

# **Another Step Forward**

## **BC's Restart – A Plan to Bring Us Back Together**

June 29, 2021

# Bringing Us Back Together Safely

**We're continuing our careful, gradual approach to bring us back together.**

**During steps 1 and 2, we bent our curve while returning to many of the activities we love – showing us all that vaccines work.**

**BC's vaccination coverage is amongst the highest in the world – completely transforming our ability to more safely live with COVID-19.**

**Moving to Step 3 is significant. As we transition away from more of the precautions we've become used to, we all need to respect people's comfort levels.**

# Where We Are Today

## A world-leader in vaccination rates

Over 78% of people aged 18+ have their first dose, and over 30% have their second dose.

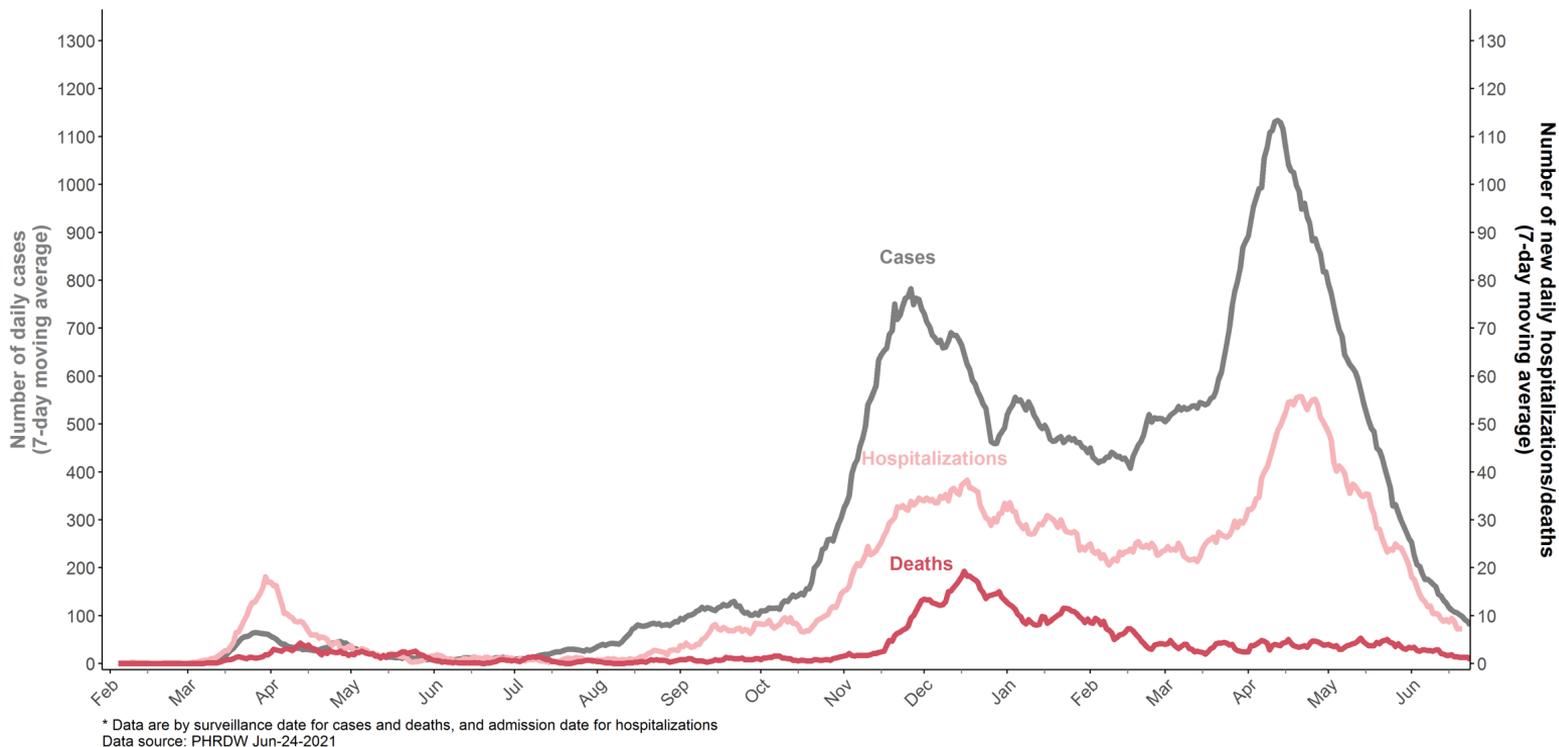
## COVID-19 case counts remain low

The 7 day average case count is 60.9 – the last time it was this low was August, 2020.

## Fewer people are in hospital

Hospitalizations are declining, down to 107 as of June 28.

# Vaccination is a Gamechanger in BC



# Remaining Cautious Through the Summer

## Continuing our vaccination efforts:

- Some areas of the province have lower levels of first dose immunizations
- 30% of adult population fully immunized

## Cautiously moving forward:

- Replacing many public health orders with targeted restrictions and guidance that are effective and efficient – supported by communicable disease plans for a range of settings, businesses, and activities
- Lifting the provincial State of Emergency, but ticketing powers will be maintained

STEPS	Criteria	PHO Guidance	Personal Gatherings	Organized Gatherings	Travel	Sports & Activities	Businesses	Offices & Workplaces
<b>1</b> MAY 25	C: stable H: stable D1: 60%	Masks mandatory, indoor public spaces Physical distancing If sick, stay home and get tested	Outdoor personal gatherings – up to 10 people Indoor visitors – up to 5 people or 1 household	Indoor seated organized gatherings – up to 10 people Outdoor seated organized gatherings – up to 50 people	Recreational travel within your zone Non-essential travel between zones restricted	Low-intensity indoor fitness classes Outdoor local team games and practices for all ages – no spectators	Indoor & outdoor dining – up to 6 people Liquor service - 10PM Existing WorkSafeBC Safety Plans remain in place	Start gradual return to workplaces and offices Existing Safety Plans remain in place
