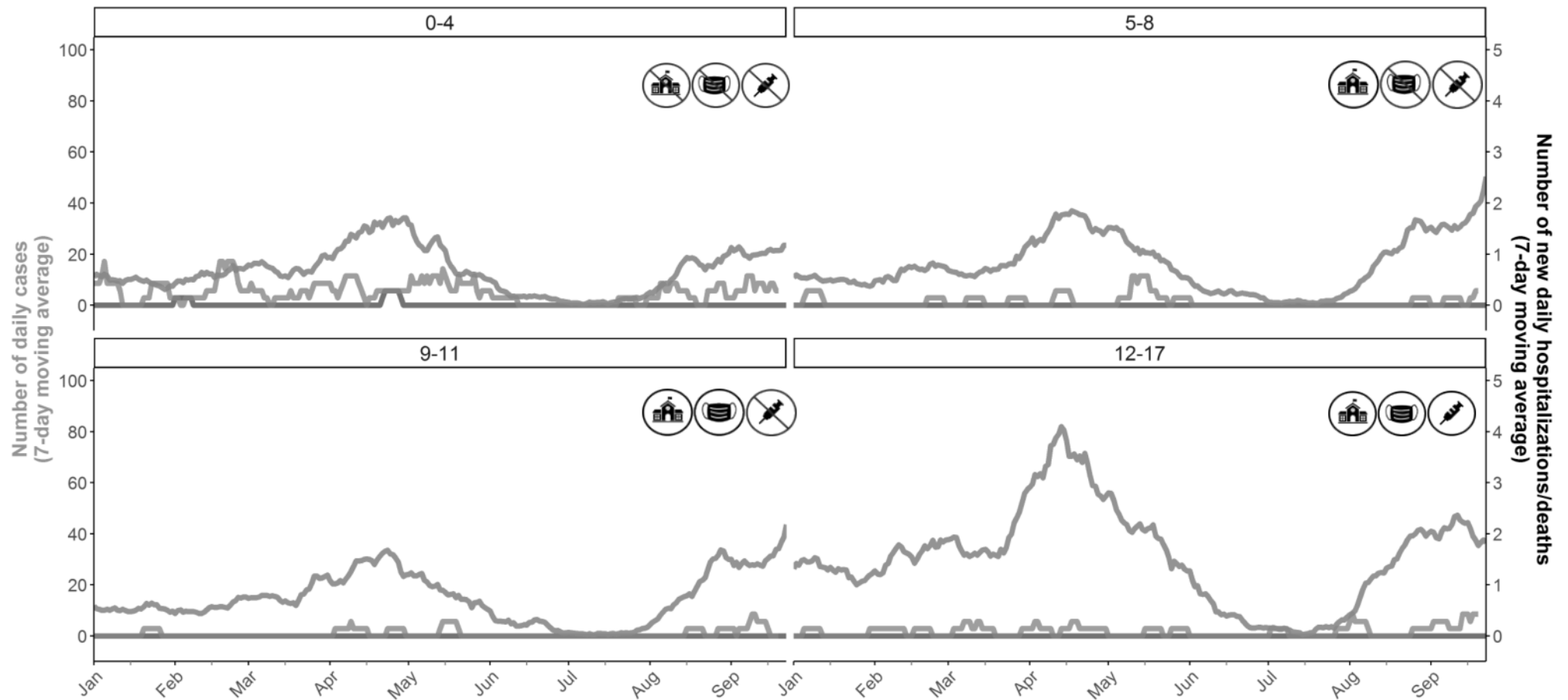


Data source: PLOVER 22-Sep-2021

**For all age groups, those who are vaccinated have very low rates of diagnosis.  
Among those unvaccinated, diagnosis rate is the lowest in the 0-11 age group  
even with higher testing rates**



## New daily COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths, Jan 1, 2021 – Sep 22, 2021



\* Data are by surveillance date for cases and deaths, and admission date for hospitalizations  
Data source: PHRDW + BCCW Sep-23-2021

