

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## Keeping You Safe



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

To: All Hospital and Health Research Institute Staff and Professional Staff

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

Date: Friday, August 28, 2020

RE: **Return of Volunteers to our Hospital**

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Volunteers play an important role in the functioning of various departments, services and programs at our Hospital. Our Recovery Plan and IMT has determined a phased approach for the return of volunteers, which is currently underway. As always, the health and safety of all staff, professional staff, patients, volunteers and the community is our top priority.

Way-Finding volunteers were welcomed back as Stage One of the approved process on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> and have been a great support and assistance to our screening staff at the Hospital's main entrance. Our Hospital is grateful for their return.

On Monday August 31<sup>st</sup>, volunteers within Stage Two of the return process will be welcomed back on-site from the following areas:

- The Patient Clothing Cupboard,
- Ambulatory Care (Bundles),
- Endoscopy/Surgical Day Care Chart.
- Pre-Admission,
- Office Support Volunteers.

IMT has also approved the return of volunteers to the Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP) beginning on Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>. HELP volunteers play a vital part in the prevention of hospital acquired delirium and help to facilitate interventions such as activities, meal assistance, range of motion, and orientation to patients 65 years and older.

HELP volunteers will receive additional training on infection control policies and procedures related to COVID-19, and shifts will be limited to regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 0800-1600) when the program coordinator is present. Movement of volunteers around the hospital will also be limited as a safety measure.

For more information regarding the HELP recovery plan, please contact Matthew Shonosky, Manager of HELP program at 807-684-6657 or [shonosma@tbh.net](mailto:shonosma@tbh.net) or Marielle Henderson, Coordinator HELP program, at 807-684-7042 or [hendemar@tbh.net](mailto:hendemar@tbh.net).

Volunteer Services will continue working with department managers and IMT to safely plan for the resumption of additional volunteer areas. For more information, you may contact your Manager or Volunteer Services.

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Please join us in welcoming our dedicated volunteers back to our Hospital.

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

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**.

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En santé  
ensemble