

# HOSPITAL ACTIVITY UPDATE



**October 20, 2022**

COVID-19 Status as of 10:00 am:

Total Positive Cases in the Hospital	40
Positive Cases in the ICU	2
Current Active Lab Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in the TBDHU district (as at Oct 19, 2022)	161
Current COVID-19 Outbreaks in the Hospital	No outbreaks in hospital
Our Hospital's Internal Pandemic Response Level	<b>Orange (Restrict)</b>

On October 19, 2022, representatives from Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation along with Kevin Holland, Member of Provincial Parliament for Thunder Bay—Atikokan, were onsite at the Hospital to share details of the next stage of the Cardiovascular Surgery Project. The project is a partnership between TBRHSC and Peter Munk Cardiac Centre at University Health Network and employs a 'one program, two sites' model of care, which will deliver comprehensive cardiovascular care to the people of Northwestern Ontario. Earlier this year, the project received Stage 2 "Functional Program" approval and is now working on Stage 3.1 (of five stages) of the capital planning process with a deadline of the end of November. For more details, please see the [news release](#).

TBRHSC, in partnership with Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board and Community Living Thunder Bay, has been working on [Project SEARCH](#), a total workplace immersion program for students with the goal of competitive employment. While Project SEARCH is in nine countries, forty eight states and has 664 program job sites, TBRHSC is the first Host Organization within Northwestern Ontario. For the 2022-23 school year, TBRHSC has seven students participating in the program. Students have completed orientation and are actively working on their first placements. Thank you to everyone who has supported the implementation of Project SEARCH at TBRHSC.

Pharmacy Technician Day, celebrated annually on October 18, is a great time to highlight the critical role pharmacy technicians have within the health care sector. These technicians assist our pharmacists to process prescriptions, dispense medications, compound IVs, help patients with over-the-counter medicines to treat their ailments and perform other vital duties that help keep our pharmacies running smoothly. They inspire us all with their compassion, care and commitment to teamwork.

Our Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) department plays a fundamental role within our Hospital. This team has worked tirelessly, even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure the safest practices are in place and followed for both patients, and all those onsite at our Hospital. National Infection Control Week (October 17-21) is about highlighting those efforts and educating staff and the community regarding infection prevention and control. This year we would like to not only remind everyone of the importance of self-education on this subject, but to celebrate and recognize the work and dedication our IPAC department provides our Hospital and our patients.

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Health care plant maintenance, planning and engineering staff are our in-house professionals responsible for facilities management, planning, development and maintenance of complex health care systems, equipment and facilities. Our health care facilities rely on these staff to provide the necessary skills and resources to develop and manage the environment of care within our organization in an efficient manner and with the patient in mind. October 16 to 22 is [Health Care Facilities and Engineering Week](#), and it is meant to recognize and honour the plant, maintenance, planning and engineering staff on behalf of all who benefit from them. Please join us in thanking these staff members in maintaining a safe, secure and functioning environment for our Hospital.

[October 16 to 22](#) we recognize the important work of the Nutrition and Food Services team who help our staff and patients stay well-nourished and healthy. Preparing nutritious meals for patients of all backgrounds and various health needs, As well, providing visitors with many options in nourishment when visiting our Hospital. Join us in thanking the hardworking and dedicated Nutrition and Food Services team who are an essential part of our health care.

October is Occupational Therapy Month. Occupational Therapy is a health profession that empowers people of all ages to overcome barriers in their everyday lives so they can do more and live better. Through solutions created for each individual's unique needs, Occupational Therapists (OTs) help people of all ages and abilities recover from an injury or illness to participate in day-to-day activities, and experience life to the fullest. An OT works with the patient, their family member, or a health care team to identify and address the problems the patient may have with everyday activities. Together, the patient and their OT find solutions that will enable the patient to maintain function, regain skills, and develop new skills. If you are interested in learning more about Occupational Therapy, please visit the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists [website](#).

Lastly, flu season is upon us. 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 those around you. Our Hospital's Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) team is offering various drop in influenza vaccine for staff, physicians and volunteers. You may have seen the Flu Clinic Roaming carts also, which started late last week. They are continuing to roam all units over the next while from 9-12 a.m. and 1- 3:30 p.m. Appointments can also be made by emailing [OHS@tbh.net](mailto:OHS@tbh.net). Please reach out to OHS for more information. Staff who attend are asked to wear short sleeves and are reminded to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing while waiting.