



COVID-19 Facebook live update:

October 15, 2021

>> I'm Pat Living with the Department of Health and Social Services and your moderator for the COVID-19 update for Friday, October 15th.

We are joined by the honourable Sandy Silver and the Acting Medical Officer of Health Doctor Catherine Elliott.

Sign language interpretation is provided by Mary Tiessen and French language translation by Andre.

After speakers we will go to the phone line, we will call you by name and you will have two questions.

Premier Silver?

>> Thank you for joining us virtually on the traditional territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation in the Ta'an Kwächän Council.

Great to be here with Doctor Elliott to provide you with a COVID-19 update.

Since our last update a little over a month ago COVID-19 has changed and continues to change.

Alberta has been pushed to the brink of trying to provide general healthcare while grappling with alarming case numbers, the Northwest Territories and the state of Alaska have each dealt with widespread resurgence of COVID-19.

Delta has become the dominant variant spreading throughout Canada.

Schools have been impacted by cases including in the territory.

Our case count has been increasing in recent weeks.

We have seen time and again the pandemic is a dynamic and rapidly changing situation we need to actively manage to protect the health and safety of all Yukoners.

Thanks to our early access to vaccines and the willingness of so many Yukoners to take their shot, our territory was able to emerge from the state of emergency this past summer.

This allowed us to return to more normal routines as we all learned to live with COVID-19 as a preventable endemic disease.

We now have a more targeted approach but are still in a public health emergency.

COVID-19 is a highly contagious disease and in some cases deadly.

We have lost ten Yukoners to COVID-19.

With the latest death reported earlier this month.

Each of these deaths are tragic and I send my condolences to friends and families and loved ones of those who have passed on.

Despite our high vaccination rate we have seen COVID-19 spread quickly and ruthlessly through our unvaccinated population.

The spread of variants especially the Delta variant has also increased and continues to put unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals at risk in the territory.

Our focus remains protecting the health and safety of Yukoners.

The Forging Ahead document that we released in August outlines our ongoing targeted response to COVID-19.

That response includes reducing the number of people in the territory who are susceptible to COVID-19 and its variants through vaccinations.

Continuing to test and find the virus in our communities, maintaining capacity of our health and social services system to respond to outbreaks, provide supports to people who are the most vulnerable and using targeted measures that focus on the areas of highest risk.

You can find the Forging Ahead document online at Yukon.ca.

One of the key objectives of Forging Ahead is protecting vulnerable populations.

We know COVID-19 has different impacts while certain factors like age, underlying health conditions, lower socio-economic status make people vulnerable to disease including the impacts of COVID-19.

Delta is now the dominant variant of COVID-19 in Canada and it is more dangerous than other earlier variants.

Based on current evidence from public health officials, containing the spread of the Delta variant requires a vaccination uptake of at least 90 percent of eligible populations.

We are not at that level of immunization.

No Canadian jurisdiction is.

Nevertheless we need to get there.

More than 80 percent of eligible adults and children in our territory are fully vaccinated.

We absolutely need to get that number above 90 percent to protect the health and safety of Yukoners and keep us on the path of recovery.

We are leading the country in the fight against COVID-19 but we need to keep going.

Despite many changes we've seen throughout the pandemic we know for certain that vaccinations remain the best protection against all forms of COVID-19 and it's not just about protecting yourself, it's about protecting everyone in your community, your friends neighbours and colleagues.

Protecting all Yukoners and all Canadians including our children and youth that are not eligible.

Doctor Elliott as the acting Chief Medical Officer of Health has provided new recommendations to address the current situation that will increase vaccination rates while ensuring we continue to protect all Yukoners including the most vulnerable in our territory.

Our government is now planning the logistics around how we implement these recommendations which will introduce major changes to ensure that our territory is healthy safe and protected against the current risks associated with COVID-19.

Today I'm announcing the Government of Yukon will soon require all government employees and all front-line healthcare workers in the territory to be fully vaccinated.

Mandatory vaccinations will apply to all public servants including teachers as well as those who work in hospitals, long-term care homes, medical clinics and allied health care settings.

It will also apply to employees of our partners the government funds to provide services to vulnerable populations and those in congregated living situations such as group homes shelters and the Whitehorse Correctional Centre.

We need to do everything we can to [stop the] spread COVID-19 and as the largest employer the Yukon government has a duty to lead by example and do our part to keep Yukoners safe. This mandatory vaccine requirement allows us to ensure a safe working environment for our employees including our healthcare workers while protecting the health and safety of the members of the public that we serve each and every day especially our most honourable. This requirement will come into effect on November 30th.