COVID-19 IN BC

# K-12 School Web Notifications

- Regional Health Authorities (HAs) will start posting K-12 school '**potential exposure events**' on their websites on **Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup>**.
- Links to the HA web postings will be in one place on the BCCDC website.
- Like last year, the school and dates of exposure will be posted if:
  - **A person (staff or student) attended school while infectious, and there is an increased risk of COVID-19 to the groups they were a part of.** For most instances, this will be their classroom(s).
- Potential exposure events will be posted as identified on the HA websites. People who are themselves at increased risk and need to take action will be notified directly.
- It is recognized (as it was last year) that there is often a delay in public health being notified of a positive lab test and the case investigation beginning so postings may still lag behind individual parent postings.
- It remains critical that parents monitor their children's health daily and keep children home if they are unwell. Particularly as we start to see other respiratory viruses increase (e.g. enteroviruses and parainfluenza).
- The trajectory and level of cases among school-aged children reflect overall community vaccination rates.
- The best way to prevent COVID-19 from entering schools is for everyone eligible (school staff, parents, students 12 and over) to get two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

## RE: Updated Slide Deck

---

From: MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: September 28, 2021 9:05:32 PM PDT

Thanks – this is very helpful. I will send to Superintendents tomorrow for their reference.  
Yes, let's connect tomorrow. The best times for me are from 9:30 am to 12:00 and then again after 5pm.  
Cell is below  
Scott  
s.17

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 28, 2021 8:43 PM  
**To:** MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Updated Slide Deck

Steve asked me to send you this. We should talk tomorrow about masking and vaccination of staff. FH wants to move on masking in FH east and I want to have a conversation about vaccines.  
My best,  
Bonnie

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Ministry of Health  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)  
s.17; s.19

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX" <[Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** September 28, 2021 at 9:03:18 AM PDT  
**To:** "Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX" <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>, "MacDonald, Alex HLTH:EX" <[Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca)>, "van Baarsen, Amanda HLTH:EX" <[Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Amanda.vanBaarsen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN" <[nicola@nlkstrategies.ca](mailto:nicola@nlkstrategies.ca)>, "Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX" <[Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Updated Slide Deck

Hello,

Please find the updated slide deck attached. This version includes vaccine effectiveness and reflects Kate's edits.

Happy to make any additional edits or amendments.

I will send this version to the graphics team so they can get a head start on formatting.

Leah

Leah Holoiday  
COVID-19 Communications  
250 880 2378

## Untitled.msg

---

From: Lee, Victoria [FH] <Victoria.Lee@fraserhealth.ca>  
To: Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca [Ext] <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>, Henry, Bonnie [EXT] <bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca>, D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>, Brown, Stephen R HLTH:EX <Stephen.Brown@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Brodtkin, Elizabeth Dr. [FH] <Elizabeth.Brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>, XT:HLTH Brodtkin, Elizabeth <elizabeth.brodtkin@fraserhealth.ca>  
Sent: September 29, 2021 7:55:43 AM PDT  
Attachments: Dr Zbar from LLarsen Sept 28 2021 (004).pdf

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

Dear Steve, Scott and Bonnie,  
Cc Elizabeth Brodtkin

Following up from my brief conversation with Steve this morning, I have attached Surrey School District's letter addressed to Dr. Zbar who is our Medical Health Officer lead for schools. As requested in the letter, Dr. Zbar will be meeting with the board this afternoon re: the request from the board to institute K-12 mask mandate. Bonnie, I believe Elizabeth has been working closely with you on this issue and there will be further discussions today.

Best,  
Victoria Lee



September 28, 2021

Via Email: ariella.zbar@fraserhealth.ca

Dr. Ariella Zbar  
Medical Health Officer  
Fraser Health

Dear Dr. Zbar,

As you are no doubt aware, our school district's experience with COVID seems very different from last year. Our Board of Education is gravely concerned about the rise in COVID cases in young children, which is causing great uncertainty in our schools and in our community. Adding to these stresses is the current notification process which was established in September. Not informing parents of exposures denies families of critical information needed to care for children and make personal decisions for each family. This has also created confusion and has generated misinformation.

