

Scope

This Communicable Disease prevention program applies to the entire UFV community, including students, employees, contractors, and visitors who could be exposed to communicable diseases while on campus or performing work on behalf of the university.

UFV Communicable Disease Prevention

A communicable disease is an illness caused by an infectious agent or its toxic product that can be transmitted in the workplace from one person to another.

This plan describes ongoing prevention measures that are maintained at all times, as well as additional measures that may be taken as directed by [Fraser Health's medical health officer](#) or [BCCDC](#) where related to our industry, region or workplace. This includes orders, guidance, and recommendations issued by a medical health officer or the provincial health officer.

Monitoring

UFV has a process for monitoring and reviewing communicable disease information issued by [Fraser Health's medical health officer](#) or [BCCDC](#) that relates to our industry, region or workplace. This process includes reviewing and operationalizing orders, guidance, and recommendations issued by health officers.

Ongoing measures, practices and policies to reduce the risk

- ✓ UFV has implemented policies to support faculty, staff and students who have symptoms of communicable disease so they can avoid being on campus when sick.
 - For faculty and staff, refer to the [Sick leave program](#) or contact hrinfo@ufv.ca for further information.
 - Students are to complete a [Student Declaration of Absence form](#) and provide it to their instructor. Where necessary, a member of UFV's Student Services team will follow up with the student.
- ✓ UFV has ensured that appropriate hand-hygiene facilities are available with appropriate supplies. For concerns or assistance regarding hand-hygiene facilities, contact facilities servicedesk@ufv.ca.

Signs are posted appropriately to remind faculty, staff, students and visitors to wash/sanitize their hands regularly and to cover coughs and sneezes.
- ✓ UFV maintains a clean environment through routine cleaning processes according to a schedule designed for our institutional needs. For concerns or assistance regarding cleaning/sanitation, contact facilities servicedesk@ufv.ca.
- ✓ UFV has ensured that building ventilation is adequate and that the systems are properly maintained and function as designed. For concerns or assistance regarding ventilation, contact facilities servicedesk@ufv.ca.
- ✓ UFV supports employees in receiving vaccinations for all vaccine-preventable communicable diseases. Specific support policies depend on the communicable disease of concern.

Additional measures

During periods of elevated risk, [Fraser Health's medical health officer](#) or [BCCDC](#) may provide additional information and guidance about the risk and measures that UFV should take to prevent transmission of the communicable disease. The additional measures needed are specific to the type of disease and the methods of transmission. In general, UFV will:

- ✓ Follow all direction from Fraser Health's medical health officer or B.C.'s provincial health officer.
- ✓ Follow all guidance, orders and recommendations issued by Fraser Health's medical health officer or B.C.'s provincial health officer that are relevant to our industry, region, or workplace.
- ✓ Depending on the guidance issued by public health, UFV will assess the workplace to identify areas, activities and processes that may pose a risk to workers. UFV may also need to implement appropriate control measures to reduce the risk, following the direction of public health.

Communication measures, practices, and policies

UFV will ensure that everyone entering campus spaces, and workers performing work on UFV's behalf remotely, receives information regarding measures, practices, and policies for managing communicable diseases. UFV will:

- ✓ Ensure that all workers understand preventative measures related to communicable disease in place.
- ✓ Provide all workers with information on policies for staying home when sick.
- ✓ Post signage in the workplace to support the preventative measures that are in place.
- ✓ Ensure that supervisors are knowledgeable about preventative measures, practices and policies, and incorporate these into supervision practices in the workplace.
- ✓ Provide information, signage and materials to workers in a language they understand.
- ✓ Be mindful that some aspects of managing communicable disease in the workplace may raise privacy and confidentiality issues. Ensure to handle these issues appropriately.

Monitor and update the plan

UFV will monitor and update the plan to reflect risk levels and work practices. UFV will:

- ✓ Use workplace inspections and ongoing supervision in the workplace to ensure preventative measures are effective, followed and maintained.
- ✓ Monitor the guidance, orders and recommendations from Public Health and adjust plans, as necessary.
- ✓ Monitor our workplace risk level, and change our measures, practices and policies, as necessary.
- ✓ Update our plans to reflect changes in the workplace, including work processes, staff, and premises.
- ✓ Ensure employees and students know who to go to with health and safety concerns. Employee concerns are brought directly to supervisors. Student concerns are brought to instructors or student services. All individuals on campus, can report concerns online through [Report a Hazard](#) or to EHS@ufv.ca.
- ✓ When identifying and resolving safety issues, involve the joint health and safety committees.