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

January - April 2020

**January 6**
BCCDC clinical microbiologists report on respiratory illness of unknown origin in China.

**January 10**
BCCDC PHL, clinical microbiologists & research, development technologists downloaded first genome released publicly by China.

**Jan. 10-16**
Assay evaluation begins, BCCDC consistently demonstrates the best test performance relative to the two external assays published by World Health Organization controls;

**Week of Jan. 20**
First patient samples performed in BCCDC PHL bill yielded negative results.

**January 23**
Lab network’s testing capacity at more than 6200 tests per day.

**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 lab at Kinder Hospital, Vancouver Island Health reports its first COVID-19 result.

**March 5**
System interface between Fraser Health & BCCDC complete, improving the turnaround time for getting results for FHPA patients.

**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 ~100 samples per day to up to 2000 per day.

**March 17**
The lab at Abbotsford General reports its first COVID-19 result.

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

**March 22**
St. Paul’s launched second assay, increasing capacity to 2156 tests per day.

**March 23**
Lifelabs begins COVID-19 testing at locations across the province.

**March 26**
Customized assay supplies are ordered.

**April 1**
Wildfire BC joins the lab capacity expansion effort by providing emergency flights from BcW, BcC, BcC, BcC, and Powell River receiving a number of test sample transportation gaps.

**April 20**
Outpatient COVID-19 test results from most areas of the province made available via myhealth, offering a fast & secure method for patients to receive their lab test results electronically.