

May 28, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Ministry of Education and Fraser Health have provided the information below for school districts to share with parents/guardians.

### **BC's Restart**

Earlier this week, the Provincial Health Officer announced [BC's Restart](#), a new four-step plan that focuses on a safe and gradual return to normal activities. Step 1 of the plan began on May 25 and includes some relaxing of provincial restrictions related to gatherings and travel within health regions. These changes do not impact the existing COVID-19 [Operational](#) and [Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12](#) settings, which remain in place and must continue to be followed for the remainder of the school year.

### **Guidance for Graduation Events**

Further to consultation with BCCDC regarding BC's Restart, K-12 graduation events can proceed as follows:

School-sponsored events (including graduation ceremonies and other activities, held on or off of school grounds) must continue to follow the previously issued [K-12 guidance](#).

Community-organized and private events (not school-sponsored) must follow the requirements of the recently updated [Provincial Health Officer Order on Gathering & Events](#). These include:

- A program for children and youth (which can include events such as a safe grad held at a community centre). Requirements include but are not limited to:
  - o Up to 50 people total (including event staff/volunteers). No spectators.
  - o People maintain 2 metres from those outside of their household.
  - o Measures are put in place to avoid congregation.
  
- An outside, seated event (can include events such as group dinners). Requirements include but are not limited to:
  - o Up to 50 people total (including event staff/volunteers).
  - o People maintain 2 metres from those outside of their household.
  - o There is a chair available for every person and people remain seated except to obtain food or drink or to use the washroom.

Community-organized events must also have a [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#).

For personal gatherings (e.g. those organized amongst families and friends), up to 10 people are allowed to gather outdoors. Up to 5 other people or 2 households can gather indoors. Learn more on [BC's Restart Plan web page](#).

### **Fraser Health COVID-19 Immunization Resources**

In recognition that parents/guardians may have questions regarding COVID-19 immunizations for youth 12+, Fraser Health has asked us to share the following resources:

- [Getting vaccinated: three easy steps: Register. Book. Get the shot.](#)
- [Vaccine registration – who should register, why register, how do I register?](#)
- [Preparing for your COVID-19 vaccine appointment](#)
- [During your COVID-19 vaccine appointment](#)
- [What to expect after your COVID-19 immunization](#)

Translations are available at: [www.fraserhealth.ca/translations](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/translations).

Fraser Health is hosting a **free town hall meeting on Thursday, June 3** for parents, caregivers and youth as panel experts, Dr. Elizabeth Brodtkin, Chief Medical Health Officer, Dr Sinha, Pediatrician and Alison Everett, Child Life Specialist walk through COVID-19 immunization for youth. Event details can be found at [fraserhealth.ca/events](http://fraserhealth.ca/events).

In addition, the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has summarized key information, questions, and answers in this document: [BCCDC – COVID-19 Vaccination Information – Children Aged 12 – 17](#).

If you have any questions or require further information, including links to clinic locations and transportation services, please visit [www.fraserhealth.ca/vaccine](http://www.fraserhealth.ca/vaccine).

Many thanks,



Doug Sheppard  
Superintendent of Schools