This will ensure employees and frontline healthcare workers that have not yet been immunized will have enough time to receive both doses of the vaccination before the requirement comes into force.

Proof of vaccination will be required to access nonessential services and attend events in Yukon.

This includes bars and restaurants, live music events, theatre performances, cultural events, gyms, exercise, dance, and sport facilities.

Proof of vaccination will also be required in order to participate in recreational activities for those who are over 12 years of age, including all organized sports leagues.

This requirement will also come into place November 30th.

This will allow time for government officials to work with businesses, stakeholders and those impacted by this requirement to address the concerns and to answer questions.

Officials will reach out to stakeholders and groups next week.

Proof of vaccination will not be required to access essential services like grocery stores, pharmacies, libraries, or banks.

These mandatory vaccinations and proof of vaccinations requirements are based on the recommendations of the acting Chief Medical Officer of Health to limit the spread of COVID-19.

These measures along with steps being taken across the country to increase vaccination rates and combat the Delta variant wave that continues to spread throughout Canada.

We recognize these measures may pose hardships for some, and bring relief to others.

My sincere hope is this will prompt vaccine hesitant Yukoners to roll up their sleeves.

Getting vaccinated remains the best way to protect the health and safety of everyone.

We are fortunate here in the Yukon and we have enough vaccines for everyone who wants one.

We continue to encourage all eligible Yukoners to get vaccinated.

Starting here on Monday the vaccine clinic here in Whitehorse will be open five days a week.

Vaccines are also available and all Yukon communities at your local health centres and you can find information about the vaccines and how to get your shot by going online at yukon.ca/thisisourshot.

If you have not already been immunized please I implore you to get your shot.

The vaccines are safe, effective and they save lives. It's as simple as that.

I want to thank the leaders from across the territory who have stepped up and taken their shot and who have talked publicly about their reasons for doing so.

We need leaders to work together to get vaccination rates up.

We are all in this together and we each have a role to play in keeping our territory safe and healthy.

I will now pass things over to Doctor Elliott to provide more information about the current COVID-19 situation and the plans that we've announced as well as several recommendations that she will be making to minimize risk between now and November 30th when these new recommendations will come into effect.

Thank you everyone.

>> Doctor Elliott?

>> Thank you Premier silver.

Good morning.

I'm grateful to speak from the traditional territory of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwächän Council.

And to share this beautiful Yukon October day with all of you.

This update is a pivotal one and our continuing battle against COVID-19.

I will start with an update on COVID-19 activity in the territory.

As a 10:00 this morning we have 63 active cases of COVID-19 in Yukon.

The seven-day average of new cases in seven.

The seven-day average of active cases or the daily active case count average is 57.

Percent positivity is 9 percent.

I was saddened to hear of two individuals who had been hospitalized overnight due to COVID-19 and both were unvaccinated.

We have not had any medical evacuations due to COVID-19 for the month of October.

We are monitoring and responding to a number of situations.

I will start with the older ones and move to the newer ones.

Grade four Johnson Elementary School and Watson Lake school is nearing the end of the observation period from their outbreak and we expect to declare this over early next week given no new cases for several weeks.

Grades K-four and one, two, three in Carcross remain under observation.

This morning, we declared an outbreak in the Grade four class at Elijah Smith Elementary School and those involved have been contacted and given further instruction and there is an outbreak on the Victoria Gold mine.

We continue to see a slow steady increase in case counts and now in hospitalizations.

And we are seeing a consistent pattern of transmission between people within Yukon who are not yet fully vaccinated.

We are seeing people crossing domestic and international borders infected and infecting others.

This importation is a contributor but a smaller contributor than the spread we see amongst people who are not fully vaccinated.

Based on our epidemiology we're in a situation of steady increase, outbreaks and increase in the complexity of cases and situations.

Since these indicators are worsening we need to act now to prevent what is possible in the future.

Each of us alone and collectively must now more than ever take responsible action because of this pandemic.

We are in the fourth wave with much of Canada and we only need to look south to northern BC to see what can occur when case counts rise rapidly and the healthcare is strained. We only need to look east to the Northwest Territories to see how one event with a great deal of spread can seed in to unvaccinated populations around the territory with devastating effects.

Both of these situations were among populations with lower vaccination rates.

We only need to look to Victoria Gold to see how vaccinated people can and do become infected.

