



**HAPPY EASTER**

## Today's Take-Aways

### Regional Updates

- As indicated in the provincial government's four-week "Emergency Break" announcement from this afternoon, there is an increasing incidence of COVID-19 cases and variants of concern both provincially and regionally. Today Ontario hit a new peak of 430 COVID-19 patients in its intensive care units, well above the peak of 420 in the second wave – and a figure that is rising. In Ottawa alone, there are 28 COVID-positive patients in ICUs and they are experiencing over-occupancy in their medical beds. Earlier this week we had five COVID-positive patients in our care which is the most we have had at one time to date.

### COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

- Our clinics at the PMC continue to run successfully and we now appear to have a stable allocation of the Pfizer vaccine which is allowing us to plan longer term for clinic scheduling.
- As we prepare to manage the PMC vaccination site into the future, there are some staffing challenges that need to be resolved and various initiatives for recruitment are being explored including potential opportunities with Algonquin College and the prospect of hiring summer students.

### Change to Visitor Policy

- The Renfrew County and District Health Unit has directed hospitals to implement a regional change to their visitor policies in order to protect the region's hospitals, patients and hospital staff. As of April 2nd, we will be moving to one essential caregiver/care partner per patient for the entire length of their stay and a maximum of four designated visitors for patients who are approaching end of life.

A memo on this has gone out today to staff and physicians and a press release and other communication tools have been rolled out to the public to enable widespread communication of this important change.

In addition, we will be making resources available at our entrances for those who arrive and discover that they are unable to visit but may wish to write a get well note to a patient that we will arrange to be delivered on their behalf.

### Occupational Health and Safety

- In the past week there has been a 30% increase in swabbing clinics at PRH and we have been feeling the impact of COVID related absences.

- A reminder to staff that during the week, Monday to Friday, the Swabbing Clinic is held in the parking lot behind Tower C. Please do not enter the building unless this was previously arranged when you called for an appointment. On weekends, the location for swabbing may change, but again this will be communicated to you when you call the Occupational Health number - extension 8200.

## Today's Take-Aways Continued

### Other News:

#### Food Services

- The department recently celebrated the installation of a brand new dishwasher, replacing the one purchased in 2006 which was at imminent risk of breakdown. At minimum, the machine is used three times a day for every patient meal cycle, so replacing this was key to continued good patient care. Kudos to the Maintenance and Food Services teams who worked so well together to get this equipment in place under a tight deadline. A special shout out goes to Brandon Nagora from Maintenance for his great work on this.

#### Tower A Elevators

- To align with the current accessibility standards in our other elevators, voice commands have been added to our Tower A elevators offering verbal confirmation of the actions being taken.

#### Clinical Project – Replacement of IV pumps

- PRH has made a substantial investment in patient safety this year by purchasing 139 Plum 360 Infusion Systems. These IV pumps come with a drug library specifically tailored to PRH's clinical needs.

The introduction of smart infusion pump technology has launched an era of dramatic improvements in intravenous (IV) infusion safety across the hospital sector. Such systems eliminate the risk of common secondary set up errors and reduce the potential for manual programming errors.

The internal implementation team includes Sean Turner (IT), Corey Graveline-Dumouchel (IT), Tina Davidson (Pharmacy), Julia Layman (Pharmacy), Dianne O'Connor (Clinical Education), Jacob Dickerson (BioMed), Monique Lafrance-Fleury (Materials Management) and Jennifer Kennedy (Project Management). The go-live date will be June 22nd but there is still substantial up front work that needs to occur beforehand. Stay tuned for further information on this exciting new development.

#### PRH Auxiliary

- The Sunshine Gift Shop and The Mural Café will remain open with the new restrictions in place during the provincial government's four-week shutdown. The Gift Shop will be open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday and 1-4 p.m. on the weekends. The café will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the week and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the weekends.

## A Special Thank You To Tami Mask

Our Vaccination Clinic team would like to express our gratitude to former Pembroke resident Tami Mask who currently works in Boston, Massachusetts and donated \$150 to purchase snacks for the team working the clinic at the Pembroke Memorial Centre.

Here is the message to the team from Tami:

"I have an appreciation for ALL of the hard work that goes into operating vaccination sites, and I am very appreciative of everyone helping to get shots in arms.

I know there is so much going on behind the scenes, hours spent working and organizing that no one else sees. This is no easy feat. My parents are now eligible (my mom's birthday is March 29th!) and this (being able to get vaccinated) may be the best birthday gift for them both. To everyone who is making this possible, I am very grateful to you all. Thank you for all you are doing. *Tami*"



# Foundation News

Pembroke Regional  
Hospital Foundation



Fondation de l'Hôpital  
Régional de Pembroke



Catch the Ace tickets are on sale at the Mural Café on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30am until 2pm. Thank you to our volunteers who make this possible. You can also visit [www.prhcatchtheace.ca](http://www.prhcatchtheace.ca) to purchase your tickets. Proceeds support our *Cancer Care Campaign*.



Congratulations to our *Caring from the Core* Monthly Parking Spot Winner Stacey West! If you participate in payroll deductions, your name is automatically entered to win the prime parking spot for the month (must already have a parking permit). If you'd like to sign up for *Caring from the Core* contact the Foundation Office at (613) 732-2811 ext. 7408 or email [foundation@prh.email](mailto:foundation@prh.email)

## GRATITUDE

• I have noticed that **Lisa Schilling from Housekeeping** has gone above and beyond with her role. I work in different units and every time she is present, it is impossible not to notice her work - she truly makes a difference. She is detail-oriented, focused, disciplined, very efficient, very dedicated. She has an amazing attitude towards her job and her role. She is responsible and autonomous. She is very professional and she is friendly and kind to everyone. *Julieta Klein*.

