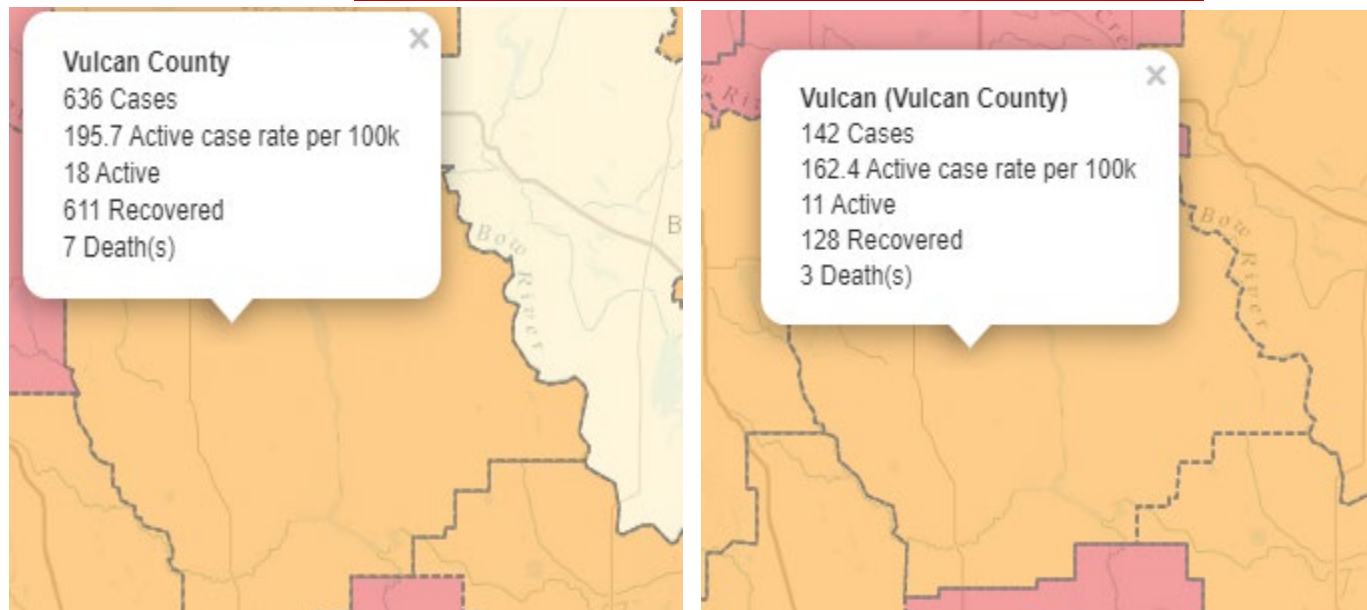


Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership (VCREMP)

May 05, 2021

RE: COVID-19 Update 111 (**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:

Numbers accurate as of end of day May 04.

There are currently **EIGHTEEN (18)** Active Cases within the region, **ELEVEN (11)** which are within the borders of Vulcan County. Cases have decreased by 4 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 23,623 as of end of day May 4, 2021. Recoveries within the Province now stand at 172,931.

Vaccine Progress to Date

As of May 3:

- 1,668,455 doses administered
- 37,320 doses per 100,000 population
- 303,509 Albertans fully immunized (2 doses)
- 276 adverse events following immunization reported ([learn about vaccine safety](#))



Vaccination Eligibility

NEW! Starting May 4, teachers, support staff and child care workers can get vaccinated under Phase 2C, and residents of Banff and RM of Wood Buffalo ages 18+ can get vaccinated under Phase 2D or AstraZeneca.

NEW! Every Albertan 30+ can get vaccinated starting May 6, and every Albertan 12+ can get vaccinated starting May 10.

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 provincewide (book online or 811) Walk-in clinics in 9 communities
Ages 50+ (Phases 1 & 2D)	Pharmacy AHS online Call 811
First Nations Ages 35+ (1 & 2D)	Pharmacy AHS online Call 811 On-reserve
Ages 16+ with health conditions (2B)	Pharmacy AHS online Call 811
Eligible front-line workers (2C)	Pharmacy AHS online Call 811
Ages 18+ for residents of Banff and RM of Wood Buffalo (2D)	Pharmacy AHS online Call 811

<https://www.alberta.ca/covid19-vaccine.aspx>

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 40 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 Move to Online Learning

- Kindergarten to Grade 12 schools will transition to online learning, effective May 7.
- Post-secondary schools will transition to online learning, effective May 5.
- Childcare facilities can remain open.

Restaurants, Bars, Pubs, Lounges & Cafes – Mandatory Restrictions – Effective May 9th 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.

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

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

<p>Indoor Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All indoor sport, performance and recreation activities for youth and adults are prohibited. • Indoor fitness and recreation facilities must close, including for 1-on-1 training. 	<p>Outdoor Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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"> ○ all group physical activities, such as team sports, fitness classes, training sessions ○ all one-on-one lessons and training activities 	<p>Professional Sport Organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional sport organizations that have received an exemption can continue, provided protocols are strictly followed.
---	---	---



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ all practices, training and games ● Outdoor recreation facilities can remain open unless specifically closed by public health order. 	
--	---	--

Gatherings – Indoor & Outdoor

<p>Indoor Gatherings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All indoor gatherings are prohibited 	<p>Outdoor Gatherings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All outdoor social gatherings must be limited to no more than 5 people and a maximum of 2 household cohorts. ● Mandatory physical distancing must be maintained at all times between members of different households.
---	--

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

Regional Director of Emergency Management
Vulcan County Regional Emergency
Management Partnership

Phone: 403-485-3111

Fax: 403-485-2920