And we know from our own epidemiology that across Canada and around the world those who are vaccinated who are infected are far less likely to become hospitalized or die compared to the rate of those who are not fully vaccinated.

Our own data shows infection rates in the unvaccinated are ten times those in the vaccinated and across the country hospitalizations in the unvaccinated populations are 25 to 30 times more than those of the vaccinated.

The Delta variant is now the dominant variant in the Yukon and it's much more transmissible and requires a higher vaccination rate, as well as our own actions to prevent spread.

Already we've benefited from all those Yukoners who have become vaccinated and in June we saw that vaccination limited the spread of the Delta wave we had -- sorry of the gamma wave that we had here.

And has prevented numerous hospitalizations and deaths during that period.

We have some things on our side like a high vaccination rate so far and a good response to our situation. And some things that are concerning.

A slow and steady rise and a need to increase vaccination rates.

There's still a way to go.

Let me talk about our vaccination coverage.

There are high vaccination rates in much of the territory and particularly in some communities, but most have not reached the goal of 90 percent of those eligible.

Among those over the age of 18, 85 percent have received two doses.

The number of communities have high vaccination rates and communities in the north and west of Yukoner are leading the way.

The vaccination rate in Whitehorse is 86 percent and there are certain areas and subgroups with vaccination rates below the 90 percent target. And let this be your challenge.

Whitehorse, I'm seeing things climb up and we are at 86 percent.

See if we can reach 90 percent.

Those 12 to 17 have increased their vaccination rate and are at 76 percent.

Working age adults are below the average, and age-old rivalry between men and women, at this point women are in the lead at 86 percent, men at 82 percent.

It's fun to make a little bit of lightness about this but it is serious. That's why we're taking serious measures.

We've enabled and encouraged people to get vaccinated and I've had to carefully consider and review the epidemiology in Yukon and the effectiveness of these policies across Canada. This is why I recommended the mandatory vaccination of workers particularly those who work with vulnerable populations as a priority and I support the leadership of the government has

taken in other areas as an employer and leader for Yukon rolling out mandatory vaccination of workers on my recommendation.

The second recommendation is a vaccine certification requirement for access to nonessential services.

Mandatory vaccination policies for staff make good sense right now and they help increase vaccination rates and this is what is needed.

Those in long term care facilities for example may not have chosen to be in care and have little choice over who provides their care.

Those people who work with them should be vaccinated to ensure infections and breakthrough illness do not result in higher morbidity and mortality amongst the elderly and those at risk.

Then there are children who cannot yet be vaccinated.

As parents we should do everything in our power to protect our children including vaccination of ourselves.

I know vaccination is a choice but for the first time there will be consequences for choosing not to be vaccinated.

As people seek these nonessential services they will find that they are not able to do so unless they are vaccinated.

Here's what we've seen across the country.

And here in Yukon, a person whose unvaccinated gets COVID and infects others who cannot get the vaccine and that same person travels and stays with people who are infected bringing COVID home and the vaccine is essential to prevent severe illness and death, everyone has this power to make this choice to keep themselves safe.

We are fortunate in Yukon to have received our vaccine early and enough to vaccinate everyone who wanted to get vaccinated.

We've led the country with our vaccine response and uptake, but we need to keep this impetus going to raise this percentage even higher.

Putting these requirements in place will take time. And so I'm again making a couple strong recommendations to take us through this period.

I've already asked people to wear masks in indoor public spaces and I'm pleased to see so many people taking that advice.

Experience across Canada and around the world has shown that early intervention and widespread adherence to mask wearing can reduce the overall numbers and rate of COVID-19 cases, and ICU admissions, especially when combined with other measures. Like handwashing and physical distance.

These measures are in place -- until these measures are in place the vaccination mandates and the vaccine certification for access to nonessential services, I'm strongly recommending individuals who have travelled outside of Yukon avoid nonessential services for the ten days until they are sure they have not returned to the territory with COVID-19.

I'm also recommending all out of territory school trips be cancelled until January 2022 that is to prevent young people from travelling to locations where the fourth wave is crashing against the shores.

I'm recommending that group size be limited.

For social gatherings where vaccine status is not known, stick to six and for a larger vaccinated groups no more than 20 people, all vaccinated.

This is for indoor gatherings.

For indoor organized gatherings, again the strong recommendation is these be limited to 50 percent of venue capacity unless everyone is fully vaccinated.

And we are asking all businesses, services and events to have on-site operational plans that include the details on physical distancing, staying home when sick, cleaning, of shared services and handwashing stations.

A little bit more on vaccines.

