

For Immediate Release | July 10, 2020

Advisory:
Potential COVID-19 exposures in recent Kelowna gatherings

KELOWNA - Interior Health is advising individuals who attended gatherings in the Kelowna downtown and waterfront areas from June 25 to July 6 that they may have been exposed to COVID-19.

This advisory comes after IH's communicable disease unit (CDU) has been made aware of a number of positive COVID-19 cases attending private gatherings and visiting businesses (restaurants, bars, etc.) over these dates. Of specific concern are larger Canada Day and holiday weekend events.

Public health contact tracing is underway and, if IH is made aware of potential exposures to COVID-19, our CDU will be reaching out directly to ask those individuals to self-isolate for 14 days.

However, given the number of cases and potential locations involved, we are urging anyone who participated in events over these dates to monitor closely for symptoms of COVID-19.

The symptoms of COVID-19 include the following:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Other milder symptoms may include: runny nose, fatigue, body aches (muscles and joints aching), diarrhea, headache, sore throat, vomiting and red eyes.

Anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms is asked to get themselves tested for COVID-19. A list of testing and assessment centres is available here: <https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/testing-information/>.

Testing is not recommended for people who have no symptoms. Individuals seeking a test should call their primary care provider (family physician or nurse practitioner) or the closest Interior Health community testing and assessment centre.

IH reminds everyone of the importance of following COVID-19 precautions:

- Stay home and avoid travel if you have symptoms, even mild ones.
- Maintain physical distancing (two metres apart) and use masks when distancing is not possible.
- Wash your hands regularly and do not touch your face.
- Do not plan or attend gatherings of more than 50 people. Limit gatherings to outdoors whenever possible.

Of the eight cases identified to date, six are in individuals who reside outside of IH. IH continues to work with other jurisdictions to determine the source of disease for these cases.

Answers to frequently asked questions are available on the Interior Health public website here: <https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/frequently-asked-questions/>.