

A timeline of B.C.'s leading-edge COVID-19 lab testing

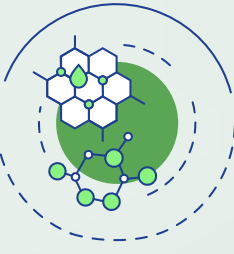
January - April 2020

JANUARY



January 6

BCCDC clinical microbiologists report on respiratory illness of unknown origin in China.



January 10

BCCDC PHL clinical microbiologists & research & development technologists download first genome released publicly by China.



Jan. 10-16

Customized assay supplies are ordered.



Week of Jan. 20

Assay evaluation begins. BCCDC consistently demonstrates the best test performance relative to the two external assays published by World Health Organization controls.



January 23

First patient samples performed in BCCDC PHL (all yielded negative results).

FEBRUARY



January 27

The BCCDC lab detects the first positive patient sample.



February 13

The lab at BC Children's and BC Women's hospitals reports its first COVID-19 results.



February 14

St. Paul's first COVID-19 test launched with a capacity of **368 tests per day**.



February 24

The BCCDC is officially authorized for COVID-19 testing by the National Microbiology Laboratory - samples no longer require further confirmation by the NML in Winnipeg.



March 5

Vancouver Island Health lab reports its first COVID-19 results.

MARCH



March 11

The lab at VGH reports its first COVID-19 results.



March 12

St Paul's Hospital lab reports its first COVID-19 results.



March 16

Further operational changes increase daily testing capacity from ~500 samples per day to up to **2000 per day**.



March 17

The lab at Kelowna General reports its first COVID-19 results.



March 19

System interface between Fraser Health & BCCDC complete, improving the turnaround time for getting results for FHA patients.

APRIL



March 22

St Paul's launched second assay, increasing capacity to **2136 tests per day**.



March 23

LifeLabs begins COVID-19 testing at locations across the province.



March 26

Customized assay supplies are ordered.



April 1

Wild Fire BC joins the lab capacity expansion effort by providing emergency flights from Bella Bella, Bella Coola and Powell River relieving a number of test sample transportation gaps.



April 2

Outpatient COVID-19 test results from most areas of the province made available via **my ehealth**, offering a fast & secure method for patients to receive their lab test results electronically.

April 20

Lab network's testing capacity at more than **6200 tests per day**.