

For Immediate Release | July 22, 2020

## Interior Health COVID-19 update

KELOWNA – Further testing of individuals has allowed Interior Health (IH) to identify an additional location in Kelowna where individuals may have been exposed to COVID-19.

Individuals who visited Browns Socialhouse, 100-1544 Harvey Avenue, on July 13 or July 16-19 are asked to **self-monitor** themselves closely for symptoms of COVID-19 and to get tested if they begin to exhibit symptoms.

Public health contact tracing is under way, and where possible, IH is reaching out directly to individuals who have been exposed.

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](#).

### **COVID-19 testing**

Testing is recommended for anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, including:

- 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.

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 out of doors whenever possible.

### **Kelowna community cases**

As reported by the Provincial Health Officer today, there are now 78 cases linked to the COVID-19 cluster in Kelowna. Sixty-six of those are individuals are from Interior Health (others are from Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health).

As part of the ongoing investigations, one additional case of COVID-19 has been confirmed among employees at Kelowna General Hospital (KGH), bringing the total number of cases among health care workers to seven. Like the initial cases, this is a community case and not acquired in hospital. No patients have been impacted and the risk to patients and staff at the hospital remains low.

Information on public exposures to COVID-19 within the Interior Health region are available here: <https://news.interiorhealth.ca/news/public-exposures/>

Answers to frequently asked questions are available on the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control website, available here: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/common-questions>

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