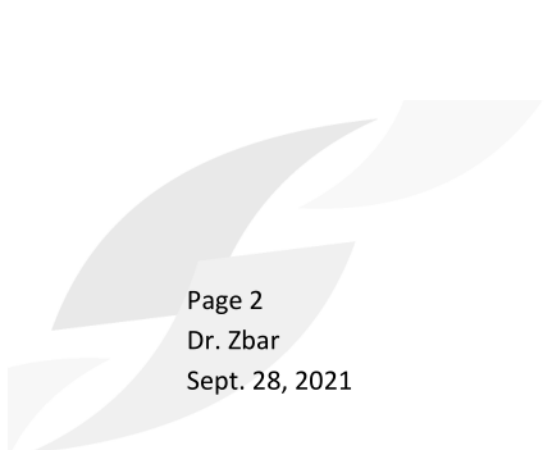
To date, in Surrey, we have had over 50 COVID exposure notifications and multiple classes in isolation. Despite this concerning situation, our district has been unable to adequately inform each school community of the situation. Part of the reason for our ongoing concern is certainly linked to the lack of transparency in notifications. We want parents to be informed and we want to keep children safe. We were pleased to see the PHO announce a change in the notification process this afternoon - parents will now be able to know if there has been an exposure at their school. This is a great step towards bringing clarity on the current situation for our staff, students and families.

As a Board, we want to make sure we are taking every possible measure to keep children safe and we recognize that masks are just one layer of protection. The Ministry of Education currently states that "students in Grades K to 3 are encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools." Clearly the Ministry of Education believes in, and encourages, masks in grades K-3, in addition to the mandate in grades 4-12. Last year, in an Order unique to Surrey, Fraser Health wrote that each Surrey School must "strongly recommend and encourage all Kindergarten to Grade 3 students" to wear a non-medical mask. Your health advice to us shows that you value the role masks play in preventing the spread of COVID. Masks are currently not mandated K-12 and we are asking you now to go further in the interest of our young students' as cases in young children continue to cause concern.

Under the current provincial health guidelines from the BC Centre for Disease Control it states: "*Local public health orders may be placed for whole regions or communities, or for specific businesses or activities within a health authority region.*" We are asking you, as our Regional Medical Health Officer to institute a mask mandate for children K-12 as permitted under the current provincial guidelines.

## LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING

Surrey Schools – Board of Education 14033 92<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3V 0B7  
Tel: (604) 595-6300 Fax: (604) 595-6307 [www.surreyschools.ca](http://www.surreyschools.ca)



Page 2  
Dr. Zbar  
Sept. 28, 2021

Finally, we are also asking if you would agree to meet with our Board of Education so that we can better understand any rationale behind a lack of a K-12 mask mandate. We would also like to share our concerns about notifications and see how they are being addressed. Our Board has called an extraordinary meeting for tomorrow evening, and we would welcome a chance for you to hear and respond to our concerns.

We believe that we all have the best interest of our children in mind. Our children and grandchildren go to our schools. We have family and relatives who work in our district. By initiating a K-12 mask mandate and by providing adequate and transparent notifications, we would feel more confident that we are taking all possible steps to ensure the safety of our employees and our children.

Sincerely,



Laurie Larsen  
Chairperson, Surrey Board of Education

cc: Dr. Jordan Tinney, Superintendent of Schools/CEO

## LEADERSHIP IN LEARNING

Surrey School District 36 – Superintendent's Department 14033 92nd Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3V 0B7  
Tel: (604) 595-6308 Fax: (604) 595-6309 [www.sd36.bc.ca](http://www.sd36.bc.ca)

## Re: Media availability tomorrow regarding schools

---

From: Nicola Lambrechts <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>  
To: Bonnie Henry <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Aileen Machell <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>, Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: September 30, 2021 2:43:59 PM PDT

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

Sounds great. Happy to work up some speaking notes for you.

