

**June 16, 2021 – British Columbia (BC) Enters Step 2 of Restart Plan**

BC is now in Step 2 of the Restart Plan and British Columbians can once again travel recreationally throughout the province. Island Health Chief Medical Health Officer Dr. Richard Stanwick said yesterday that “travel from the mainland to Vancouver Island is resuming as case counts throughout B.C. have been dropping.” British Columbians can gather with up to 50 people outdoors; attend organized indoor gatherings (for example, banquets and theatre events) of up to 50 people with safety plans in place; return to faith gatherings; participate in an indoor fitness class or team sport; and order alcohol until midnight. Masks and physical distancing are still mandatory in all public settings.

According to the latest Doctors of BC In Circulation Update, and based on the [Premier’s recent announcements](#), primary care providers can expect to see the following during Step 2:

- Doctor waiting rooms – current rules remain in place, including mandatory mask wearing. Doctors’ offices should have a maximum of five people in the waiting room (depending on the size of the waiting area), they must be distanced (unless members of the same household), and everyone must be wearing a medical mask.
- Travel – With non-essential travel restrictions within BC lifted, travel to/from meetings can resume. Small, in-person meetings are allowed, however everyone must be masked if social distancing cannot be attained.

In addition, discussions are taking place between public health staff at the Ministry of Health and the BCCDC to determine which restrictions will stay in place and for how long, and next steps regarding updating guidelines for infection prevention and control measures for physician offices. While lifting the mask mandate is anticipated as the province enters Step 3 (tentatively July 1) there is discussion underway as to whether the wearing of masks in physician offices and medical facilities should be extended, particularly as we head into the respiratory season in the fall.



Island Health Region Total Vaccines Administered To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) 1st Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (12+) 1st Dose To Date	% Population Immunized (18+) 2nd Dose To Date
<b>714,031</b>	<b>76.1%</b>	<b>74.6%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### [No Cost PPE from BC Government Health PPE Portal](#)

- Community doctors can access a three month supply of medical grade masks, gowns, gloves, eye protection, and disinfecting products. This includes medical masks to support the [policy on mask use](#) in health-care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### [BC Substance Use Conference](#)

- This year's BC Substance Use Conference 2021 brings together stakeholders from across the province to share clinical expertise, lived experiences, and the latest evidence relating to substance use.

### [Island Health Primary Care Grand Rounds](#)

June 24, 2021 8:00am - 9:00am | US/Pacific

Medical Assistance in Dying: Program Update &

Understanding the New Legislation - Dr. David Robertson

Why not make things interesting and [ask a question?](#)



#### **Objectives:**

- Improved understanding of what the MAID program can and can not do;
- Sufficient knowledge of the new laws to enable Primary Care Physicians to complete a MAID assessment;
- Improved understanding of the place of MAID in the spectrum of palliative and end of life care.

## LINKS, RESOURCES & FAQs

#### **BCCDC Resources:**

- [New Today](#): This section of the website highlights the latest guidance documents and updates to the website for health professionals.
- [About the vaccines](#)
- [Resources for Health Professionals](#)
- [Reporting adverse events](#)

#### **Doctors of BC:**

- [Info for doctors getting or giving the vaccine](#)
- [Updated toolkit for doctors' offices](#)
- <https://www.doctorsofbc.ca/news/cev-attestation-form-available-doctors>

#### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

- [ImmunizeBC FAQ](#)