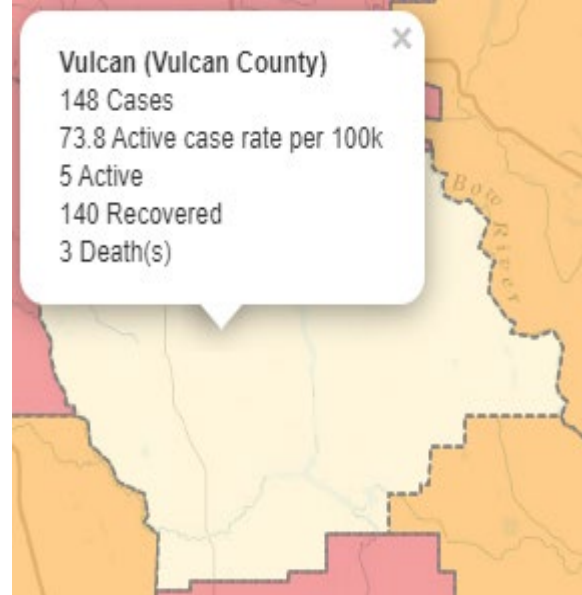
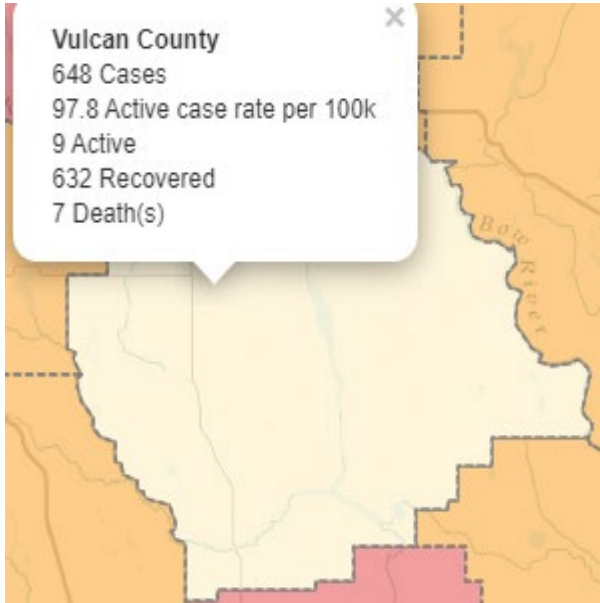


# Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership (VCREMP)

May 19, 2021

RE: COVID-19 Update 112 (**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:**

There are currently **NINE (9)** Active Cases within the region, **FIVE (5)** which are within the borders of Vulcan County. Cases have decreased by 6 cases in the past week in Vulcan County.

**If Vulcan County Region reaches 30 active cases we will move into the hotspot category and all Expanded Restrictions will then apply to Vulcan County for the duration that the Expanded Restrictions are in place. So we urge everyone to follow the guidelines and keep following proper personal hygiene and cleaning practices.**

The Village of Lomond, Village of Milo & Village of Arrowwood Administrative Offices are open by appointment only. The Town of Vulcan, Vulcan County, Village of Champion & Village of Carmangay Administrative Offices remain open with limited residents in the foyer at a time.

**Active cases within the Province** now stand at 18,813 as of end of day May 18, 2021. Recoveries within the Province now stand at 200,496.

### Vaccine Progress to Date

As of May 18:

- 2,271,955 doses administered
- 50,819 doses per 100,000 population
- 332,276 fully immunized (2 doses)
- 354 adverse events following immunization reported ([learn about vaccine safety](#))



### Vaccination Eligibility

Vaccines available at participating pharmacies. No walk-ins unless stated.

Who's eligible now	How to book
Ages 40+ (AstraZeneca, based on availability)	Pharmacy (appointments & 70 walk-in locations) AHS locations <a href="#">provincewide</a> (book online or 811) Walk-in clinics in <a href="#">9 communities</a>
Ages 50+ (Phases 1 & 2D)	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>   <a href="#">AHS online</a>   Call 811
First Nations Ages 35+ (1 & 2D)	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>   <a href="#">AHS online</a>   Call 811   On-reserve
Ages 16+ with health conditions (2B)	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>   <a href="#">AHS online</a>   Call 811
Eligible front-line workers (2C)	<a href="#">Pharmacy</a>   <a href="#">AHS online</a>   Call 811

### COVID-19 Immunization Clinic

Weekdays (Starting May 25, 2021) 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. @ Deerfoot Sportsplex – [BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – CLICK HERE](#)

Open to non-Indigenous residents from Siksika’s neighbouring municipalities of Wheatland County, Vulcan County and Newell County, who are currently eligible in Alberta.

### Transportation to Vaccination Appointments

Vulcan and Region FCSS Courtesy Drivers are providing free transportation for low-income seniors in need of a ride for their vaccinations, to the Vulcan Health Center, from one of the villages, roundtrip. To arrange a booking for these services, please phone Vulcan Region FCSS at (403) 485-2192 Extension 101 to discuss pick up options and book a driver.

