



For Immediate Release | January 22, 2021

Interior Health declares COVID-19 outbreak at Teck mining operations near Elkford over

ELKFORD – The COVID-19 outbreak related to the Teck mining operations near Elkford is over.

Interior Health (IH) declared the outbreak on Dec. 15, 2020. In total, 48 COVID-19 cases were confirmed at three sites operated by Teck Mining Ltd.

Cases have been identified with residences in multiple jurisdictions, including Interior Health, Vancouver Island Health, Alberta, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

Sixteen of the 48 cases were in residents of Interior Health.

IH, BCCDC, the Public Health Agency of Canada and Teck worked closely throughout the outbreak to find cases, identify all contacts, and minimize additional exposures and community transmission of COVID-19 related to these cases.

IH continues to monitor for additional COVID-19 cases at Teck and across the Elk Valley given recent increased activity in the area.

The public is reminded to follow all COVID-19 precautions and current public health orders:

- Keep to your household bubbles and avoid social gatherings.
- Limit all non-essential travel.
- Stay home when you are sick and get tested if you have any symptoms consistent with COVID (see below).
- Practise physical distancing and use a mask if you cannot.
- Wash your hands often.

Booking a COVID-19 test:

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

<u>By phone:</u> Call the COVID-19 Test Booking Line at 1-877-740-7747 for assistance with booking your test. Testing is available for people with cold, influenza, or COVID-19-like symptoms, including:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Body aches (muscles and joints aching)
- Diarrhea
- Headache

Other milder symptoms may include: runny nose, fatigue, sore throat, vomiting and red eyes.

Media, for information:

Media@interiorhealth.ca

1-844-469-7077