• We would like to recognize **Chester and his many helpers** who worked hard to clear out equipment and laundry supplies from Tower D to get it ready for renovation. Great job everyone getting things moved, stored, shipped to offsite so quickly. And thank you to **Monique and her crew** at offsite for finding space to store these items! *Dave, Cheryl and Lisa*

• We would like to thank **Sandra Griffiths** for all of her help with our hospital's modified workers - helping our staff get back to work safely and in a timely manner. You are a great asset to PRH! *Lisa, Dave and Cheryl*

**WEEK #6 WINNER!**

Congratulations  
**Jennifer  
Rousselle**  
**\$2,579**

Winning ticket  
#F-3015414  
Card #27 -  
3 of Clubs

Thank you to our  
Drive Thru Sponsors  
March 2021

  
Mark Ryan  
Real Estate Broker

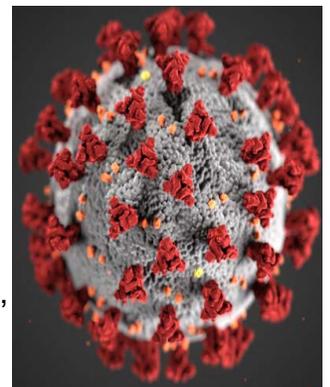
  
Lindsey Cupelli

## Current Facts and Figures

• **Renfrew County:** 31 active cases, 4 deaths, 78,496 tests completed (as of March 29th)

• **Ottawa:** 1,263 active cases, 466 deaths

• **Ontario:** 28,264 active cases, 7,389 deaths



# Everything you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccines

## **Q: Does being vaccinated allow me to come to work if a household member has symptoms?**

Even though many staff are in the process of being vaccinated, we still have to follow the guidelines set out by the province. So when a household member becomes symptomatic or if you have been identified as a contact through tracing, you are still required to stay at home and isolate. There may be occasions when a staff person is brought back under “exceptional circumstances” but this would only be when all other measures have been exhausted. Staff should always contact Occupational Health to determine next steps, clearance and date of return.

## **Q: I am a HCW that has not been vaccinated yet. Did I miss my opportunity?**

Once you become eligible to register and book your vaccination appointment, you will always be eligible to register and book your vaccination appointment. Please visit: [www.rcdhu.com](http://www.rcdhu.com) to register with the booking system to receive your shot. If you are unable to register online, ask a family member or friend if they can assist you. If a person is unable to register online, they can call RCDHU at 613-735-9724 or 1-800-267-1097 extension 200. Residents are asked to only leave one message with their name and phone number, and someone will return their call as soon as possible.

## **Q: How will you get the notification of your second appointment?**

You will receive notification on when you can register for your second vaccination appointment. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

## **Q: How do I decide if vaccination is the right choice for me and my family?**

Feeling worried or hesitant is normal when something is new. Vaccination is a personal choice, and one that most Canadians agree is an important part of maintaining good health and for disease prevention. Please visit one of the following links for reliable resources to make an informed decision whether the COVID-19 vaccine is the right choice for you and your family: Immunize Canada, What you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccine for Canada.

## **Q: Why should I get vaccinated against COVID-19?**

Vaccination is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread and reduce the impact of infectious diseases. Safe and effective vaccines for COVID-19 are becoming available to protect us against COVID-19. While many people infected with COVID-19 experience only mild illness, others may get a severe illness or even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you are not considered to be at increased risk of severe complications. COVID-19 vaccination helps protect you by creating an antibody response without having to experience the illness itself.

## **Q: Will I need to continue wearing a mask after being vaccinated?**

While experts learn more about the protection that COVID-19 vaccines provide under real-life conditions, it will be important for everyone to continue practicing public health measures to help stop the spread of COVID-19 which means: covering your mouth and nose with a mask, washing hands often and never touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, staying at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from others and self-isolating when sick. Health care and other staff must still wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when working, even after they have been vaccinated.



# Guardian Angels

Ashley Moss



Pembroke Regional  
Hospital Foundation



Fondation de l'Hôpital  
Régional de Pembroke



WHAT'S ON  
the  
**MENU**

For The Week Of  
**APRIL 6–9 2021**

APRIL 5: CLOSED

APRIL 6: CHICKEN STIR FRY WITH NOODLES

APRIL 7: SWEET & SOUR MEATBALLS WITH SCALLOPED  
POTATOES AND VEGETABLE OF THE DAY

APRIL 8: VEGETARIAN LASAGNA WITH CAESAR SALAD

APRIL 9 : LEMON PEPPER COD, POTATO WEDGES AND  
COLESLAW



## PRH Staff Association Treat Day Featuring 70g Bag Of Ottawa Valley Roast House Coffee

Paddler's Portage description: Let this smooth blend lift your spirits with its subtle notes of chocolate and delightful clean finish. Whether you're in the office or out for your weekend adventure, this blend will help you conquer even the toughest Mondays. Adventure awaits!

### Distribution Times/Locations:

**Friday, April 9th,**

**11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**(The Lunch Box, Tower A, 2nd Floor)**

**3 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

**(B446, Tower B, 4th Floor Link)**



#### COVID-19 MEASURES / Treat Day Etiquette

1. Pre-orders are strongly advised, especially for groups. Individuals can pre-order too.
2. Pre-order lists must be emailed to [carolyn.levesque@prh\\_email](mailto:carolyn.levesque@prh_email) by Monday, April 5th.
3. Pre-orders can be picked up by group representatives during the distribution times on April 9th.
4. If you don't pre-order, you CAN still pick up your treat on distribution day WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.
5. Please note that groups who pre-order are responsible for ensuring staff on their lists get their treats.
6. To ensure we have enough treats for those who want them, please refrain from taking a portion if you don't want one. *Thank you*

