

The Pulse

June 17, 2021

Today's Take-Aways

Regional Updates

• The critical care picture is improving as the number of patients are on a downwards trend. Currently only 60% of the region's hospital beds are filled. While there are still some patients in Ottawa hospitals from the GTA and Manitoba, repatriation plans for those individuals are being looked at.

• A silver lining of the pandemic has been increased cooperation and collaboration among hospitals in the region especially around patient placement and the recognition that each patient isn't solely the responsibility of a single facility but a responsibility of the regional health care system. Hospitals are now working together to explore ways to keep the process alive.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

 As you may have heard, Renfrew County has received a high allotment of the Moderna vaccine which will result in some additional and expanded clinics being held across the County over the next couple of weeks.

• If we continue to receive additional vaccine doses there is a strong possibility we will be able to wrap up our mass vaccination efforts before the end of the summer.

• The Renfrew County and District Health Unit is anticipating that given the vaccination trend, we may achieve an overall vaccination rate for our region in the mid to high 80% range.

• We are expecting that within a matter of days the province may open up early second dose bookings to all remaining age groups. While this will mean a surge in demand for appointment slots, it will make things much easier for clinic management in terms of eligibility requirements.

Occupational Health and Safety/Infection Prevention and Control

 A lot of discussions are starting to take place about how policies will need to change in order to address situations involving fully vaccinated staff and patients versus those who are partially vaccinated or those who have declined vaccination.

Regionally there are also a number of discussions taking place about how to standardize an
approach to staff screening going forward.

 A reminder to everyone that despite the increasing vaccination numbers and decreasing transmission of COVID-19, exposures are still occurring and contact tracing is revealing instances where safety measures were not adhered to so stay vigilant!

• Starting next week, staff will have an opportunity to help their departments win a Tim Hortons Coffee Break based on participation in a short Survey Monkey on staff vaccination. As the hospital endeavours to collect some simple data about the percentage of our health care team who have received the COVID-19 vaccine, the first small, medium and large departments to reach 100% participation in the survey will win the prize! More details to come so stay tuned!

Today's Take-Aways Continued

Departmental Updates:

Human Resources

• Our HR team is going to be exploring ways to expand student placement opportunities as a way of securing future health care professionals who may wish to return to PRH as new hires based on their experiences early in their education journey.

• Please note that due to technical difficulties for the past three days with the StaffRight software, the HR team is relying on other methods to manage staffing and scheduling until IT can resolve the issues.

Surgical Program

• This week the program has returned to 100% capacity. In the coming weeks there will be a planned ramp-down of surgical activity however this is part of an annual scheduled reduction in service which allows for staff vacation periods to take place.

Emergency Department / Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

• Yesterday our ED had 116 patient visits, the highest number that has been seen in some time.

Diagnostic Imaging

• The visitor policy related to Ultrasound in particular is being reviewed with the goal of allowing an individual's partner in for the gender reveal part of the obstetrical ultrasounds in the last five minutes of the appointment. This practice had been put on hold due to the pandemic and changes to the visitor policy.

Rehabilitation

• The Geriatric Day Hospital is now up and running!

Medical

• As of today there are only five ALC (Alternate Level of Care) patients on the unit, the lowest that has been seen in some time.

Pharmacy

• As part of the department's accreditation process an onsite visit was held this week. Overall the visit went very well and the team is now working with clinical managers to address some of the areas of improvement that were identified. The surveyor credited the department and the hospital with many improvements that have been made and extended gratitude to many individuals and departments who have worked well together to make these improvements in addition to navigating the hospital through the pandemic as a COVID designated facility and helping with the mass vaccination efforts.

Lab

• After years in the planning stage, our Lab is excited to be finally moving forward on implementation of an electronic information system over the summer months. More details to come outlining the benefits this system will bring.



Current Facts and Figures

• **Renfrew County:** 10 active cases, 9 deaths, 101,568 tests completed (as of June 17, 2021)

- Ottawa: 282 active cases, 586 deaths
- Ontario: 13,383 active cases, 8,993 deaths



All nurses are encouraged to attend training sessions provided by the IV pump representatives.

Self enroll on the elearning system or Sign up on the sheet outside of the education office B115



Super User Sessions: 1.5 hours long Room A517

June 15th - 0900 June 21st - 1800

General User Sessions: 1 hour long Room A517

J<u>une 15th</u> - 1100, 1300, 1530, 1800 J<u>une 16th</u> - 0900, 1100, 1300, 1530, 1800 J<u>une 17th</u> - 0900, 1100, 1300, 1530, 1800 J<u>une 18th</u> - 0900, 1100, 1300, 1530, 1800 J<u>une 21st</u> - 0900, 1100, 1300, 1530 J<u>une 23rd</u> - 0900, 1100, 1300, 1530, 1900

Project Updates!

The introduction of IV pumps with an electronic drug library is a huge step forward in patient care. This technology eliminates the risk of common secondary set up errors and reduces the potential for manual programming errors.

We are in the middle of an Education Blitz to ensure that all nurses are comfortable with this new technology. We are training Super Users who will be able to coach people through issues on the units. We are also training General Users. If you haven't been scheduled for your training, please contact Caroline Froment at extension 6320. She and the other clinical educators will ensure that you get the training you need.