I have a quick call at 3:30, but am otherwise available to chat at anytime.

Thanks,  
Nicola

On Sep 30, 2021, at 2:39 PM, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Thanks yes, we just had a call and will be making an announcement on masking for all grades k-12 and taking other measures to reduce the risk of transmission in classrooms. It is in the context of the data presented Tuesday and ongoing collaboration with MHOs, schools, PACs etc. to put in all necessary measures and respond to what we are seeing with delta spreading more easily. The point that schools are still safe and safer than many other environments in the community and how important in class learning is for the health and wellbeing of our children.

Nicola perhaps we can have a quick call later today or tomorrow am.  
Thanks!  
Bonnie

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health  
s.15; s.19*

*Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)*

Phone: s.17; s.19

*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:** Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** September 30, 2021 1:19 PM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Media availability tomorrow regarding schools

Hello,

I understand you are holding a media availability with Minister Whiteside tomorrow regarding schools.

Education is leading on the news release, and I will send it to you for review when it's ready.

Is Nicola preparing your speaking notes? If not, let me know how we can support.

Thanks,

**Aileen Machell** (she/her)  
Communications Director  
Health Communications  
250-361-5381

---

Nicola Lambrechts  
**NLK Strategies**  
604.970.9113  
nicola@nlkstrategies.ca

[www.nlkstrategies.ca](http://www.nlkstrategies.ca)

## RE: FOR APPROVAL TODAY - 4 COVID RELATED POSTS

---

From: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>, Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: October 1, 2021 12:10:50 PM PDT  
Attachments: image003.png, image007.jpg, image011.png, image013.png, image015.png, image017.png, image014.png, image012.png, image009.png, image010.png, image008.jpg, image005.jpg, image006.jpg, image004.jpg, image001.jpg, image002.png  
Got it. Thanks, Dr. Henry.

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 12:10 PM  
**To:** Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: FOR APPROVAL TODAY - 4 COVID RELATED POSTS

Thanks these all look good. The only thing I would change is the term 'long term COVID'. It generally is referred to as Long COVID or we can say 'having long terms symptoms from COVID infection.'

B

Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Ministry of Health  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)  
s.17; s.19

On Oct 1, 2021, at 12:03 PM, Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <[Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Dr. Henry,

Popping these social media posts from the graphics team to the top of your inbox. The first post is a new one from today's media availability.

Do you have any edits or concerns?

Leah

### POST 1 – Masks mandatory indoors in all K-12 schools

#### POST COPY

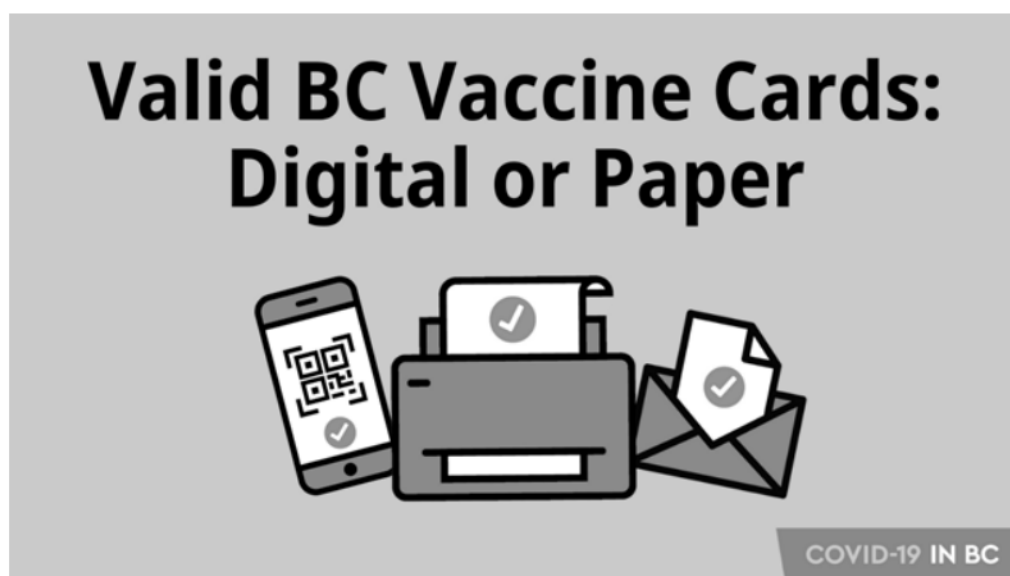
Effective Monday, October 4, the province-wide mask mandate for schools is extended to K-12. All K-12 students, staff, and visitors will be required to wear masks in all indoor areas, including at their desks and on school buses. Learn more <https://news.gov.bc.ca/25438>



