



## THE INVESTIGATOR



### About Us

Since 2000, BCSI Investigations Inc. has performed thousands of successful investigations. Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensure that the investigations are conducted in a timely fashion with leading edge techniques. BCSI Investigations Inc. is considered the platinum standard of the industry based on the quality and the wide spectrum of its services as well as the expertise of the investigators.

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### What Happened to BC's COVID-19 Alert App?

Want to know if you have been near someone with COVID-19? Well, there is an app for that, sort of... The app called COVID Alert is backed by Canada's federal government and is one of 40-plus national apps being used around the world by different countries. Unfortunately, BC and Alberta are the two provinces in Canada that have not activated the app despite cases of COVID-19 soaring.

As with many tools used to fight the pandemic, the app is not without its shortfalls. Canadians who test positive voluntarily plug a code into the app, which send alerts to phones that were within two metres of the infected person for at least 15 minutes within the previous two weeks. Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer for BC, stated that notifying everyone in a 14-day period could be too broad. Even though the coronavirus' incubation period is 14 days long, patients aren't contagious for the full two-week period. Henry also wants the app to let people know the time they could have been exposed so that individuals can know if the alert corresponds to a certain gathering they were at.

The app relies on those diagnosed to voluntarily report their infection. If you have an app that does all the things that our scientists and doctors would love for the app to do, not many Canadians would be likely to download it because of privacy concerns. This can be somewhat ironic as many common apps on our phones are already using our location and accessing our personal information. The app is widely considered to respect users' privacy, although some experts predicted the low threshold for an exposure notification could generate unnecessary anxiety over false alarms.



British Columbians can download the app in the app store in preparation for a launch hopefully sometime in the near future once the provincial and federal government can come to an agreement. The concept of the app is great, but the implementation is key.

## Contact Us

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