

May 12, 2021

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 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
15	5	2	73%	31	GREY

On May 10th, the Ontario government announced that it is adding high-risk health care workers, dialysis patients, and all Indigenous individuals to the list of those eligible to book their appointment to receive a second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine earlier than the extended four-month interval. Eligibility for hospital staff and professional staff booking is expected to begin by early next week and booking details will be provided in the coming days.

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. Please remember to contact Occupational Health & Safety to advise them of your vaccination (1st & 2nd doses) and submit your receipt of vaccine at <u>ohs@tbh.net</u>.

While COVID-19 is dominating our news headlines, cancer continues to impact the health of too many individuals across Northwestern Ontario. And in a time when we are all doing our best to stay healthy, it's important to stay up to date with your screening. That's why Prevention and Screening Clinical Services at our Hospital has launched a campaign called 'Cancer Doesn't Stop for COVID-19' to encourage individuals to get screened for breast, cervical, and colon cancer, even during the pandemic. Learn more by visiting https://bit.ly/CancerDoesntStop-for-COVID19.

The Ministry of Health recognizes that hospitals continue to face increasing health human resources pressures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to these pressures, the Ministry has introduced the Enhanced Extern Program (EEP) to bolster existing workforce capacity and introduce much needed reinforcements. We are pleased to share that our Hospital has been made eligible for participation in the EEP Program.

The EEP is a time-limited program (April 16, 2021 to March 31, 2022) for eligible hospitals which will create employment opportunities for qualifying nursing, medical, respiratory therapy, and paramedic students to work in our Hospital on paid assignments. The program will also create leadership opportunities for current nurses who take the role of Extern Mentor/Coordinator. This temporary funding will allow us to hire an additional 23.7 FTE/staff to support patient care needs. For more information visit http://bit.ly/Memo-EEP-May2021 or contact Meaghan Sharp (https://bit.ly/Memo-EEP-May2021 or contact Meaghan Sharp (sharpme@tbh.net), Dawna Perry (perryd@tbh.net) or Amy Carr (carram@tbh.net).

During the week of May 10-16, our Hospital is celebrating Nursing Week to recognize the vital contributions nurses make to the delivery of quality patient care in Thunder Bay and across Northwestern Ontario. Nursing Week coincides with the birthday of the iconic nurse Florence Nightingale who was born on May 12th. She became known for her work in caring for casualties during the Crimean War and her visionary advancement

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for the nursing profession. Nurses make up the largest group of employees at our Hospital and Nursing Week provides an opportunity to recognize their clinical excellence and their ability to care for patients with compassion and professionalism. Join us in thanking them for their incredible contribution to communities.

Are you interested in learning more about the various roles that nurses fulfill at our Hospital? If so, you are encouraged to attend 'From the Beside to the Boardroom', a virtual question and answer session on Friday, May 14th, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm via Webex (<u>https://tbh.net/nwqa</u>). Presenters include Dr. Rhonda Crocker Ellacott, President and CEO of our Hospital and CEO of the Health Research Institute, Peter Hayes, Clinical Nurse Specialist with Emergency & Trauma Services, Michelle Richardson, Clinical Informatics Specialist, and Kristie Scalzo, Nursing Practice Coordinator.

Privacy Awareness Week (May 10-14) is a global effort held in May to promote awareness of privacy issues and the importance of the protection of personal information. Check the Daily Informed Newsletter this week for tips and useful information.

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

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