

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



To: All Hospital and Health Research Institute staff and professional staff

From: Dr. Stewart Kennedy, COVID-19 Incident Manager

Date: Friday, April 10, 2020

RE: **Hospital staff member tests positive for COVID-19**

This is the day we hoped would never come. A member of our Hospital's support staff has tested positive for COVID-19. Our thoughts are with our colleague, who is isolating at home. Please join me in hoping for a quick recovery.

Our Occupational Health & Safety team is working with the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to investigate contacts both in the community and in the Hospital. Our initial investigation has determined that there has been minimal exposure to Hospital staff and patients.

While this development is not unexpected, it is nonetheless extremely difficult to process. I recognize that a confirmed case within our own team raises fear and anxiety for many staff, professional staff, patients and community members.

Please do not hesitate to reach out for support. The Employee and Family Assistance Program is a valuable resource you can access by calling 623-7677.

Your health and safety is my top priority and I will take every possible measure to keep you safe. Today's news is a harsh reminder that no one is immune to the COVID-19 virus. We must remain vigilant with our safety protocols. We must take care of each other.

Our community needs us. A lot is being asked of each and every person working at this hospital. We will get through this together. The health and safety of everyone is a priority we all share and is what will motivate us as this pandemic continues to evolve.

The expertise and professionalism of Hospital staff, professional staff and leadership continues to impress me every day. Thank you. You are valued.

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

For more information about COVID-19, please contact the Thunder Bay District Health Unit at 1-888-294-6630 or www.tbdhu.com/coronavirus. More information is also available at <https://files.ontario.ca/moh-coronavirus-info-sheet-english-2020-02-18.pdf>.