



# Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership (VCREMP)

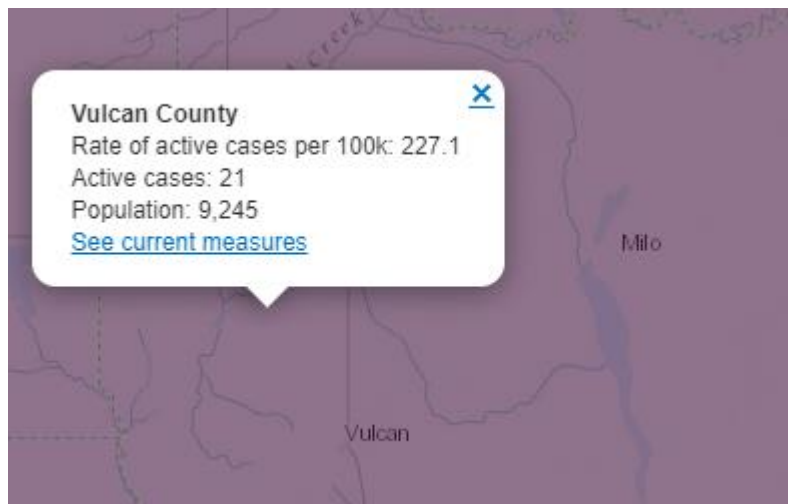
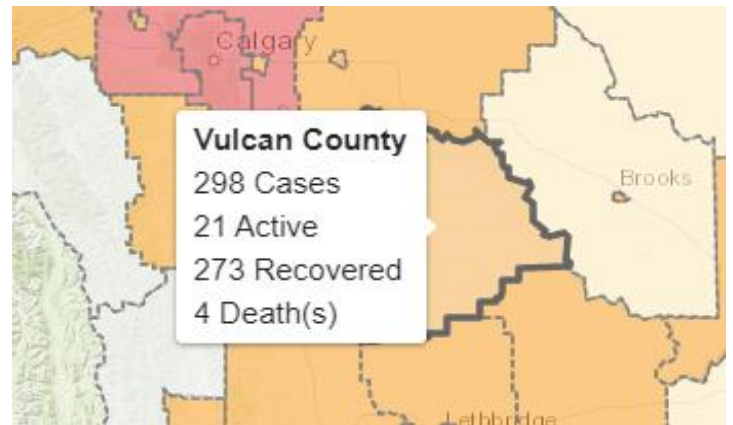
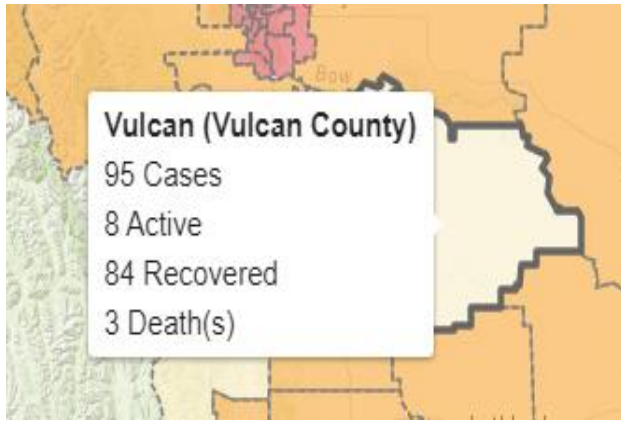
DECEMBER 23, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Update 93 (**RED text** indicates web link & New Information in **BLUE**)

## IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The entire Province of Alberta is under enhanced status.

COVID Numbers within Vulcan County are as follows:



8 Active Cases within the borders of Vulcan County, 21 Active Cases within the area including all lands south of the Bow River.

Cases have remained relatively flat within the Vulcan County region, please keep up the hard work in following proper personal hygiene and cleaning practices. Please follow these [guidelines](#) and watch your municipal websites for further updates.



The Province announced beginning December 15<sup>th</sup>, they will begin refining the geospatial data used to create the case count maps. This is in an effort to provide better data on regional cases counts while still protecting personal privacy. No changes in the way this data is displayed has been noted for our region.

**Active cases within the Province** now stand at 17,821 as of December 23, 2020.

Recoveries within the Province now stand at 75,070.

#### **Holiday Exemption for People Living Alone:**

- Individuals who live alone may gather with one household for a single event between Dec. 23 and Dec 28.
- During this time, a household can only host a single event and it can only include up to 2 people who live alone and their minor children.
- This is an exemption to CMOH Order 42-2020, which allows an individual living alone to have up to 2 close contacts in other households.
- Follow safety measures when gathering, especially with people over 65 and with people at higher risk of severe outcomes:
  - Maintain 2 metres of distance
  - Provide access to hand sanitizer
  - Wear a mask when unable to maintain 2 metres of distance

#### **Vaccine**

The Province began its vaccination program on December 15<sup>th</sup>, with frontline healthcare workers receiving the first available doses. The first phase of the vaccinations, expected to be completed through the first quarter of 2021, targets those at highest risk: health-care workers, staff and seniors in care homes, and people over 75.

#### **Restrictions**

As of December 8, 2020, the following new restrictions were announced:

#### **Gathering restrictions**

- Alberta declared a State of Public Health Emergency to protect the health care system from COVID-19. Social gatherings are the top source of transmission.
- Effective Dec. 8, all indoor and outdoor social gatherings are prohibited. This will be enforced with \$1,000 fines.

#### **Workplaces, schools and child care**

- Effective Dec. 8, masks are mandatory in all indoor public spaces and workplaces.
- Effective Dec. 13, working from home is mandatory when physical presence is not required.
- Current child care and K-12 learning measures remain in effect.

#### **Business and service restrictions**

- Effective Dec. 13, some businesses will be required to close, reduce capacity or limit their in-person access.
- All previous restrictions from Nov. 27 remain in place until the new restrictions come into effect.



## What Else You Can Do

Continue following existing public health measures to keep ourselves and others safe:

- Keep 2 meters apart when you can, wear a mask when you can't
- Practice good hygiene: wash your hands often and cover coughs and sneezes
- Monitor your symptoms every day
- If sick, stay home, get tested, and follow mandatory isolation requirements while waiting for results:
  - if positive, isolate from others for 10 days or until symptoms are gone, whichever is longer
  - if negative, stay home until you are better
- Avoid non-essential travel
- Get the flu shot to keep influenza cases low so health workers can focus on the COVID-19 pandemic

## Community Resources

The VCREMP 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](#)

The VCREMP has created [recommended mask use](#) posters available for businesses to download.

- [Face Coverings Recommended](#)
- [How To for Mask Use](#)

## Program Availability If You Have Been Effected by COVID-19

There are a number of programs available through the Federal Government as a response to COVID-19. These programs are available for businesses, individuals, or families. For a complete list of programs please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

Local assistance can also be provided through the Vulcan & Region Family Community Support Services. Program information can be found on their website at <http://www.vulcanandregionfcss.com> or by phoning their office at (403)485-2192 during regular business hours.

## 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



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

Sincerely,

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