



Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership

June 16, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Update 61 (**RED text** indicates web link & New Information in **BLUE**)

Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership updates will now be release two (2) days a week. All updates moving forward will be released on Tuesday and Thursday of each week, unless urgent messaging comes from Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health or Government Officials during their daily updates.

Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partners are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation in Alberta. The latest Government of Alberta media releases can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/news.aspx>

All Vulcan County Fire Halls are closed to the public until further notice. Municipal office remains are now open, however, **we are urging the public to use municipal websites, email and telephone** to answer their inquiries.

As cases have now been confirmed within the Vulcan County region, it is imperative to follow proper personal hygiene and cleaning practices. Please follow these [guidelines](#) and watch your municipal websites for further updates.

Everyone, even persons not exhibiting symptoms or requiring mandatory self-isolation, is strongly encouraged to limit outings to a minimum and stay home; [observe social distancing](#) and avoid touching your face without first washing your hands.

The Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership has put together [a series of videos on COVID-19](#) related themes:

- [Tips for Wearing Masks](#)
- [Tips for Washing Hands and Surfaces](#)
- [Tips on Public Distancing, Touching Your Face and Wearing Gloves](#)
- [When to See the Doctor](#)
- [Protect Our Communities](#)
- [Here for You](#)

With the confirmation of a confirmed cases within our region, please remain vigilant in the practices that have been established.

Cases in Alberta and Vulcan County

For today, 35 new cases have been confirmed bringing the total number of cases to 7,482. There has been a total of 151 fatalities as a result of COVID-19. There have been a total of 6,882 recoveries to date, with 449 active cases. There have been a total of 349,836 tests completed in Alberta. There are **three** confirmed cases within Vulcan County or the urban municipalities within its region. Vulcan County is in the [Calgary Health Zone](#).



Alberta Relaunch Strategy – Phase Two

Stage 2 will allow additional businesses and services to reopen and resume operations starting June 12 with 2 metre physical distancing requirements and other public health guidelines in place.

Business operators, sport and recreation services can determine if they are ready to open and ensure all guidance for workplaces is met.

What can open with RESTRICTIONS

- K-12 Schools, for requested diploma exams and summer school, following guidance
- Libraries
- More Surgeries
- Wellness services such as massage, acupuncture, and reflexology
- Personal services (esthetics, cosmetics skin and body treatments, manicures, pedicures, waxing, facial treatments, artificial tanning)
- Movie theatres & theatres
- Community Halls
- Team Sports
- Indoor Recreation, fitness and sports, including gyms and arenas
- Pools for leisure
- VLTs in restaurants and bars
- Bingo halls & Casinos (but not table games)
- Instrumental concerts
- Provincial campgrounds at full capacity

Events and Gatherings can be Larger in Stage Two

- 50 people maximum: indoor social gatherings, including wedding and funeral receptions, and birthday parties
- 100 people maximum: outdoor events and indoor seated/audience events, including wedding and funeral ceremonies
- No cap on the number of people (with public health measures in place):
 - worship gatherings
 - restaurant, cafes, lounges and bars
 - casinos
 - bingo halls
- More flexibility for 'cohort' groups – small groups of people whose members do not always keep 2 metres apart:
 - a household can increase its close interactions with other households to a maximum of 15 people
 - performers can have a cohort of up to 50 people (cast members or performers)
 - sports teams can play in region-only cohorts of up to 50 players (mini leagues)
 - people could be part of a sports/performing and household cohort.



Still Not Approved in Stage Two

- Social gatherings that exceed above listed maximums
- Regular in-school classes for kindergarten to Grade 12. Classes will resume September 2020
- Vocal concerts (as singing carries a higher risk of transmission)
- Major festivals and concerts, large conferences, trade shows and events (as these are non-seated social events and/or vocal concerts)
- Nightclubs
- Amusement parks
- Hookah lounges (permitted for food and drink only)
- Major sporting events and tournaments
- Non-essential travel outside the province is not recommended – this won't be lifted until stage 3 of the relaunch strategy

The success of Stage 2 will determine when Alberta progresses to Stage 3. Factors are active cases, health-care system capacity, hospitalization and intensive care unit (ICU) cases, and infection rates.

Guidance on Outdoor Activities

With the weather warming up, everyone is eager to go outside for fresh air.

Albertans are encouraged to enjoy outdoor activities, as long as you follow all public health orders to protect yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19.

- Limit outdoor gatherings to no more than 50 people
- Stay home and away from others if exhibiting symptoms
- If participating in activities with people from outside your household or cohort family
 - maintain a physical distance of 2 metres at all times
 - refrain from sharing equipment

Federal Government

- Prime Minister Trudeau (PM) announced that applications for the “Surplus Food Rescue Program” opened today for businesses that have an excess of food due to the impacts of COVID-19.
- Minister of Finance Bill Morneau announced that as of Friday, June 19, 2020, applications will be accepted so that more small businesses can access the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) COVID-19 Relief | Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) | EDC. Owner-operated small businesses that had been ineligible for the program due to their lack of payroll, sole proprietors receiving business income directly, as well as family-owned corporations remunerating in the form of dividends rather than payroll will become eligible this week.
- The federal government has reached an agreement with the United States to extend border restrictions until July 21.
- The federal government has announced that the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) will be extended through the summer for an additional 8 weeks, meaning the program will be available for a total of 24 weeks.
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811 Health Link

Once again, people experiencing 7 symptoms are to take the [online](#) self-assessment.

As a further reminder, **811-health link is for those who are feeling ill and seeking advice.** DO NOT call 811 to report non-compliance of Public Health Orders; these can be reported to the [Environmental Health Complaint Link](#) or by calling (403) 943-2288.

If you, or someone you care about, are feeling overwhelmed with emotions like sadness, depression, or anxiety, or feel like you want to harm yourself or others

- Mental Health Help Line at 1-877-303-2643
- Addiction Help Line at 1-866-332-2322

Local Programs and Initiatives

[Vulcan County – Health & Wellness Foundation](#)

[Vulcan – Medical Recruitment](#)

[Vulcan Regional Food Bank Society](#)

Above information sourced from: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans>

Sincerely,

Nels Petersen
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Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership