

For Immediate Release | February 2, 2021

## Interior Health update on COVID-19 cluster in Williams Lake area

WILLIAMS LAKE – Interior Health has identified an additional 37 cases of COVID-19 linked to a community cluster in the Williams Lake area (Cariboo Chilcotin [local health area](#)). The cluster was first declared on Jan. 20.

Since Jan. 1, a total of 375 people have tested positive for COVID-19 in this region and 96 cases are currently active and on isolation.

COVID-19 continues to circulate in Williams Lake and all communities throughout the Interior. Most of the transmission related to this community cluster has occurred at recent social events and gatherings and everyone is reminded that socialization must be limited to immediate household bubbles.

Of the 14 COVID-19 cases linked to the Cariboo Memorial Hospital outbreak, one case remains active. Twelve staff and two patients have been linked to this outbreak. The public is reminded the hospital is safe to visit for appointments or emergency care. Please continue with any scheduled procedures. COVID-19 self-isolation is not required after visiting the hospital.

It is important to follow public health guidance such as physical distancing, washing your hands regularly and wearing a mask.

Interior Health is thankful for the ongoing support of local First Nations Chiefs, elected officials, and community leaders as we support the community together.

IH will release regular updates on this community cluster on Tuesdays and Fridays and in addition, everyone is encouraged to monitor the [BCCDC website](#) for ongoing COVID-19 data.

Everyone in all communities should remain vigilant in following COVID-19 precautions:

- Keep to your household bubbles and avoid social gatherings.
- Stay home when you are sick and get tested if you have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Practise physical distancing
- Wear a mask.
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid all non-essential travel

### Booking a COVID-19 test:

Online: You can book an appointment online through the COVID-19 Test Booking Form: <https://interiorhealthcovid.secureform.ca/index.php>

By phone: Call the COVID-19 Test Booking Line at 1-877-740-7747 for assistance with booking your test.