<b>2</b> JUNE 15	C: declining H: declining D1: 65%	Masks mandatory, indoor public spaces Physical distancing If sick, stay home and get tested	Outdoor personal gatherings – up to 50 people Indoor visitors – up to 5 people or 1 household Playdates	Indoor seated organized gatherings – up to 50 people Sector consultations on next steps on indoor and outdoor gatherings	BC recreational travel BC Transit and BC Ferries – increased services as needed	High-intensity indoor fitness classes - reduced capacity Indoor team games for all ages – no spectators Spectators for outdoor sports – up to 50 people	Liquor service – midnight Banquet halls reopen – limited capacity, Safety Plans Sector consultations on next steps on easing of restrictions	Continue return to work Small in-person meetings
<b>3</b> JULY 1	C: low H: declining D1: 70%	Masks recommended – until fully immunized Increased social contact If sick, stay home and get tested	Return to usual on indoor and outdoor personal gatherings Sleepovers	Indoors – 50 people or 50% capacity, whichever greater Outdoors – 5,000 or 50% capacity, whichever greater Fairs/festivals – return to normal with Communicable Disease Plans	Canada recreational travel	Sports and exercise facilities – return to normal with Communicable Disease Plans	Dining – no group limits (regular liquor service, no socializing between tables) Casinos – limited capacity Nightclubs – seated at tables Transition to Communicable Disease Plans	Seminars and bigger meetings Transition to Communicable Disease Plans
<b>4</b> SEPT 7 (Earliest date)	C: low H: low D1: 70%+	Masks – personal choice Normal social contact If sick, stay home and get tested	Normal social contact	Full capacity for all organized gatherings	Canada recreational travel	Sports and exercise facilities – continue to operate with Communicable Disease Plans	Return to normal with Communicable Disease Plans	Fully re-opened offices and workplaces

