

HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE

December 1, 2021

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

Total Positive Cases in the Hospital	Positive Cases in the ICU	Active COVID-19 Cases in the TBDHU district	Hospital Staff Vaccination Rate	Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level
3	2	94	96.2%	Yellow (Protect)

Our Hospital has moved its Internal Pandemic Responsive Level from Green (Recover and Prevent) to Yellow (Protect). This decision was made in response to the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases in Thunder Bay, across Northwestern Ontario and the increased frequency of travel. Moving to Response Level Yellow signifies an emphasis on caution and no changes to protocol are required at this time; however, departments should be on alert if the situation should require additional actions. Staff may refer to the COVID-19 Pandemic Triggers and Actions document for guidance. Please note that this document continues to evolve to better reflect our current state: <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/COVID-19-Pandemic-Triggers-and-Actions-Nov-26-2021.pdf>

We must continue to be cautious with our COVID-19 pandemic response and aware of any potential impacts to our operations. The safety of patients, staff and the community remains our utmost priority. Staff are reminded to complete the screening tool prior to each shift, practice hand hygiene and wear PPE appropriate for the work environment. Unvaccinated staff are encouraged to get both doses, and fully vaccinated staff are eligible for a third dose by appointment at our on-site clinic. It is imperative that we stay the course together.

Our Hospital recognizes that the ability to travel is an important part of a return to normalcy and supports a positive work-life balance. As such, we have adjusted the requirements related to travel for fully vaccinated staff and professional staff. However, it is important that staff are aware of changing travel requirements as per Federal, Provincial and any local guidance and should exercise caution when traveling. For the full details, please refer to the memo circulated on November 26th: <https://comms.tbrhsc.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Memo-Update-on-Travel-Requirements-and-Guidelines-November-26-2021-1.pdf>.

As you are aware, the provincial government has decided not to impose mandatory vaccinations on hospital workers. The Ontario Hospital Association made a strong case as to why this is needed to be mandated provincially. However, the government has instead directed hospitals to make decisions based on their own local and regional situations. We have taken the time to review our situation at the Hospital and Health Research Institute and will be sharing an update later this week. Thank you to everyone who provided their feedback on this topic. Your participation was appreciated and your voice was heard.

Finally, December 5th is recognized as International Volunteer Day, a global celebration that recognizes the contributions and positive impacts of volunteers in all areas of society. Each year, International Volunteer Day is an opportunity for all of us to raise awareness of the work of volunteers, encourage governments to support volunteer efforts, and recognize volunteer contributions at local, national and international levels. Volunteers play an integral role at our Hospital. They lend their time and skills to support clients and improve lives across

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Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
Centre

the organization. We would like to take this opportunity to offer a heartfelt “Thank You” to our dedicated volunteers. Although the pandemic created great changes to our volunteer programs, we applaud those who found alternate ways to stay in touch during the height of the pandemic. Needless to say, we were thrilled when we were able to welcome volunteers back to service so that they could continue their important work. Our volunteer programs could not be a reality without the ongoing support of staff and managers – thank you for enabling our volunteers to make a difference in providing Patient and Family Centred Care at our Hospital.

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