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Interior Health declares RIH Patient Care Tower outbreak over

KAMLOOPS – Interior Health has declared the COVID-19 outbreak at the Royal Inland Hospital Patient Care Tower (RIH PCT) construction project over.

IH linked 13 cases of COVID-19 to the outbreak at the RIH PCT. Two 14-day incubation periods have passed since the last case, allowing IH's medical health officer to declare the outbreak over.

"I'd like to thank our project team, public health, RIH employees, physicians and administration as well as our construction partner EllisDon for helping bring this outbreak to a close. While this is positive news, we continue to see COVID-19 transmission throughout the Interior, so it is critical for everyone to remain vigilant and do what they can to prevent the spread of COVID-19," said IH President and CEO, Susan Brown.

All cases associated with the outbreak received appropriate follow-up and have recovered. Contacts of each confirmed case were identified through contact tracing and also received direction from public health.

"Our medical health officers, epidemiology team, communicable disease unit and public health staff are committed to following up on all COVID-19 cases to ensure outbreaks and clusters are contained and to reduce COVID-19 exposures in our workplaces and communities. I'd like to extend a special thanks to everyone involved for their co-operation and responsiveness in containing this outbreak," said Dr. Carol Fenton, Interior Health medical health officer.

Construction on the RIH Patient Care Tower continues on schedule with the tower set to open to patients in summer 2022.

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