C: C-19 case counts    H: C-19 hospitalizations    D1: minimum % of people 18+ with dose 1

# Updated Mask Guidance in Step 3

- Mask wearing is recommended in indoor public spaces for all people 12 and older who are not yet fully vaccinated
- Fully vaccinated means 14-days after receiving your second dose
- Some people may choose to continue to wear a mask and that's OK – we all need to go at our own pace
- The Face Coverings Order under the Emergency Program Act will be lifted and no proof of vaccination will be needed

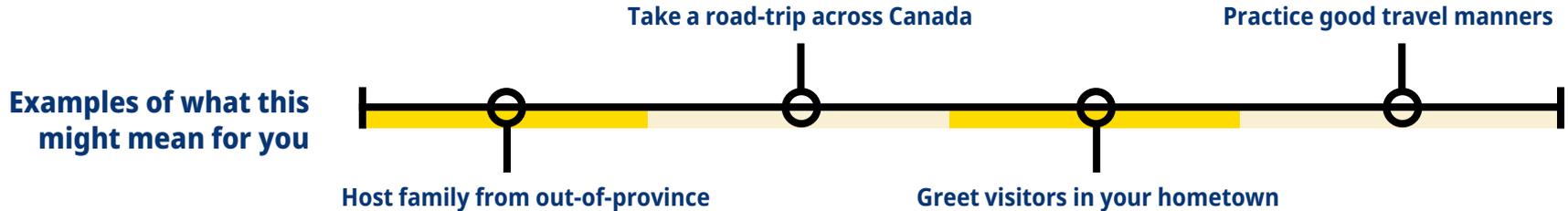


# Gatherings

- Personal gatherings – return to normal
- Organized Gatherings – eased restrictions
  - Indoor – 50 people or up to 50% capacity, whichever is greater
  - Outdoor – 5,000 people or up to 50% of capacity, whichever is greater
  - Indoor weddings, ceremonies, events – 50 people or up to 50% capacity, whichever is greater
- Fairs, festivals, and trade shows – return to normal with Communicable Disease Plan
- Removal of PHO restrictions on religious worship services

# Travel

- Welcome people from other provinces to visit BC
- Guidelines for travel:
  - Keep using caution, until you are fully vaccinated
  - Plan ahead and do research before arriving at your destination
  - Respect any local travel advisories to isolated, remote and Indigenous communities



# Workplaces: New Guidelines

- The PHO and WorkSafeBC are assisting employers to transition from COVID-19 Safety Plans to Communicable Disease Plans – these plans focus on appropriate handwashing and personal hygiene, ventilation and staying home when sick
- Additional safety precautions will be required in higher risk workplaces
- Outbreaks will continue to be managed by the local public health teams including issuing additional restrictions or business closures if necessary

Examples of what this might mean for you



# Businesses

## Restaurants, bars & pubs

- Table limits determined by venue
- Liquor service hours – return to normal
- Socializing between tables not permitted
- Venues can host events

## Nightclubs

- Up to 10 people seated at tables (no dancing)
- Socializing between tables not permitted
- Tables should be 2m apart

## Casinos

- Operate with reduced capacity
- ~50% of gaming stations permitted to open
- Barriers and masks recommended

Examples of what this might mean for you



# Golden Rules for Everybody

Our layers of protection look a bit different now, but the basics remain the same to keep each other safe and support each other.



Get vaccinated



Follow guidelines



Stay home if sick



Check before you travel



Respect personal space



It's always safer outdoors



Consider other people's situation



Clean your hands

# Our Focus Remains the Same

**Bringing us back together – safely and gradually.**

**Respecting people's different comfort levels and personal situations  
as we move forward together.**

**Supporting sectors across our economy as they transition away  
from COVID-19 Safety Plans.**

**Staying flexible, monitoring the data and learning throughout our restart.**

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