Vaccine clinics are happening in Whitehorse and all communities. The time to get vaccinated is now.

Call your health centre if you live outside Whitehorse.

If you are in Whitehorse, drop in or call the vaccine clinics and get vaccinated.

I know not everyone is going to be happy about these recommendations and I know some people will be sad about the losses of the things we took for granted before the pandemic and others might even be angry.

It's normal to have these feelings.

What is not acceptable is to take out your feelings on the people around you, perhaps the people enforcing their rules the government has put in place or recommendations I've made, the people in your family perhaps who are doing something differently than what you would like or expect. This is a time to be patient and kind to those around us, and direct your anger and frustration elsewhere.

Some people are asking about third doses and boosters.

We provided third doses to those who are severely immunocompromised and boosters to those in long term care who need them.

We provided -- we are awaiting the recommendations on booster doses for those most at risk and for those childhood vaccines and we are watching our own epidemiology on infections and severe outcomes amongst those people who are vaccinated.

Here's some important ways to we can stay healthy and safe. First of all, if you are vaccinated thank you and we can thank those people for being part of the solution.

We need people to practice the safe six plus one and wear masks.

There is extensive testing available and we are seeing vaccinated people who become infected are generally have a mild disease and recover, but they can transmit to others and those who have not yet been vaccinated.

So we're asking you to get tested if you have any symptoms and to wear a mask.

When you're out and about follow the guidance in healthcare settings and please check in with First Nations and community -- First Nations governments and communities about any recommendations prior to visiting communities.

We'll get through this together.

I suggest instead of seeing, focusing on things we've lost, or the things we don't like about the current situation, that we focus on things we are grateful for and the things that bring us joy.

The beauty of the northern sunny fall day, the long dawn and dusk that makes our colours dance as the winter approaches, the northern lights.

The bountiful harvest from Yukon's wilderness and from our own gardens.

For those we love near and far and the support they offer us.

For the ways the pandemic has brought people back to the essence and core of what is essential and most treasured in our lives.

That we have had access to services including our basic needs including education, healthcare and water, and have had few of the interruptions that have occurred around the world and throughout Canada. That we live in a society that's free and inclusive and where our resilience is one of the ways we take care of each other.

Give yourself a healthy break from the news and instead use your electronics to stay connected and support others.

Listen and share as we travel through this pandemic together.

There have been challenges and times of uncertainty. There have been losses throughout it all, and we have found ways to stay connected and support each other.

We are an inclusive people in Yukon.

Let stay kind and respectful as we walk this path together.

Thank you.

[Speaking Indigenous Language]

>> We will now go to phone lines and begin with Luke from CKRW.

>> SPEAKER-02: My first question is for Dr. Elliott.

We've seen a few cases pop up in schools and like you said there was an outbreak declared.

Are there recommendations or possible increase restrictions or guidelines coming in schools to further limit the spread?

>> We have worked closely with our education partners to make school safe and we continue to do so.

We have robust strong operational plans that are being played out in the schools every day on school buses and in school activities.

I've made a couple recommendations that school trips out of territory be cancelled until January of 2022. And we also react in a targeted manner when we see cases in schools and if we see any evidence of a couple cases in a class we take stronger measures. So we are continuing to do what we need to do in schools to keep them safe and these are the ways we are working together with Education, the government, parents and students and YCDC and all of our partners.

>> Do you have another question?

>> Both of you.

We've got some communities with lower vaccination rates and obviously there six weeks before this mandate kicks in for nonessential services.

What is the government's approach going to be to push people through their vaccine hesitancy to get as many people vaccinated before this mandate kicks in?

>> People only need to look around to the east of us and south of us to see what's possible when the vaccine rates are lower as well as think about what we're seeing here in epidemiology with increasing, gradual increasing of case counts. We're doing well so far, but we have a ways to go.

There are -- the Premier has mentioned the clinic here in Whitehorse will be open five days a week.

The government has clinics in communities and we continue to work closely with our partners in discussions every day.

Answer about their concerns or interests, and so keeping the information flowing and keeping ourselves available are some of the ways we can increase the work with vaccine hesitancy and I think it takes every single person to work on vaccine hesitancy.

>> I like to add throughout the last almost two years and everyone grappling with COVID and educating themselves and staying up-to-date with recommendations and changing understanding from the scientific community, as a government our approach has always been to give as much information as we can, direct people to those areas, whether it be the CDC or other authorities for you to get the information and trying to veer people away from misleading information and getting recommendations out as quickly as possible to work on the logistical challenges and we've seen changing philosophies, a path forward, forging ahead, the approach has changed, our abilities also change.

