

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



**March 17, 2021**

COVID-19 Status as of 9:00 am:

Presumptive Cases in Hospital	Total Positive Cases in Hospital	Positive Cases in ICU	Hospital Occupancy	Active COVID-19 cases in the TBDHU district	Our Hospital's Internal Response Level
9	41	9	72%	424	<b>GREY</b>

Our dedicated ICU team is working incredibly hard to care for our most vulnerable patients. We would like to thank all of the staff, professional staff, and leaders who have volunteered to assist in the ICU. In order to support the patients and staff in Critical Care, we have implemented a team based model of care. Team based nursing is a model of care that partners experienced Critical Care staff with staff who have varying levels of experience.

To help prevent an overwhelming demand on ICU capacity arising from new cases, our Hospital works closely with the Ontario Critical Care COVID Command Centre to identify the redistribution of COVID-19 patients to other hospitals with a lower COVID-19 ICU census. As a result of such meaningful collaboration, we have successfully transferred 6 patients to date to either Sudbury or London. This measure helps to not only safeguard our ICU capacity, but ensures patients get the care they need in the most appropriate setting given the current circumstances.

Dr. Kristie Skunta is providing interim representation on the Incident Management Team (IMT) as the Medical Specialist. While Dr. Zaki Ahmed continues to support IMT as well, the supplemental support of Dr. Skunta allows him to spend more time providing intensivist support in our Intensive Care Unit. IMT has also welcomed other medical specialists and will continue to do so as required depending on current conditions. Currently, Dr. Greg Gamble, Dr. Michael Scott, Dr. Bill Harris, Dr. Masoud Sedradini, and Dr. Brad Jacobson are lending their expertise to IMT. IMT roles are assigned based on the tasks, the level of authority required for an effective response, the knowledge or skill sets required, and the anticipated length of the role. Each Section may include Branches, Teams, Task Forces, etc. and will expand and contract based on the scale and scope of the incident. Thank you to our new medical specialists and all IMT members who continue to meet daily in order to guide our Hospital's ongoing pandemic response.

We are proud to share that TBRHSC has reached another significant milestone in that COVID-19 vaccinations have been administered or are now available to **all staff** and active and associate professional staff at our hospital. Thank you to the COVID-19 vaccination team for their dedicated efforts. It has been a tremendous undertaking, but the team has been highly motivated by the promise the vaccine provides to all for a return to pre-pandemic life. To those who have already been vaccinated or booked their vaccinations, thank you for your commitment to the safety and protection of all. Those who have your codes but haven't booked an appointment yet, please do so promptly. Please remember to contact Occupational Health & Safety to advise them of your vaccination and submit your receipt of vaccine at [ohs@tbh.net](mailto:ohs@tbh.net).

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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Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

For the health and safety of all staff, professional staff, patients and the community, all vaccinated staff, including locums, must continue to screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to entering any Hospital location, wear appropriate PPE, and adhere to all infection prevention and control protocols.

We recognize that some of you may still have questions or concerns regarding the extension of 2<sup>nd</sup> dose intervals of the COVID-19 vaccine up to 16 weeks. The decision to do so was directed by the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario and supported by the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations (NACI). Extending this interval maximizes the number of 1st doses administered, increases community protection, and contributes to health equity. Please be reminded that our Hospital's role is to deliver vaccines as directed by Public Health. We cannot change the decision to extend doses at our level. For more details on the decision, please refer to the memo from Dr. David Williams: <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Dr.-David-Williams-Vaccine-Memo-March-2021.pdf> or view the following video: <http://player.vimeo.com/video/510359261>.

An All Staff Virtual Town Hall was held on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> that provided answers to many frequently asked questions. Those who were unable to attend may view the recording or read the written summary at <https://cast.tbrhsc.net/townhall/archived/>.

Now more than ever we need to take care of ourselves and each other. Kindness, respect and understanding go a long way. Psychological First Aid via virtual group and individual appointments with our Hospital's psychosocial staff is available to those of you who are looking for a way to feel calm and supported to better cope with these challenges. To book your confidential appointment or for more information, please email: [care@tbh.net](mailto:care@tbh.net). More information regarding health and wellness resources can also be found on the Intranet: <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/covid-19-information/staff-wellness-resources/>.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment.