

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



Thunder Bay Regional  
Health Sciences  
Centre

**November 11, 2021**

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

Total Positive Cases in Hospital	Positive Cases in ICU	Active COVID-19 cases in the TBDHU district	Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level
5	1	21	<b>Green (Recover and Prevent)</b>

Starting today, fully vaccinated health care workers (including staff, professional staff, learners and volunteers) at our Hospital who have received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least 168 days (or approximately 5 ½ months) ago are eligible to book an appointment for a third dose (or “booster shot”). This third dose will be administered at our on-site clinic, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor foyer, outside of the Ibn Sina Simulation Lab. Appointments may be booked online, with the first available time slots starting on Monday, November 15th. For the full details, please refer to today's memo:

<https://comms.tbrhsc.net/informed/appointments-for-third-doses-now-available/>

Last week, the Ontario government announced that they have decided not to impose mandatory vaccinations on health care workers. The Ontario Hospital Association made a strong case as to why this should be mandated provincially. However, the government has instead directed hospitals to make decisions based on their own local and regional situations. As a team, our Hospital is proud to report that we are at 95.9% of our staff fully vaccinated. However, we are an academic and regional health sciences centre with considerably vulnerable and at-risk populations, while facing an upward trend of COVID-19 cases across the province. We need to decide what to do on this front at a time when many of Ontario's hospitals have already gone with mandatory vaccinations for staff. We are going to take a few days to review our situation at the Hospital and Health Research Institute and decide what to do next locally. In the meantime, we are working in collaborative partnership with all of our regional hospital partners, with the goal of working in unity, to support our respective communities and region. We also encourage feedback from staff on this topic. To have your voice heard, please do not hesitate to send your comments to the President and CEO's Office at [crockereir@tbh.net](mailto:crockereir@tbh.net).

On Monday, November 8th, Dr. Bradley Jacobson was appointed as the Hospital's new Chief of Staff for a three-year term. As Chief of Staff, Dr. Jacobson will be a member of the Hospital's Senior Leadership Council and Board of Directors. Most of you know Dr. Jacobson as the Chief of Emergency Services. In his 24-year career as a health care provider at our Hospital, he has had extensive experience in both leading teams and being a supportive team member. Dr. Jacobson succeeds Dr. Zaki Ahmed who completes his three-year term. Learn more by reading the full announcement: <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/informed/appointment-chief-of-staff/>

Despite the pressures and volume on the Hospital, we continue to move forward on the Strategic Plan. We are working to set aspirational goals for our strategic areas of focus and working on the actions and initiatives necessary to achieve our goals. In addition, to ensure we are getting this right, we are working on further engagement throughout the process. We encourage all Hospital and Health Research Institute staff, professional staff, learners and volunteers to review the latest version of the Strategic Plan by visiting <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Strategic-Plan-2026-Strategic-Areas-of-Focus.pdf> and

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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provide valuable feedback by completing a short survey before Wednesday, November 17th:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YQH XK2Q>

This week, we are celebrating several departments and professions within our Hospital that play a vital role in helping us provide quality patient care.

It's Nurse Practitioner Week in Ontario (November 7-13). A Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a Registered Nurse with advanced university education who provides personalized, quality health care to patients. NPs in Ontario provide a full range of health care services to individuals, families and communities in a variety of settings including hospitals and community-based clinics in cities and smaller towns across the province. They work in partnership with physicians, nurses and other health care professionals such as social workers, midwives, mental health professionals and pharmacists. At our Hospital, NPs provide a full range of services, such as ordering, performing and interpreting diagnostic tests; diagnosing and treating acute and chronic conditions; prescribing medications and treatments; and managing overall patient care. They play a vital role in multiple hospital services including, but not limited to, Cardiology, Regional Stroke Program, Hospitalist Program and the Nurse Led Outreach Team that supports community long term care facilities.

Medical Radiation Technologists (MRTs) across Canada will be celebrated for their work during Medical Radiation Technologist Week (November 7-13). These nationally certified technologists and therapists are committed to delivering compassionate care to patients, while delivering critical high-tech services to physicians and other health care professionals. MRTs deliver essential care through the use of technology in hospitals and clinics from coast to coast, on the battlefields wherever the Canadian Forces are deployed, and in the dressing rooms of our professional sport teams. The MRT profession includes a diverse array of highly-trained professionals representing various disciplines in medical imaging and radiation therapy including Magnetic Resonance Technologists, Nuclear Medicine Technologists, Radiation Therapists and Radiological Technologists.

Please join us in thanking our past and present NPs, and our MRTs for their vital contributions to patient care.

The Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) department is reminding staff to protect themselves before flu season arrives. Influenza, commonly known as "the flu", is a respiratory infection caused by the influenza virus. It's contagious and spreads rapidly from person to person. Fortunately, the influenza vaccine is safe and effective and can benefit people of all ages. Even if you're healthy, getting immunized against influenza is a great way to protect you and those around you. The roaming flu cart has begun and will be visiting units during the next several weeks. Staff are still able to come down to the OH&S office to get their flu vaccine without an appointment although it is recommended to call 684-6212 ahead of time to check wait times.

Finally, today is Remembrance Day and we thank all veterans, members of the armed forces, and those that made the ultimate sacrifice. For those wishing to show their support, poppies are available in the Hospital's Cafeteria and Season's Gift Shop.