

IN BRIEF ... COVID-19

April 21, 2020



BY THE NUMBERS

	Alberta*	Canada*	Global (WHO)#	Johns Hopkins^
Total Cases	3,095	37,382	2,402,250	2,546,527
New Cases	187	1,990	72,397	83,170
Deaths	61 (2 new)	1,728 (117 new)	163,097 (5127 new)	175,812 (6310 new)
Recovered	1,273	12,915	N/A	678,557

*Alberta and Canada numbers from daily CMOH update and GOC update as of 1100 EDT daily

#Global numbers from World Health Organization daily situation report

^Johns Hopkins University & Medicine Coronavirus Resource Centre

DEVELOPMENTS TODAY

ALBERTA

- Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health update from daily briefing
 - 367 cases in continuing care facilities from 29 active outbreaks.
 - Cargill outbreak now 401 confirmed cases, JBS Food Services now 77 confirmed cases, and 20 confirmed cases at Kearl Lake work camp. As a precaution, all workers at the Kearl Lake site prior to April 16 are required to self-isolate for 14 days after they left camp, as they may have been exposed prior to leaving the camp and could be incubating coronavirus.
 - Employees at these facilities listed above are eligible to be swabbed for testing this week.
 - Locations and names of facilities with active outbreaks (acute, long-term and continuing care sites) are posted on the [Alberta COVID website](#) under the heading **Outbreaks in Alberta**. This is for any site where 2 or more cases have been found. Goal is to expand to other settings in the weeks ahead.
 - On reopening, and getting back to normal, the CMOH stated we must resist the temptation to believe the problem has gone away because the measures all Albertans have taken to create a barrier against the wave of the pandemic tidal wave has resulted in Alberta not seeing the number of cases and deaths that were predicted in the modelling. Need to continue to follow the core tenants of social and personal protection and distancing that we have followed through the past month for months to come.
- Alberta's Information and Privacy Commissioner is [investigating the Babylon by Telus Health virtual healthcare application](#) that has been promoted by the Alberta Government. The Commissioner has recommended that Albertans not use the app while the investigation is underway and until the Commissioner provides findings.
- Effective April 21, the Alberta Government is temporarily suspending applications for the \$30 million emergency social services funding to charities, not-for-profits and civil society organizations. The government has received over 600 applications. Current applications are being reviewed, and approvals for urgent requests will occur before reopening intake.

OTTAWA

- Federal government establishing [a \\$350 million Emergency Community Support Fund](#) to help charities and non-profits. Funding will go to national groups with networks across the country, including United Way Canada, the Canadian Red Cross, and Community Foundations of Canada.

- New [calculator is being launched on Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy website](#) to help businesses determine how much they will be able to claim through the wage subsidy program, which will provide up to \$847 per employee per week. Applications for this support will be open starting April 27.

OTHER PROVINCES/TERRITORIES

- Ontario reports 551 new cases (11,735) in the province, including a number of health-care and front-line workers. There were 38 new deaths in the past 24 hours.
- The Ontario Superior Court of Justice issued a new notice saying criminal and civil jury selections and trials will be paused until September at the earliest.
- Quebec surpasses 20,000 cases of COVID-19 (807 new), 1041 deaths (102 new). 850 deaths were people in different long-term care and elderly care facilities in the province.

UPDATES

- [University of Alberta students name popular plesiosaur 'Dr. Deeno Hinshaw'](#) through a contest asking students to submit name ideas for a 30-foot long cast of a plesiosaur, a marine reptile, in the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science. Hinshaw earned her master of public health degree in 2008, while completing her public health and preventive medicine residency at the U of A.
- The global number of COVID-19 cases has surpassed 2.5 million, according to the [Johns Hopkins University coronavirus map](#), with about 172,000 deaths and 660,000 recovered patients. The US has almost 789,000 confirmed cases, followed by Spain (more than 204,000), Italy (more than 181,000) and France (more than 156,000). The US has more than 42,000 deaths. In Italy, more than 24,000 have died, Spain has more than 21,000 deaths.
- US Centre for Disease Control Director, Robert R. Redfield, says possible second wave of infections this winter could be worse than the initial wave we are currently experiencing because it will coincide with flu season.
- US Senate approves \$484 billion in relief funds for small business, hospitals and testing.
- Edmonton's Folk Music Festival [announced they will cancel the 2020 event](#).
- There are no festivities in England today to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 94th birthday.
- Germany's Oktoberfest has been cancelled – the first time since WW2.
- Pamplona Spain's famous running of the bulls, set for July, has been cancelled.
- Many Muslim communities are cancelling events for Ramadan, which starts Thursday.

RESOURCES

Government of Alberta COVID-19 information

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

COVID-19 case statistics

<https://covid19stats.alberta.ca/>

Alberta Health Services COVID-19 webpage

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx>

Government of Canada COVID-19 information

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

World Health Organization information

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

WHO daily situation reports

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

WHO COVID-19 Dashboard

<https://who.sprinklr.com/>