We've seen a Yukon community who has stepped up and got vaccinated, still having questions, we are out of place where we are seeing a change across the nation and across the world.

You want to go to a Leafs game or a Habs game you need to show your vaccination.

We want to get back to normal, how do we do so and so these are not easy decisions to be made.

But at the same time the message I'm hearing across the nation when I talked to my colleagues and I talked to the professionals in justice and health, we all have choices but those choices come with ramifications.

You have a choice to be vaccinated or not, but those choices come with ramifications and that's where we are as a society as a nation and the recommendations here are thorough and are very well thought-out and are very well researched, lots of conversations have been had and we need to implement them so what we can do is follow science and that's what we've done.

We can gather recommendations out as quickly as possible and so far the approach of following the Chief Medical Officer of Health, it's worked for Yukoners but like I said in my notes ten people have died and the Delta variant is different.

I've heard the Chief Medical Officer of Health who have said if you are unvaccinated it's a matter of time and as we start to see increases to people being hospitalized, good people being hospitalized these are the things that are necessary.

>> We will now move to Haley from Yukon news.

>> SPEAKER-02: My first question I assume the enforcement measure being used for these new recommendations is a public health and safety act.

Could we get some detail on what sections enable the enforcement?

Since it's no longer a state of emergency?

>> You are right it is not under CEMA and it's under public health.

It depends on what part so more details will be coming out as far as NGOs, contractors, government employees, all these details will come out but we are moving forward with all these logistics, it's a lot of information.

This announcement is about giving a heads-up of where we are going as a territory and these recommendations will come into effect November 30th and we are telling people we are going to prepare and plan and more information will come out in the next few weeks.

The key message is the clinics are open and the deadlines are coming.

We will have a lot more information about the specifics and legislation and specifics about how we are going to work with private public-sector NGOs but right now it's about announcing forecasting and preparing.

>> SPEAKER-02: More details are coming out but I'm curious for bars and restaurants as an example how staff will prepare to be telling people they can come in if not they are -- are not double vaccinated, is there supports for those people?

Is the RCMP the enforcement measure or is there other supports for people who aren't trained for confrontation but need to explain these new policies?

>> With CEMA having us not under civil emergency we do have authority through the public health act and RCMP have authority as well.

One place to look as well is the recommendations are very similar to what's playing out in BC. We are working with our colleagues for things like development of apps for restaurants and bars, applying their technology for Yukon and the good news of us coming a few weeks out of the gates after BC is all the lessons learned, we have a jurisdiction we can work with and apply solutions from.

>> SPEAKER-01: We will now move to Tim from Whitehorse Star.

>> Good afternoon.

>> SPEAKER-02: My first question is more for Dr. Elliott.

I've been told COVID vaccine shots have not been available at convention centre in favour of the flu shot and with all this going on does this not look like it was a good idea?

>> I'm not sure this question is for me or even if it's a helpful question.

Influenza vaccine is really important.

Influenza is a disease that kills people every year and in the territory can cause severe outcomes among the elderly as well as the very young.

Influenza vaccine campaign has started and I encourage those who are eligible to get the vaccine as soon as it comes up.

We always start with the most vulnerable.

This year we are seeing spread of respiratory viruses including COVID-19 and influenza and you can receive both of those shots together and I recommend people do get both of those shots.

There have been situations where people are duly infected with influenza and COVID-19 and their outcomes are far worse than had they been singly infected so it's important that we get both vaccines.

The COVID-19 vaccine, there will be some serious implications for those people who don't get vaccinated, but not for the influenza vaccine.

Do you want to speak to that?

>> Not much to add to that.

>> Follow-up?

>> SPEAKER-02: This one would be for Dr. Elliott.

Last week in the Northwest Territories public health officials were attributing some of their outbreak to the waning effects of the COVID vaccine.

Any thoughts on that?

>> The question is about the waning effects of the COVID vaccine.

Anyone who's had a tetanus shot, maybe people remember getting it as a young child and usually it's due in young adulthood or adolescence and every ten years or so after that.

We do this with vaccines because vaccines cause our immune system to remember what they've seen before.

However, slowly over time our immune system starts to forget.

And there has been evidence of waning immunity.

Or decreasing response and it occurs quite a long ways out any evidence is being built right now.

Examining the data on booster shots for COVID-19 next week and we expect some guidance on that.

And why the FDA is also looking at that.