## POST 2 – Digital and Paper BC Vaccine Cards are OK

### POST COPY

Certain events and businesses are now required, by Provincial Health Officer order, to verify proof of vaccination for patrons aged 12+. Both digital and paper BC Vaccine Cards are valid as proof of vaccination, along with ID for people 19+. Thank you to business owners and staff for your continued partnership to help keep everyone in BC safe. Learn more: [gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard](https://gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard)



POST 3 – BC Vaccine Card Instagram Story interactive post

### POST COPY

**Slide 1:**  
The BC Vaccine Card helps us enjoy the activities that make life full and interesting, while

keeping each other safe

Tap to share what you will most enjoy doing

### Slide 5:

Still need a BC Vaccine Card? Tap here ([link to gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard](https://gov.bc.ca/vaccinecard))



#### POST 4 – Q&A – If I've had COVID, do I need the vaccine?

#### POST COPY

The COVID-19 vaccines in use in BC are safe, effective and help protect you from serious illness. Even if you had COVID-19, it is important to get immunized. Learn more and get vaccinated today: [gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated](https://gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated)

# Dr. Bonnie Henry answers your questions

**If I had COVID, do I need to get vaccinated?**

**"Yes. Antibody levels after infection can be quite varied.**

**However, a vaccine provides long-lasting and wide-ranging protection, which is especially important as this virus is changing over time.**

**Some people who have experienced long-term COVID found that their symptoms got better after getting vaccinated against COVID-19."**

**- Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer**



**COVID-19 IN BC**

## **POST 5 – Getting tested is important (video)**

### **POST COPY**

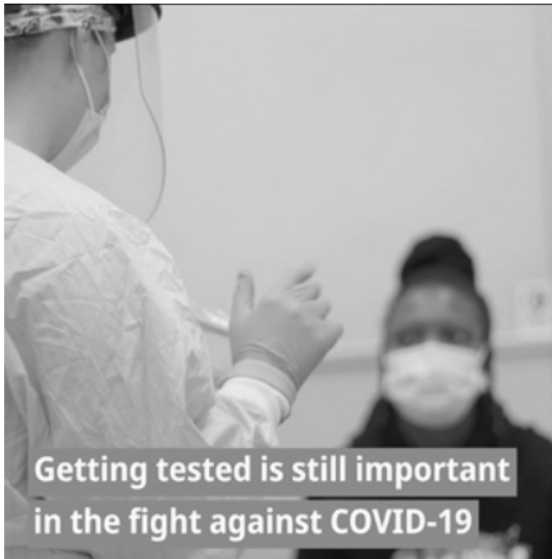
Getting tested when you feel sick is still important in slowing the spread of COVID-19. If you have symptoms, get tested and stay home. It's quick, easy, and helps keep our communities safe. Use the Self-Assessment Tool: <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/>