We have also placed demo pumps on the unit so that staff can play with the pumps and familiarize themselves with the new equipment. Thursday, June 24th will be the day you see the new pumps in action on the units!





Have you completed your daily COVID-19 self-screening? Adding The Staff Screening Tool To Your Mobile Device

Android:

Launch Chrome for Android and open the website or web page you want to pin to your home screen. Tap the menu button and tap "Add to Home Screen". You'll be able to enter a name for the shortcut and then Chrome will add it to your home screen. The icon will appear on your home screen like any other app shortcut or widget so you can drag it around and put it wherever you like. Chrome for Android loads the website as a "web app" when you tap the icon, so it will get its own entry in the app switcher and won't have any browser interface getting in the way.

iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch:

Launch the Safari browser on Apple's iOS and navigate to the website or web page you want to add to your home screen. Tap the Share button on the browser's toolbar. It's on the bar at the top of the screen on an iPad and on the bar at the bottom of the screen on an iPhone or iPod Touch. Tap the Add to Home Screen icon in the Share menu. You'll be prompted to name the shortcut before tapping the Add button. The shortcut can be dragged around and placed anywhere, including in app folders - just like a normal app icon.

Pizza Hut Petawawa Provides Meal For PMC Clinic Team



A very special thank you to the team at Pizza Hut Petawawa who provided dinner for our PMC Clinic Team on Tuesday!

Their message to the team:

"On behalf of the entire team of Pizza Hut Petawawa, we would like to express our sincere admiration for all the outstanding efforts of all individuals at the PMC Vaccination Clinic.

We appreciate all that you are doing to help our community get back to normal life. Thank you once again for all you hard work."

Guardian Angels

Lori Warren (Lab)



Pembroke Regional Hospital Foundation



Employee J Discounts



All staff discounts, employee offers, promotional codes and other PRH perks can now be found on the Staff Resources section of the PRH website:

https://www.pemreghos.org/staffdiscounts

What discounts are there?

PRH Staff Association / Insurance Providers / Local Health and Fitness Facilities / CAA / Scrubs / Access Perks / Perkopolis / Park 'n Fly and more...

Foundation News



Get your Spring Lotto tickets before they sell out! You could be the proud owner of a 2021 Princecraft Pontoon boat with trailer and motor! Tickets are \$25 for one or five tickets for \$100 and can be purchased at www.prhspringlotto.ca

Pembroke Regional Hospital Foundation Fondation de l'Hôpital Régional de Pembroke

CONSTRUCTION CORNER

• A new cooling unit was installed at the screener station located at the staff entrance.

• More furnishings for the Rehab deck have arrived and are in the process of being set up. Currently, however, the new deck is closed while the contractor makes some adjustments to some of the stones that have been placed and fixes a cracked stone near the entrance.

• A new cooling system is being installed in the main area of the kitchen.

• The Tower A roof repairs are coming along well and material has now arrived for repairs that will need to be done on the Rehab dining room roof.



Sunshine Gift Shop

Another Advindry Troject

The Sunshine Gift Shop is open once again!

Please take note of hours of operation:

June 11th to June 27th

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon. to Fri.

1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday

June 28th to August 31st

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon. to Fri.

1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sunday

Weekend hours over the summer may change.

Stay tuned for upcoming sale information!

A Tim Hortons Treat For The Clinic Team At The PMC

A very special THANK YOU to The McCluskey Group / Tim Hortons Pembroke for providing Monday's Vaccination Clinic Team at the Pembroke Memorial Centre with coffee, hot chocolate, muffins and donuts as a snack in thanks and appreciation for all that they do.



Surplus Linen Available



Free for the taking - there is currently surplus PRH linen (blankets, pillow cases and sheets) available at the PRH warehouse.

Pickup is available Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. until June 30th.

Staff interested are asked to bring their own bags to transport the items away.

PRH Staff Association Upcoming Treat Day



Our next Treat Day will take place July 7th featuring a choice of Strawberry Rhubarb Sorbetto or Hazelnut White Truffle Gelato from the Farmstead Cheesehouse in Laurentian Valley.

The **pre-order deadline will be June 30th** and because the product is perishable and melts faster than ice cream we will have a shortened distribution window and departments will need to ensure that those portions not being consumed immediately are put in a freezer.

A poster for this event will roll out soon!

PMC Clinic Team Treated To His & Hers Gourmet Grazing Boxes

Gratitude is extended to the team at David Minns Insurance and His & Hers Gourmet Grazing for sponsorship of today's lunch for the PMC Clinic Team.

Team members were treated to a Grazing Box lunch featuring 15 different items including cheese, meat, crackers, bread, veggies/dip and brownies.

"We can't thank you enough for all your hard work and dedication!!!! David Minns and his Desjardins Team"





GRATITUDE

• Sarah Meilleur would like to thank **Tracey Baxter (Emergency Department)** for supporting AMH with patient care during the Code Grey last weekend. Her help was much appreciated.

• Thanks to **Sam in IT** for all the assistance with the changes that were required with the billing software for Quebec patients. She got everything up and running smoothly. BIG THANKS TO SAM.

• Renfrew County's hospitals have extended KUDOS to John Saunders, Joshua Yourth and the entire IT team at PRH for all of their help with the vaccination clinic booking system. They acknowledged that without their team doing this for the County, our mass vaccination program wouldn't have been possible.