### Approved Vaccines

Vaccines approved by Health Canada:

- Pfizer BioNTech, approved Dec. 9, 2020
- Moderna, approved Dec. 23, 2020
- Astra-Zeneca, approved Feb. 26, 2021 ([Eligible Albertans 18 and older](#))
- Johnson and Johnson March 5, 2021

Further information on vaccinations from AHS Community Engagement on Vaccines can be found [here](#).

### Restrictions Province Wide – APPLIES TO VULCAN COUNTY

The following restrictions apply PROVINCE WIDE. Additional restrictions may apply to communities with high case rates.

### 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.  
All indoor social gatherings are prohibited – public and private.



- Close contacts are limited to household members only
- People who live alone can have up to 2 close contacts:
  - these must be the same two contacts throughout the duration of the restriction
  - if the close contacts do not live alone, visits cannot be held at their home
  - single parents who only live with their children under 18 are permitted to have up to 2 close contacts

Outdoor social gatherings are limited to 10 people maximum and must not have an indoor component.

- Backyard gatherings that require movement in/out of homes are not permitted.
- Attendees should remain distanced at all times and follow all public health measures.

**Schools & Post-Secondary– STUDENTS WILL RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING ON MAY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

**Restaurants, Bars, Pubs, Lounges & Cafes – Mandatory Restrictions – Effective May 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.**

- All in-person dining, including on patios, is prohibited.
- Restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges, cafes and food courts can open for takeout, curbside pickup and delivery only.

**Retail**

- Retail services and shopping malls must limit customer capacity to 15% of fire code occupancy (not including staff) or a minimum of 5 customers. This includes individual stores and common areas

**Workplaces**

- 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.

**Business and service restrictions**

- Retail services and shopping malls must limit customer capacity to 15% of fire code occupancy (not including staff) or a minimum of 5 customers.

**Drive in Events & Activates**

Drive-ins are permitted for outdoor activities that people can participate in or observe while remaining inside a motor vehicle. Activities include:

- worship services
- drive-in movies
- graduation ceremonies
- physical and performance activities

There is no limit to the number of people permitted to attend a drive-in activity, provided all participants:

- remain inside their motor vehicles, except where necessary to use the washroom
- park their motor vehicle at least 2 metres away from other motor vehicles
- maintain physical distancing of 2 metres between households

**Expanded Restrictions for High Case Regions (Hotspot) – Does NOT affect Vulcan County Residents**

Starting May 5, additional restrictions come into effect for regions with at least 50 cases per 100,000 people, and at least 30 active cases. These restrictions will be in place for at least 3 weeks and will be extended if necessary. Province wide restrictions remain in effect for all other communities.



**Fitness, Performance & Recreation Activities – Indoor & Outdoor**

<p>Indoor Gatherings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All indoor gatherings are prohibited</li> </ul>	<p>Outdoor Gatherings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All outdoor social gatherings must be limited to no more than 5 people and a maximum of 2 household cohorts.</li> <li>Mandatory physical distancing must be maintained at all times between members of different households.</li> </ul>
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Mandatory, additional restrictions for high case regions – Effective at 11:59 pm on May 9

**Gatherings – Indoor & Outdoor**

<p>Indoor Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All indoor sport, performance and recreation activities for youth and adults are prohibited.</li> <li>Indoor fitness and recreation facilities must close, including for 1-on-1 training.</li> </ul>	<p>Outdoor Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All outdoor sports and recreation activities are prohibited, except with members of your household, or your two close contacts if you live alone. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>all group physical activities, such as team sports, fitness classes, training sessions</li> <li>all one-on-one lessons and training activities</li> <li>all practices, training and games</li> </ul> </li> <li>Outdoor recreation facilities can remain open unless specifically closed by public health order.</li> </ul>	<p>Professional Sport Organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional sport organizations that have received an exemption can continue, provided protocols are strictly followed.</li> </ul>
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**Retail**

Mandatory, additional restrictions for high case regions – Effective May 5

- Retail services must limit customer capacity to 10% of fire code occupancy (not including staff) or a minimum of 5 customers. This includes individual stores and common areas.
- Shopping mall capacity limits will exclude common area square footage.
- Curbside pick-up, delivery and online services are encouraged.

**Personal and Wellness Services**

Mandatory, additional restrictions for high case regions – Effective at 11:59 pm on May 9

- Personal and wellness services, including hair salons, barbers, nail salons, estheticians, tattoos and piercing, must close.

**Places of Worship**

Mandatory, additional restrictions for high case regions – Effective May 5

- Faith services are limited to 15 in-person attendees.
- Physical distancing between households must be maintained at all times.
- Virtual or online services are strongly recommended.
- Drive-in services where people do not leave their vehicles and adhere to guidance are allowed.

**Funerals**

Mandatory, additional restrictions for high case regions – Effective May 5

- 10-people maximum for funerals, including participants and guests.
- Funeral receptions are not permitted.



## Workplace Rules

Mandatory, additional restrictions for high case regions – Effective May 5

- Any workplace, except work camps and essential and critical services, with transmission of 3 or more cases will be required by health officials to close for 10 days.
- Any workplace that does not comply will be subject to enforcement.
- Working from home remains mandatory unless the employer requires the employee's physical presence to operate effectively.
- Where at work for operational effectiveness, employees must mask for all indoor settings, except in work stations or where two-metre physical distancing or adequate physical barriers are in place.

## 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,

## **Nels Petersen**

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