### **COPY IN VIDEO:**

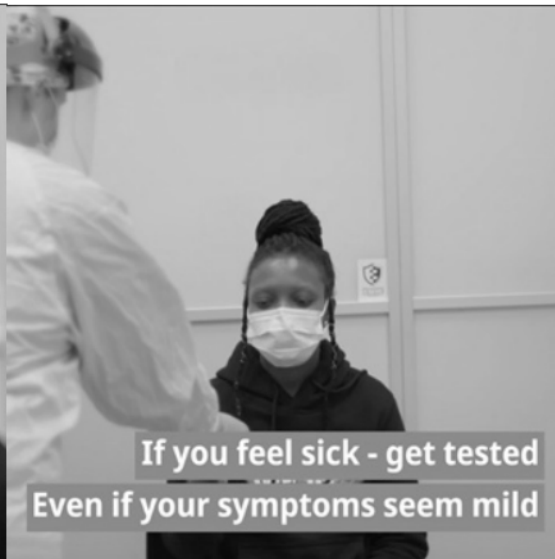
Getting tested is still important in the fight against COVID-19  
If you feel sick - get tested, even if your symptoms seem mild  
It is quick, easy, and confidential  
BC offers the gargle test and the nasal swab  
Stay at home while you wait for your results  
Testing helps keep our loved ones and community safe  
Learn more at [bc.thrive.health/covid19/](https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/)

Video viewable at <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/vozR9CKqTf>. Screenshots below for reference:

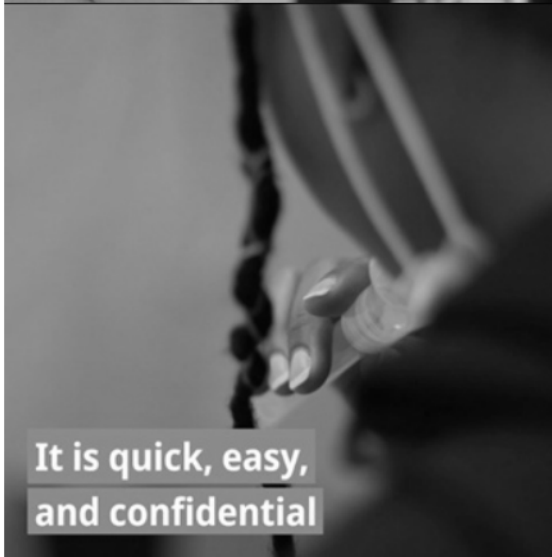




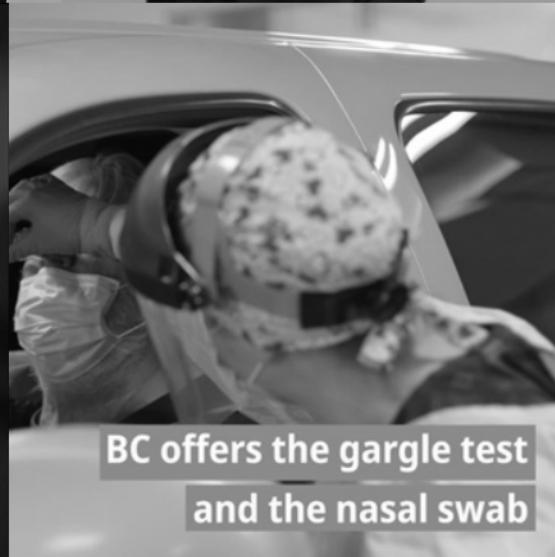
Getting tested is still important  
in the fight against COVID-19



If you feel sick - get tested  
Even if your symptoms seem mild



It is quick, easy,  
and confidential



BC offers the gargle test  
and the nasal swab



Stay at home while  
you wait for your results

Testing helps keep our  
loved ones and community safe

Learn more:  
[bc.thrive.health/covid19](https://bc.thrive.health/covid19)



--

**Stephanie Ferguson** (she/her)

Senior Digital Communications Officer | Digital Communications  
Government Communications and Public Engagement

Province of British Columbia  
250-889-3745

## RE: A few questions from Child Care about masks and school

---

From: Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>, Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Holoday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoday@gov.bc.ca>, Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>, Tounsi, Marielle GCPE:EX <Marielle.Tounsi@gov.bc.ca>  
Sent: October 1, 2021 5:11:48 PM PDT

Yes, that is correct. The order only applies to school students and staff in school spaces, not child care in schools or elsewhere i.e.

