



COVID-19 SUNSHINE COAST EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE BULLETIN

March 30, 2020

This is the official communication for the Level 2 Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) for the Sunshine Coast Regional District, District of Sechelt, Sechelt Indian Government District and Town of Gibsons.

The following information is accurate as of the time of this bulletin.

Number of confirmed cases in BC: 884 confirmed cases as of March 28.

Number of cases in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region: 444 as of March 28.

Recent Updates

- The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy in collaboration with provincial public health partners has issued an open burning ban - **NO BACKYARD BURNING**. Campfires (0.5 x 0.5 metres max) are currently allowed. To report a violation, please visit: <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>
- **School District 46** is working to establish new protocols for learning for local students. Emails were sent to parents/guardians on Friday, March 27th and schools will be calling parents and guardians, beginning on Tuesday, March 31 to gather information about internet access at home, available devices, and preferred way to communicate. If you have not heard from your child's school, please contact them directly.
- **BC Government [guidance](#)** to retail food and grocery stores operating during COVID-19. [Guidance](#) to construction sites operating during COVID-19.
- **Sunshine Coast Transit Notice to Riders:**
 - Please be patient as transit works to monitor passenger capacity on buses to allow for physical distancing. If the bus passes by, it is because the driver has reached the limit to allow for physical distancing. www.bctransit.com/sunshine-coast/home
 - Effective immediately, customers carrying bags of recycled items (i.e. cans, bottles, etc.) on board buses will not be allowed to board the bus.
- **RCMP:** Please do not call the RCMP to report people who stand too close together. They will educate people when they see it.
- **BC Ferries:** continues to advise customers to avoid non-essential travel. Check current conditions for schedule changes: <https://www.bcf ferries.com/schedules/>

- If the Sunshine Coast is not your primary residence: please consider staying at your primary residence unless you feel that you can help support and enhance essential services, and/or help protect the health and well-being of the community.
- All **playgrounds are closed** throughout the Sunshine Coast.

Vancouver Coastal Health

- **Do your Part, Stay Apart:** That's the message from Vancouver Coastal Health, which has seen the largest number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in British Columbia since the global pandemic started. Full news release: <http://www.vch.ca/about-us/news/news-releases/do-your-part-stay-apart>

Please check out the [BC Ministry of Health COVID-19 Self Assessment Tool](#)

Emergency Operations Centre (Level 2)

- The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) has activated the Emergency Operation Centre. The EOC meets daily with staff from all Sunshine Coast municipal governments and key stakeholders to combine resources and share information.

Local Government Service/Operations Updates

For information and updates on the status of local government services, please refer to the appropriate website:

District of Sechelt, visit www.sechelt.ca/Live/COVID-19-Municipal-Updates

Town of Gibsons, visit www.gibsons.ca/covid-19

Sechelt Indian Government District, visit www.shishalh.com

Sunshine Coast Regional District, visit www.scrd.ca/covid-19-updates

To learn the difference between self-monitoring, self-isolating and isolation, please visit this [Government of Canada Health Services page](#)

Information on financial assistance

This assistance is offered through the federal government 1-800-622-6232

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/03/canadas-covid-19-economic-response-plan-support-for-canadians-and-businesses.html>

Reliable sources of information

Vancouver Coastal Health <http://www.vch.ca/>

BC Centre for Disease Control <http://covid-19.bccdc.ca/>

Public Health Agency for Canada <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Media sources of Information

- Coast Reporter – dedicated COVID 19 section: www.coastreporter.net/covid-19
- The Local Weekly: www.thelocalweekly.ca/
- Eastlink Community TV daily at 5:30, 7:30 and 10:00 PM: www.eastlink.ca/about/about-us/community-tv
- Coast FM: www.mycoastnow.com/category/news/