

For Immediate Release | December 21, 2020

Increased capacity at new COVID-19 community collection centre

PENTICTON - Interior Health has established a new COVID-19 community collection centre to increase testing capacity for Penticton and the surrounding area.

Effective today, COVID-19 test collection services will move to a dedicated centre located at 140-3547 Skaha Lake Road.

Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., seven days a week and with more parking spaces available, the dedicated COVID-19 collection centre will allow Interior Health to increase the daily number of tests being performed for Penticton residents.

People can find more information about IH COVID-19 Community Collection Centres by visiting Interior Health's [Testing Information page](#).

Booking a 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.

Testing is available for people with new or worsening COVID-19 symptoms. Seek a test immediately if you have **one or more** of these key symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Seek a test if you have **two or more** of the following symptoms for more than 24 hours, and they are not related to any other pre-existing conditions:

- Sore throat
- Loss of appetite
- Extreme fatigue or tiredness
- Headache
- Body aches (muscles and joints aching)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Testing is available for those who have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and have any COVID-19 symptoms, as well as for those who have been sent for testing by a physician, nurse practitioner, or public health. Testing is not recommended for individuals who do not have symptoms.

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 in indoor public spaces.
- Wash your hands often.

For information on COVID-19 testing in British Columbia, visit the BC Centre for Disease Control's [testing information page](#).

-30-

Media, for information:

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