**“school space”** means

(a) a building or structure that is operated by a school and **provided for the common use of all students and staff of the school**, including lobbies, hallways, public bathrooms,

(b) classrooms, laboratories, gyms and other indoor areas of a building or structure that is operated by a school where students receive educational instruction, services or programming, and;

(c) vehicles supplied or contracted by the school, including private vehicles for the transport of students, if more than one person is present in the vehicle;

**“student”** means a person who participates in an educational or training program provided by a school or a post-secondary institution;

### Face coverings required in school spaces – school students and school staff persons

9 (1) Except as provided under section 10, students in Grades 4 to 12 and school staff persons must wear a face covering, in accordance with subsection (2) while inside a school space

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)  
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1  
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 [brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC] <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>

**Sent:** October 1, 2021 5:02 PM

**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>; Holoday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoday@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>; Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** RE: A few questions from Child Care

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

I think you are right Bonnie.

**Dr. Réka Gustafson MD FRCPC**

Vice President, Public Health, PHSA & Deputy Provincial Health Officer  
Provincial Health Services Authority

---

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

**Sent:** Friday, October 01, 2021 4:54 PM

**To:** Holoiday, Leah [EX] <[Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca)>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <[Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** NLK\_Strategies, Nicola <[Nicola@nlkstrategies.ca](mailto:Nicola@nlkstrategies.ca)>; Emerson, Brian [EXT] <[Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca)>; Gustafson, Reka [BCCDC] <[reka.gustafson@phsa.ca](mailto:reka.gustafson@phsa.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: A few questions from Child Care

**EXTERNAL SENDER.** If you suspect this message is malicious, please forward to [spam@phsa.ca](mailto:spam@phsa.ca) and **do not** open attachments or click on links.

---

I reviewed this with the team and we do not believe it applies to child care in any setting. They have their own specific plans that do include masking for the adults. The mask order applies to the school settings only. Correct me if I am wrong on that Brian and Reka.

b

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health*

s.15; s.19

*Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)*

Phone: s.17; s.19

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

**Sent:** October 1, 2021 4:13 PM

**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <[Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <[nicola@nlkstrategies.ca](mailto:nicola@nlkstrategies.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: A few questions from Child Care

Hi again – checking if you had any additional feedback on the QA below?

Thanks,  
Leah

---

**From:** Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX

**Sent:** October 1, 2021 11:30 AM

**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>; Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <[Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <[nicola@nlkstrategies.ca](mailto:nicola@nlkstrategies.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: A few questions from Child Care

Hi Dr. Henry,

Thanks for the advice. Below are draft responses. Do you have any edits?

### 1. What does the announcement mean for child care on school grounds?

The Order applies to school space, which means any building or structure operated by the school and that is provided for the common use of all students, or other rooms/areas operated by a school where students receive educational instruction, services or programming.

This means that students in kindergarten and up who are attending child care on school grounds will be required to wear a mask indoors. Any children who are younger than kindergarten who may be attending child care on school grounds are not required to wear a mask.

### 2. Will this order extend to children younger than kindergarten on school grounds?

The mask mandate being announced today includes only children who are in kindergarten and above. There is no mask mandate for younger children who may be attending child care or other programming on school grounds.

### 3. Will the order extend to school-age child care off school grounds?

The mask mandate is only in place for schools and child care centres that are on school grounds. Child care centres based in communities – even if they serve school-aged children – must continue to follow their current COVID plans and health and safety guidelines, as outlined by the Provincial Health Office and BC Centre for Disease Control.

### 4. Why is it ok for kids aged 5-11 not to have a mask in a child care setting if they need it in an EDUC setting?

Child care centres must continue to follow their current COVID plans and health and safety guidelines, as outlined by the Provincial Health Office and BC Centre for Disease Control.

