

# COVID-19 DAILY SITUATION REPORT



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

## Thursday, April 9, 2020

Physical distancing is still the single most important strategy everyone can use to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The holiday weekend is typically a time for people to gather with loved ones. As difficult as it may be, it is important for everyone to stay home and practicing physical distancing. We encourage you to find creative ways to stay connected with family and friends and celebrate from a distance. Fortunately, the Easter Bunny has been deemed essential and can bring the Easter celebration to your home!

Every day staff and professional staff go above and beyond the call of duty, putting in extra hours and taking on additional tasks and responsibilities during the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic. Please show your appreciation and gratitude by sharing a 'Thumbs Up' about a colleague. To submit, send email to [tbrhscgroupsnews@tbh.net](mailto:tbrhscgroupsnews@tbh.net) with your name, the name of the person or team you're recognizing, and the reason why you're giving them a 'Thumbs Up'. Submissions are shared on the Daily Informed Newsletter and reviewed by senior leadership. Each submission serves as recognition, as well as inspiration for the whole Hospital team.

COVID-19 testing update: As of yesterday (Wednesday, April 8) 422 tests have been performed at our Assessment Centre and in our Hospital. Currently, our Hospital team is providing care to several confirmed and presumptive cases.

Turnaround time for COVID-19 test results has greatly improved since the resolution of the provincial backlog, with some being returned in two days. The equipment has arrived for in-house testing in our lab. However, our ability to process tests at our Hospital is dependent on delivery of reagents from the United States, which is delayed. An alternate method to process COVID-19 tests, using existing equipment, is moving forward. This option increases the possibility of receiving test swabs, and would enable an initial capacity 192 swabs per day. With expanded capacity, our Hospital will perform priority testing of health care workers as well as emergency responders. Testing of these groups will enable monitoring of those who frequently come into contact with community members and supports confirmation of front-line staff status sooner following possible exposure to the virus.

COVID-19 screening was updated to reflect new criteria for testing, which is more focused on symptoms. Testing is performed on people who have two of seven symptoms, as well as travel outside of Northwestern Ontario or close contact with anyone with a confirmed or probable (being tested at present) case of COVID-19.

Organizations, restaurants and people in our community have come forward with generous offers of donated food and meals to thank and support our Hospital's hard working staff and professional staff during our COVID-19 pandemic response. More information will be provided regarding guidelines that ensure safe and equitable receipt and distribution of food and meal donations.

Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre is a leader in Patient and Family Centred Care and a research and teaching hospital proudly affiliated with **Lakehead University, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine and Confederation College**.

Le Centre régional des sciences de la santé de Thunder Bay, un hôpital d'enseignement et de recherche, est reconnu comme un leader dans la prestation de soins et de services aux patients et aux familles et est fier de son affiliation à **l'université Lakehead, à l'École de médecine du Nord de l'Ontario et au collège Confédération**.

healthy  
together

En santé  
ensemble

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All previously issued COVID-19 Daily Situation Reports are available at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/past-daily-updates/>.

Staff are also strongly encouraged to view the Daily Situation Report videos available at <http://tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information>

Please forward any questions/concerns to your supervisor.

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For questions about COVID-19 testing criteria, please contact the TBDHU's Infectious Disease Program at 807-625-5900 or toll free at 1-888-294-6630.

Local COVID-19 case status: <https://www.tbdhu.com/coronavirus>

Provincial COVID-19 case status: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus#section-0>

Canada COVID-19 case status: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

COVID-19 Daily Situation Report videos: <http://tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information>

All Hospital COVID-19 updates are available on the iNtranet at <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/>