For Immediate Release | November 26, 2020

Interior Health reporting Revelstoke COVID-19 community cluster

REVELSTOKE – Interior Health (IH) is reporting an increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Revelstoke and the surrounding area.

Our investigation reveals that in the past 14 days, there have been 22 COVID-19 cases identified, with 12 cases reported on Tuesday.

Social gatherings appear to be responsible for some of these transmissions. This highlights the importance, especially at this time, of limiting your social activities and following COVID-19 protocols when indoors. This includes maintaining physical distancing and masking when unable to stay apart.

We also would like to highlight the importance of limiting travel to essential travel only.

All identified active cases are required to self-isolate and public health continues to follow-up directly with all close contacts to offer guidance and support.

IH will monitor this cluster for additional cases.

No exposures have been identified in Revelstoke school settings to this point. Students can continue to go to school. If there is a case, school administration will be alerted and appropriate steps taken to communicate with parents and ensure the safety of our school population. IH will report school cases on our public website (https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/school-exposures/).

Information from across B.C. continues to demonstrate that we are not seeing significant transmission of COVID-19 in the school settings.

This cluster illustrates that COVID-19 is in smaller rural communities as well as larger urban centres.

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 (see below).
- Practise physical distancing and use a mask if you cannot.
- Wash your hands often.

Testing <u>by appointment only</u> is available locally. Testing is not recommended for individuals who do not have symptoms.

<u>Booking a test:</u>

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 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.

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