



# COVID-19 SUNSHINE COAST EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE BULLETIN

April 1, 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: 1,013 confirmed cases as of March 31.**

**Number of cases in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region: 476 as of March 31.**

## Recent Updates

- With the rapidly rising use of sanitizing and disposable wipes amid the COVID-19 crisis, residents are reminded of the importance of **NOT flushing wipes of any sort** - including those labelled "Flushable" or "Biodegradable". We are already seeing impacts on our sewer systems due to the increase in usage of these wipes.
- **The recycling depot at Salish Soils will be closed on Sundays during the month of April.** <https://salishenvironmentalgroup.com/>
- **Sunshine Coast Community Services** has set up a COVID-19 Emergency Food and Essentials service for families and individuals who cannot afford food or essential items and are not able to access the Food Bank. To access this service, please call their new hotline at 604-865-0832, Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. More information can also be found at [www.sccss.ca](http://www.sccss.ca).
- The province has created a **phone service** to provide non-medical information about COVID-19, including the latest information on travel restrictions. Information is available in more than 110 languages, 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Pacific Standard Time at 1-888-COVID19 (1-888-268-4319) or via text message at 604-630-0300.
- **BC Housing** is looking for housing solutions for people in our community including the homeless, women and children who are fleeing abuse, and for first responders, health care workers, and those who are COVID-positive that don't require an acute care setting, but need to self-isolate. If you can help, contact Naomi Brunemeyer at 604-456-8849 or [nbrunemeyer@bchousing.org](mailto:nbrunemeyer@bchousing.org)

- The Province has requested that businesses and organizations undertake an **inventory of critical supplies in their possession**, including personal protective equipment, medical supplies and cleaning. Local governments are asked to share this request with businesses and organizations in their community. [Read more](#)
- **BC Search and Rescue Association (BCSARA)** issued a statement urging caution in the outdoors during COVID-19. Full press release is accessible [here](#)
- **TELUS** continues to offer customer service, but will not enter buildings except in case of an emergency situation, such as a dysfunctional landline that represents the occupant's sole means of communication. Instead of face-to-face service, technicians are providing assistance through a variety of technologies, which has enabled TELUS to largely maintain its normal successful rate of repair. [www.telus.com/en/about/covid-19-updates](http://www.telus.com/en/about/covid-19-updates)
- **Federal Government:** As of March 30, 2020, noon, people showing any signs of COVID will be denied boarding on any flights or passenger trains.
- 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/>
- Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, the Sunshine Coast Emergency Operations Centre, representing the Sunshine Coast Regional District, District of Sechelt, Town of Gibsons and partnering with the shíshálh nation, **are asking people considering visiting the Sunshine Coast to come another time**. More [here](#).

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](http://www.sechelt.ca/Live/COVID-19-Municipal-Updates)

Town of Gibsons, visit [www.gibsons.ca/covid-19](http://www.gibsons.ca/covid-19)

Sechelt Indian Government District, visit [www.shishalh.com](http://www.shishalh.com)

Sunshine Coast Regional District, visit [www.scrd.ca/covid-19-updates](http://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](http://www.coastreporter.net/covid-19)
- The Local Weekly: [www.thelocalweekly.ca/](http://www.thelocalweekly.ca/)
- Eastlink Community TV daily at 5:30, 7:30 and 10:00 PM: [www.eastlink.ca/about/about-us/community-tv](http://www.eastlink.ca/about/about-us/community-tv)
- Coast FM: [www.mycoastnow.com/category/news/](http://www.mycoastnow.com/category/news/)