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From: CLRInfo
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To: Ken McCormack
Cc: Paul Strangway; Joleen Kaminski
Subject: COVID 19 Update: January 5

Importance: High

[CLR Members,](#)

Happy New Year from the CLR team. We hope the new year will be the one of success and overcoming adversities we faced in 2020. Here at CLR we will continue to proudly serve our members community through our services, programs, informational support and *Building Relationships*.

[COVID-19 Update](#)

According to the latest update from Dr. Bonnie Henry on Monday, another 2,211 people tested positive for COVID-19 in B.C. over the past four days, and 45 people died from the disease over the same period. Of the new cases, 565 tested positive between Thursday and Friday, 607 between Friday and Saturday, 500 between Saturday and Sunday and 539 over the past 24 hours. There are more than 6,823 active cases in B.C. currently. More than 8,700 people are under active health monitoring.

In their last update of Dec. 31st, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Health Minister Adrian Dix announced 683 new cases of COVID-19 and eight more deaths. Three new health-care outbreaks were announced Thursday, at Williams Lake Seniors Village, Ridge Meadows Hospital and the Langley Memorial Hospital long-term care centre.

B.C. recorded an average of 482 cases per day last week, which represented quite a drop from the average of 758 at the end of November. However the testing decreased over the holidays, which could account for the some of the recent drop. To check the COVID19 update follow <https://bc.ctvnews.ca/>.

[BC's plan for vaccine distribution](#)

BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) is working closely with partners across B.C., including all regional health authorities and the First Nations Health Authority, to ensure the system is ready to receive, handle, store and distribute all vaccine types. With phased distribution of a vaccine, the first groups to get vaccinated between December and February will include: residents, staff and essential visitors to long-term care and assisted-living residences; individuals in hospital or community awaiting a long term care placement; health care workers providing care for COVID-19 patients in settings like Intensive Care Units, emergency departments, medical/surgical units and paramedics; remote and isolated First Nations communities. From February to March, the immunization program will expand to include more categories of population.

Canada has so far approved two vaccines: by Pfizer-BioNTech (Dec. 9) and Moderna (Dec. 23). Both vaccines require two doses a number of weeks apart for full efficacy. As of Sunday, Canada had administered 119,202 coronavirus vaccines across the country, according to [COVID-19 Tracker Canada](#). In B.C. the number of doses administered reached 17,510, which represents the ratio of 345.2 per 100,000 population. Visit [GlobalNews](#) to find out more.

[2021 Preview: COVID's future impact on Canada's construction sector](#)

The COVID pandemic caused dramatic transformations in the Canadian construction landscape in 2020, with health and safety, economy, leadership practices and technological innovations being continuously tested to withstand an

unprecedented challenge. The Daily Commercial News and Journal of Commerce invited stakeholders to assess COVID's continuing impacts for 2021. Follow [the link](#) to the panel discussion of the industry leaders representatives.

[Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan](#)

The Government of Canada is taking immediate, significant and decisive action to support Canadians and businesses facing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Under "Supporting skills training and employment" the federal government is investing an additional \$1.5 billion in the Workforce Development Agreements with provinces and territories to offer Canadians the skills training and employment supports they need. This support will respond to the increased number of Canadians looking to re-enter the workforce, and targets workers and employers in sectors hardest-hit by COVID-19. The Agreements also offer flexibility to provinces and territories to respond to the diverse employment and skills training needs of Canadians. This is in addition to the \$3.4 billion already being provided to provinces and territories under the Labour Market Development Agreements and Workforce Development Agreements in 2020-2021.

Learn more about ["Canada - British Columbia Workforce Development Agreement"](#) and the resources it provides.

[B.C. health order restricts number of workers at large industrial work sites](#)

British Columbia's public health officer has ordered five major industrial projects in the north of the province to reduce the size of their workforces in an attempt to ensure the northern health region does not become overwhelmed with COVID-19 cases. Those sites include the Site C dam project near Fort St. John, the LNG Canada Project natural gas liquefaction and export facility in Kitimat, the Coastal GasLink natural gas pipeline being built from Dawson Creek to Kitimat, a tunnel being twinned near Kitimat for Rio Tinto's aluminum smelter, and the Trans Mountain Pipeline from Edmonton to Burnaby.

According to Henry, the order is needed to try to prevent the spread of the virus.

[Inside Innovation: 2020 – The year that construction embraced technology](#)

2020 will most likely be remembered as a turning point, when construction technology progressed from a nice-to-have concept to a must-have management tool. The industry's recognition of Building Information Modeling (BIM) as a collaborative tool has gained particular significance during the COVID pandemic. From video-based communication and collaboration processes between project partners, software and digital platform services that offer webinars to educate and train staff, to the use of exoskeletons and A.I. co-bots, [read more](#) on the futuristic trends that already start shaping the future of our industry.

We look forward to another year *Building Relationships* together.

Stay safe.

Sincerely,

Ken McCormack | President & CEO

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