Leah

---

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

**Sent:** October 1, 2021 9:56 AM

**To:** Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

**Cc:** Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>; XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <nicola@nlkstrategies.ca>

**Subject:** RE: A few questions from Child Care

That is correct, and it does not apply to child care off school grounds. They must continue to follow the covid plans and guidance for child care.

Bonnie

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health*

s.15; s.19

*Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)*

Phone: s.15; s.19

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---

**From:** Machell, Aileen GCPE:EX <[Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 9:53 AM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <[Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca)>; XT:Lambrechts, Nicola GCPE:IN <[nicola@nlkstrategies.ca](mailto:nicola@nlkstrategies.ca)>  
**Subject:** A few questions from Child Care

Hi Dr. Henry,  
MCFD/Child Care has reached out with a few questions regarding this morning's event. Let me know if you can add clarity. Thanks.

1. What does the announcement mean for child care on school grounds?

The Order applies to the "school space", which means a building or structure operated by the school and that is provided for the common use of all students, or other rooms/areas operated by a school where students receive educational instruction, services or programming.

*This is all to say - from my interpretation, students in Kindergarten and up attending child care on school grounds should wear a mask indoors. Those younger than kindergarten do not need to wear mask?*

2. Will this order extend to children younger than kindergarten on school grounds?

Current language is just to Kindergarten students. There are no current discussions in going lower.

3. Will the order extend to school age child care off school grounds?

**Aileen Machell** (she/her)  
Communications Director  
Health Communications  
250-361-5381

## RE: mask order

---

From: MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>  
To: Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>, Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX <Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca>  
Cc: Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>  
Sent: October 1, 2021 5:59:07 PM PDT  
Bonnie,

Thank you to you and Reka for all your help and support today and over the past couple days leading up to this morning's announcement. Overall things landed very well and we can move forward again with confidence.

As for the note below, I'd suggest that Reka and I talk on Monday about next steps and include our legal teams in the discussion. <sup>s.13; s.14</sup>

<sup>s.13; s.14</sup> Also, we can define a process going forward to review and brief on any potential changes prior to posting the final version.

Reka – I'll set up a time to talk on Monday.

Thanks again and have a great weekend,

Scott

---

**From:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 5:03 PM  
**To:** MacDonald, Scott D EDUC:EX <D.Scott.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca>; Whiteside, Jennifer EDUC:EX <Jennifer.Whiteside@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <reka.gustafson@phsa.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: mask order

<sup>s.13; s.14</sup>

we can discuss.

b

*Dr Bonnie Henry  
Provincial Health Officer  
Office of the PHO  
Ministry of Health*

<sup>s.15; s.19</sup>

*Mailing address: PO Box 9648, STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9P4  
[Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.henry@gov.bc.ca)*

Phone: <sup>s.17; s.19</sup>

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---

**From:** Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <[Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** October 1, 2021 10:42 AM  
**To:** Henry, Bonnie HLTH:EX <[Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.Henry@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <[reka.gustafson@phsa.ca](mailto:reka.gustafson@phsa.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: mask order

Hi Bonnie.

s.13; s.14

s.13; s.14

s.13; s.14

Wrt your comment – “we will need to update so it reflects k-12 now” – do you mean the order should now require mask wearing for K-12? s.13; s.14

s.13; s.14

Thanks.

Brian

Dr. Brian P. Emerson, Deputy Provincial Health Officer (acting)  
BC Ministry of Health, PO Box 9648 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9P1  
T 250.952.1701 C s.17 F. 250.952. 1713 [brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:brian.emerson@gov.bc.ca)

---

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

**Sent:** October 1, 2021 10:20 AM

**To:** Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <[Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Gustafson, Reka HLTH:IN <[reka.gustafson@phsa.ca](mailto:reka.gustafson@phsa.ca)>

**Subject:** mask order

Brian,

s.13; s.14

s.13; s.14

And we will need to update so it reflects k-12 now.

s.13; s.14

Thanks,

Bonnie

*Dr Bonnie Henry*

*Provincial Health Officer*

*Office of the PHO*

*Ministry of Health*

s.15; s.19

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