

COVID-19 UPDATE

Keeping You Safe



To: All Staff, Professional Staff, Learners and Volunteers

From: Jennifer Wintermans, EVP, Communications & Corporate Relations, COVID-19 Lead;
Amy Carr, Interim, CHRO Director, Human Resources

Date: December 21, 2021

RE: **Travel Guidelines Reminder**

Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) recognizes that the ability to travel can be an important part of celebrating the holidays and being with those you care about. If you plan to travel, please ensure you do so safely.

Ontario is currently facing a significant increase of positive COVID-19 cases. With this in mind, we need to remember to keep ourselves and others safe at this time. The rising number of COVID-19 cases, as well as the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant, has caused our province to introduce restrictions on gatherings, restaurant capacity, events and advisement against non-essential travel. We strongly encourage you to avoid travel if not essential and avoid any "hot spots" if possible.

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) has released their advisement against all non-essential travel outside of our region. If staff, professional staff, learners or volunteers at TBRHSC wish to continue with their travel plans over the holidays, please note that you must follow **any guidelines put in place by either the TBDHU, the province of Ontario or any Federal ArriveCAN requirements upon return.**

All staff and professional staff are reminded:

- To consider avoiding travel to areas deemed high-risk, refer to the Government of Canada travel resources at <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>
- To follow all public health and federal guidelines while travelling: <https://www.tbdhu.com/travel>
- That if detained outside of Canada, additional required time off must be taken as extended vacation time if available or as unpaid time off.
- To complete the screening tool prior to each shift, monitor for symptoms, disclose any close contacts and follow instructions from Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) for a failed screen.
- To practice physical distancing, hand hygiene and wear PPE appropriate for the work environment.
- That TBRHSC follows Federal, Provincial and local public health requirements and as such our guidelines and requirements are subject to change.

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Health Sciences
Centre

Thank you for your continued commitment in keeping one another, our patients, their families and the community safe.

All Hospital COVID-19 updates and resources 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**.

healthy
together

En santé
ensemble