Have we seen evidence of waning immunity, we have seen an increasing number of cases amongst a percentage of cases.

And what's been shown with waning immunity internationally and in the studies that have been released is while the immunity wanes for infection, it's -- if it wanes which is not clear yet for severe outcomes it wanes much more slowly.

If we require a booster shot to keep community levels up, and that maybe the case, we are waiting for the guidance of the national advisory committee and I will make recommendations for Yukon accordingly.

Thank you.

>> We will move to Chris from CBC.

>> SPEAKER-02: Good morning and thank you.

This is a question for the premier.

As you mentioned in response to Haley's question this under the public health act and not under CEMA, can you explain why that is and why not give the acting Chief Medical Officer of Health order making powers as opposed recommendations?

>> To be clear she does have that authority.

A civil emergency measure act was lifted because we don't have the justification but when it comes to the health and safety of Yukoners we do have a public health act and that has authority.

>> Thank you.

Follow-up?

>> SPEAKER-02: The other follow-up I have is when the government lifted CEMA and eased restrictions in the summer I asked you and Doctor Hanley how much responsibility do you think you take for other people who will get ill as a result.

Doctor Hanley now has a new job but since you are still here how much responsibility do you think you bear for the positive cases that have come since the government lifted restrictions.

>> As the premier I take ultimate responsibility but at the same time our approach I believe is the best approach which is to follow implicitly the chief medical officer of health.

And to follow the recommendations.

There is a lot of different ways other jurisdictions have decided to move forward and we see the perils of other methods.

This is my ultimate responsibility.

Do I question if mistakes have been made?

Yes and that's what science is all about but at the same time the least amount of mistakes will be made if politicians follow science.

>> Thank you.

[Speaking French]

>> Doctor Elliott can you please explain in French why it's the right moment to change the advisory that you had right now?

[Speaking French]

[Speaking French]

[Speaking French]

[Speaking French]

>> Do you have the percentage of people working for the government of Yukon that are not vaccinated at this point and what kind of impact is it going to have on education and the rest of the public service to make sure these people are going to be vaccinated?

>> We do have some numbers as far as the breakdown but I haven't seen a complete breakdown based upon different sectors of the government but the question is about concern about staff shortages and my answer would be I'm concerned about staff shortages.

They will be extreme challenges ahead.

The Public service commission is working through the logistics of this requirement, the statistics for employees and we will work closely with partners that provide services to vulnerable populations to find out what the concerns will be.

What I'm hearing nationally and locally is a lot of support for these measures.

It comes down to the management of risk.

There will be a huge challenge as far as risk or as far as the challenges of having shortages of staff.

I'm hearing from folks working harder in the short term in a setting where people are vaccinated would most likely be less hard work and a longer-term setting if we continue to see outbreaks and we see wave after wave.

These steps that are being taken based upon the recommendations of the acting Chief Medical Officer of Health are to limit the spread and our government is very focused.

>> Thank you.

[Speaking French]

[Silence]

[Speaking French]

[Speaking French]

>> The question is about mental health.

I'm sorry, quite a bit but what will be the implications for mental health in terms of the services offered and what might happen with mandatory vaccinations.

>> Its absolute.

COVID from the beginning days is the great equalizer.

We've all suffered throughout the pandemic because of mental health.

Because of isolation and concern, stress, fear.

No different under these recommendations and every government including ours has an obligation to make sure we provide the proper programs and services as people go through these challenging times.

We need to make sure we have programs.

Yukon was the lead nationally.

Highlighting all of our different approaches and regions when it comes to mental wellness and substance abuse.

We need to some the results of that podcast series to the federal government to explain what we are all trying and the trials and tribulations but absolutely this is another one of those scenarios where the evidence is there we need to do more when it comes to grappling not only with public service by the general population when it comes to the effects of this devastating disease.

>> Doctor Elliott.

>> Thank you.

[Speaking French]

[Speaking French]

[Speaking French]

>> SPEAKER-03: Since we are aiming for a 90 of the population being vaccinated if we achieve this number will the measures that are being announced today change in the future once we reach that 90 percent target.

>> If there is been a medical community who has found with the magic number is for herd immunity or planking the curve I'd like to see it.

I believe and the doctor can correct me if I am wrong the ultimate goal is to reduce the strain on our system.

These are temporary measures and when we see the evidence they are not necessary anymore as every single requirement we've gone through we will reevaluate but these are temporary measures.

>> I'd like to thank everyone for their time today.

Update will take place as required plea please visit our website for daily case counts.