

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



**October 7, 2022**

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

Total Positive Cases in the Hospital	27
Positive Cases in the ICU	1
Current Active Lab Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in the TBDHU district (asat Oct 5, 2022)	192
Current COVID-19 Outbreaks in the Hospital	1 (2A Medical Inpatient Unit)
Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level	<b>Orange (Restrict)</b>

As of October 2022, Ontario is expanding eligibility and access pathways for Evusheld, a prophylactic monoclonal antibody therapy against COVID-19. This [memo](#) from Ontario Health is intended to inform health care providers about who can receive Evusheld and how to access it for eligible patients.

An outbreak of COVID-19 has been declared on the 2A Medical Inpatient Unit as of October 6. All restrictions are in place. As always, our number one priority is the safety of patients and their families, staff and visitors. All patients identified as having an exposure to this outbreak will require isolation with appropriate additional precautions. We encourage everyone to keep applying routine practices of hand hygiene, proper use of PPE, equipment cleaning, and the appropriate admission screening of all patients. For more information, please contact Infection Prevention and Control at (807) 684-6094. All Hospital COVID-19 updates, memos and resources are available on the [iNtranet](#).

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30) honours the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. It was moving to see so many people wearing orange shirts, as September 30 is also Orange Shirt Day — an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day based on the experience of Phyllis Webstad, a Northern Secwepemc (Shuswap) from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation. The significance is based on Phyllis's first day of school where she arrived dressed in a new orange shirt, which was taken from her. It is now a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations. Thank you to all Hospital staff, professional staff, volunteers and learners who participated by wearing orange shirts. Special thanks also goes out to Elder Ernie Kwandibens, who guided the construction of the tipi, Elder Myria Esquega who led the [ceremonial opening of the tipi](#), and Ryan Pooman, the artist who created the [beautiful mural at the foot of the Grand Staircase](#). We hope you were able to take a few moments to reflect on how people in our region have been, and continued to be, impacted.

National Health Care Supply Chain Week is October 2-8 as declared by the Association for Health Care Resource and Materials Management (AHRMM). The week provides an opportunity to recognize and honour the hardworking health care supply chain professionals for their selfless dedication to high-quality patient care and exceptional contributions to patient care and the innovative ways in which they support our Hospital and communities. This year's theme is "*Leveraging Collaboration, Driving Innovation*". With the previous outbreak of COVID-19, Supply Chain and Procurement staff are still being called upon more than ever to source the

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personal protective equipment (PPE) and supplies needed to protect the physicians, nurses and all healthcare professionals working on the front lines of patient care. Please join us in thanking Supply Chain and Procurement staff members.

Mental Illness Awareness Week (October 2-8) is an annual, national public education campaign designed to help open the eyes of Canadians to the reality of mental illness. The week was established by the Canadian Psychiatric Association, and is now coordinated by the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health in cooperation with all its member organizations and many other supporters across Canada. Stigma around mental illness is like a brick wall, acting as a barrier for people who experience mental illness and their families. A lack of understanding and compassion can contribute to feelings of hurt and isolation. Education, compassion and awareness can work as a hammer, as together we consistently break down stigma. At our Hospital, we have the Mental Health and Mental Illness Awareness Committee, which was formed to raise awareness of mental illness and mental health, and to reduce stigma and misinformation around mental illness. Learn more by visiting <https://www.camimh.ca/>.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Prevention & Screening Clinical Services at our Hospital has launched a campaign that features stories from individuals who have gone through the breast cancer journey as a patient, advocate or supporter. This campaign aims to spread awareness about the cancer journey, encourage early detection and show support to others going through similar experiences. Learn more by reading the [media release](#).

To significantly improve patient care for the region, our Hospital has been working with the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre at the University Health Network (UHN) to co-develop a cardiovascular surgery (CVS) program at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre since 2013. Our Hospital and UHN developed and executed the *Two Sites, One Program Model* for the provision of Cardiac and Vascular Surgical Services. A recent update was shared which [outlines the latest project progression and specifics](#). Similar updates will be provided to Hospital staff, professional staff, volunteers and learners on a quarterly basis. For more information, please contact Wayne Taylor, Clinical Project Lead, Program Implementation, and Manager of the Cardiovascular Surgery Program at [Wayne.Taylor@tbh.net](mailto:Wayne.Taylor@tbh.net).

The Volunteer Association/Health Sciences Foundation Family CARE (Care Advancement Recommended by Employees) Grants are here to help you – the family of health care providers that make our Hospital the excellent facility it is. Family CARE grants can be used to improve the care you give every day. Listen for patient and family suggestions when brainstorming ideas. Initiatives that improve the care we can provide benefit us all. [Download the form](#) and submit your completed application to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation (Foundation President's Office, Room 2232) by October 21 at 4:00 p.m. EST. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Miniaci, Executive Coordinator by calling (807) 684-7276 or visit Room 2232 in the main building of the Hospital.

The next virtual All Staff Town Hall is on October 19 at 2:00 p.m. EST via WebEx where we will answer your questions and provide you with the information you need to make your workday better. Please send your questions in advance to [tbrhscgroupnews@tbh.net](mailto:tbrhscgroupnews@tbh.net) and we will do our best to address them. If you are not able to attend, the recording will be available at [www.tbrhsc.net/th](http://www.tbrhsc.net/th) shortly after the event. Thank you for your commitment to staying informed and engaged.