



## Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership

August 19, 2020

### RE: COVID-19 Update 72 (**RED** text indicates web link & New Information in **BLUE**)

Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership updates will now be released once (1) day a week, on Wednesday's unless urgent messaging comes from Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health or Government Officials, or AHS on regional cases.

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>

Vulcan County Protective Services is open by appointment only. Fire Halls are closed to the public until further notice. **Municipal offices are 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. **Significant cases have been recorded in municipalities bordering Vulcan County. The interactive map can be found [here](#).**

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.

**There is now expanded asymptomatic testing available** in community pharmacies for those **with no known exposure to Covid-19 and exhibiting NO SYMPTOMS** of it. Contact your local pharmacy for details. A self-assessment tool is available [here](#), one that facilitates booking appointments for testing directly with AHS.

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](#)

Resources for the Low-German Mennonite community are continually updated by AHS and can be found [here](#). The last update was August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

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



### What YOU can do to HELP:

- Wear a mask in public
- Download/Use the ACTracing App
- Wash hands often
- Use gloves properly if you choose to wear them
- Cover coughs and sneezes with tissue or your elbow
- Avoid touching your face
- Avoid travel outside of Canada
- Watch for COVID-19 symptoms
- GET TESTED IF YOU FEEL SICK

### Cases in Alberta and Vulcan County

As of August 19<sup>th</sup> there have been 12,501 confirmed cases and 11,167 recoveries of COVID-19 in Alberta. There are 1,107 active cases and a total of 227 fatalities as a result of COVID-19 in Alberta. A total of 846,681 tests has been completed on 684,041 people in Alberta. While at present there are 48 hospitalizations resulting from Covid-19, **12 patients currently require intensive care.** As of 17:00 on August 19<sup>th</sup> there are **3 active cases, 1 fatality and 29 recoveries within Vulcan County or the urban municipalities within its region.** Vulcan County is in the [Calgary Health Zone](#).

Wearing a mask shows...



Kindness

### Know Your Masks

N95 Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Should be reserved for the frontline healthcare workers</li><li>- N95 masks with a valve will not filter out the virus if you are a carrier</li></ul>
Surgical Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Should be saved for the medical professionals</li><li>- SINGLE USE – DISPOSE AFTER USING</li></ul>
DIY Cloth Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Protects others from you</li><li>- Can make at home and re-wear – WASH AFTER EACH USE</li></ul>
NO Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Offers no protection</li><li>- Doesn't help slow or stop the spread of COVID-19</li></ul>

### Provincial Measures and Indicators of COVID-19 Regional Risks

There are two indicators the Province is using as measures on how regions are doing, with three classifications:  
**Open**

- low level of risk, no additional restrictions in place
- less than 50 active cases per 100,000



### Watch

- the province is monitoring the risk and discussing with local government(s) and other community leaders the possible need for additional health measures
- at least 10 active cases and more than 50 active cases per 100,000

### Enhanced

- risk levels require enhanced public health measures to control the spread
- informed by local context

## Vulcan County municipalities remain OPEN.

### Returning to School

- Students in grades 4-12 and all school staff must wear masks as part of new school safety measures.
- Students and staff will receive 2 reusable masks from government.
- More than 1.6 million masks will be distributed to 740,000 students and 90,000 staff.
- Mask use will be mandatory for staff and teachers in all settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained. Students will be required to wear them in all shared and common areas such as in hallways and on buses.
- Exemptions will be made for students and staff who are unable to wear a mask due to medical or other needs.
- Mask use for kindergarten to grade three students will continue to be optional as mask use for younger children is a challenge due to difficulties with proper fit and compliance.

### 811 Health Link

Once again, people experiencing 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.**

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,

Christopher Northcott

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Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership