

Today's Take-Aways

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

- Any PRH team members who are currently eligible to receive the vaccine and have not yet received it still have an opportunity to do so at the clinics being held at the Pembroke Memorial Centre. Those who wish to receive the vaccine must still submit their completed consent form to Occupational Health. They will then receive an email notification with a booking link which will allow them to make an appointment at one of the upcoming clinics at the PMC.

- Please note that the interval between dose one and two of the COVID-19 vaccine is now 16 weeks. Those who have received the first dose of the vaccine are advised to stay tuned to all communication channels for information about when to book their second dose.

- Kudos to everyone who has been working extremely hard to ensure the success of the COVID-19 vaccination clinics. Those involved have included many of our local physicians who have provided expert medical oversight, the County of Renfrew Paramedic Service, the Pembroke Fire Department, community volunteers including those from pharmacies and primary care offices, PRH retirees, a number of the hospital's current staff and management team, the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, and many others in the health care community who have stepped up to provide assistance. The City of Pembroke is also providing a great deal of assistance in helping facilitate the use of the PMC for the clinics from this point forward.

In addition, gratitude is expressed to all those who are stepping up to assist in providing coverage for those involved with the clinic operations in order to ensure that all of our hospital operations are maintained.

- Our first public clinics for those in the new eligibility groupings are taking place tomorrow and Saturday where we anticipate delivering 1,200 doses of the Pfizer vaccine. We are also anticipating tripling distribution over the next several weeks.

- It should be noted that public feedback about the clinics held to date has been extremely positive and appreciative in terms of the way our hospital has stepped up to provide this service for residents in our area.

Regional Updates

- Operationally we been experiencing increased clinical volumes while also providing support to Ottawa area hospitals who are over-capacity by taking some of their patients. This assistance is coordinated through the Incident Management System in the Champlain health region. Thanks to everyone who has had a part in making this happen.

Human Resources

- In order to address a higher volume of staffing challenges, particularly in nursing, we are implementing a variety of initiatives to assist with this including posting full time nursing positions, developing recruitment materials, and reaching out to Algonquin College.

Today's Take-Aways...Continued

Ontario Health Teams (OHTs)

- Lots of exciting work is underway on the development of an Ontario Health Team for our area. The Ontario government has approved plans for a regional group of health care partners collectively known as "Network 24" to submit a full application to become an Ontario Health Team (OHT). "Network 24" spans the geography of the three previous applications from Highway 60, Upper Ottawa Valley and North Renfrew.

While still early in the process, being selected to move forward presents a significant opportunity for our region to advance this new people-centred care model for integrated health service delivery. The application draft is expected to be ready for review at the end of this month, due for final submission by April 30th.

Departmental Updates:

Food Services

- The fresh food vending machine has returned to the cafeteria. Items are placed there on Friday to ensure freshness for the weekend shifts as the cafeteria is closed. During the week, fresh items are loaded Monday and then they are replenished throughout the week.

- The quality of coffee for our patients will soon be greatly improved following the purchase of a specialized coffee maker for our inpatient service.

Diagnostic Imaging

- A total of 1,000 additional MRI hours and 368 additional CT hours will have been completed from November, 2020 to the end of this month to help with some of the backlog of appointments being experienced in the Ottawa Hospitals.

Emergency Department

- The department initiated a new staffing model in mid-January with the aim to improve patient and staff satisfaction, improve our length of stay and decrease our overtime.

- Our Patient Services Attendants have done a great job completing approximately 250 real-time surveys of our patient population per month. After reviewing the results from those, we will be addressing some of the areas for quality improvement in the ED.

Prepping The Pembroke Memorial Centre For Clinic Launch



Everything you need to know about the COVID-19 vaccines

Q: Why is Ontario extending the interval between first and second doses? What evidence is available to support this?

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has provided recommendation to extend the vaccination dose interval up to 16 weeks for the three two-dose vaccines currently approved by Health Canada while maintaining a strong and sustained level of protection from COVID-19.

Current evidence from real-world experience indicates high vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic disease, hospitalization and death from COVID-19 two months after the first dose, including among older populations.

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: Why is RCD seemingly behind other regions for vaccinating other priority populations?

RCDHU and other community partners are only able to vaccinate depending on the available vaccine supply. RCD was one of the last regions to receive COVID-19 vaccine shipments.

Q: What groups are not currently eligible but will be next in line?

After those individuals aged 80 years and above and Indigenous adults aged 55 and over have been vaccinated, the next groups for vaccine eligibility will include all Indigenous adults, adults receiving chronic home care and “High Priority” health care workers, which include community care lower risk exposures (mental health, addictions, developmental services), campus health, daycare/school nursing, dietary, opticians, podiatry, audiology, naturopath, social work, and non-acute rehabilitation such as chiropractic, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, psychiatry, psychology, massage therapy, acupuncture and public health. All eligible individuals noted above will be notified when they are able to register through various media channels

Q: Is it true that you can't get pregnant after receiving the vaccine?

There is currently no evidence to suggest that the COVID-19 vaccine would cause infertility or pregnancy loss. For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine in relation to planning a pregnancy, during pregnancy or while breastfeeding, please see the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada position statement.



GRATITUDE

• IT staff would like to bring attention to the ENORMOUS amount of positive feedback we've heard regarding the COVID-19 vaccination clinics. **Huge shout-out to all involved!** We'd also like to thank our amazing **IT Coordinators and superb Director John Saunders** for absolutely pouring their hearts and souls into this. It truly feels like this team is a well-led ship gliding perfectly overtop this storm.

• A physician has acknowledged the compassion and professionalism exhibited by Rehab Assistant Mathew Houlzet while assisting a patient completing their daily exercise program in the Sunshine Unit.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER

Tower A:

• Work is progressing in the 1A North Wing. The drywall is being mudded. Bulk heads were installed for the ductless split evaporators. The electricians installed two large transformers and panels in the new electrical room and they have been busy running wires.

• Two door operators were installed in the ED areas by the Mural Cafe. Door operators were also installed on the corridor doors in the 5th floor rotunda where the doors were also replaced. Swipe card access is also scheduled to be installed.

• The roofing contractor completed the installation of the brown metal flashing around the low protective wall along the edge of the roof.

Tower B:

• All the plumbing and tile work was completed for a new toilet where the urinal was previously located in the men's public washroom on the ground floor next to the Sunshine Gift Shop. We are now waiting on stainless steel door partition before installing the toilet.

Tower C:

• We are requesting quotes to upgrade the HVAC system and to demolish walls on the ground floor.

\$1,000 Gift Card Draw

Hosted by Veronda Brydges (Food Services)
In Support Of Retired Co-Worker Cathy Hagarty



Only 200 Tickets Available
\$15 Each

**Tickets can be purchased in The Lunch Box from
Amanda Schneider or by calling Veronda at (613) 281-8927.**

**Draw will be held March 26th @ 1 p.m. - sooner if tickets sell out.
Winner will select the gift card vendor.**

**Proceeds will help Cathy with expenses as she supports her
husband who is fighting a serious illness.**

Foundation News

Pembroke Regional
Hospital Foundation



Fondation de l'Hôpital
Régional de Pembroke

PRH CATCH THE ACE



www.prhcatchtheace.ca

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 to purchase your tickets.



Congratulations to our *Caring from the Core* Monthly Parking Spot Winner Colleen Gruntz! 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



WEEK #3 WINNER!

Congratulations

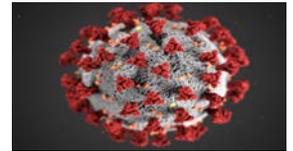
**CONNIE
DOERING
\$2,268**

Winning ticket
#C-4189462
Card #11 -
Queen of Clubs



Current Facts and Figures

- **Renfrew County:** 21 active cases, 3 deaths, 69,438 tests completed (as of March 8th)
- **Ottawa:** 540 active cases, 446 deaths
- **Ontario:** 18,392 active cases, 7,109 deaths



All staff are welcome to join us for our next Mindfulness session

Tuesday, March 16th

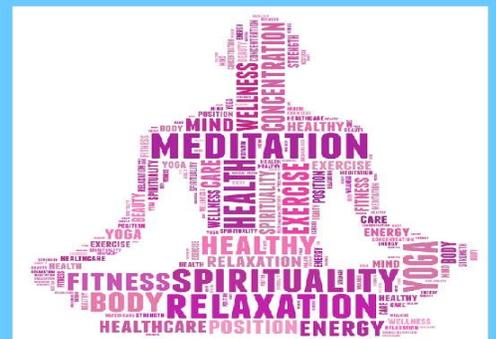
In The PRH Chapel (3rd Floor, Tower A)

At 12 noon (20 minutes in length)

Facilitated by Kate Mooney

The session will also be broadcast on Zoom and shared via a YouTube link.

Zoom coordinates can be found on The Loop or in your PRH email "inbox".





How it works?

After registering, you'll receive an emailed link to join the FB event. If you miss the "Live" event, just join the group when it's convenient and follow the recorded class.

The PRH Staff Association Presents
A Virtual "Garden Party" Tutorial
 Hosted By *The Bath Boutique*

Sunday, March 21st, 6-7 p.m.
on Facebook Live

\$20 for Staff Association Members
\$25 for Non Members

Kits will include materials to make:
 bath tea, a sweet orange shower steamer,
 two chapsticks and a mini lotion stick.



Registration: March 4-12 in the Finance Office - Cash/Cheque ONLY
Kits can be picked up March 18/19 from B446 (C. Levesque)

Guardian Angels

Dr. Natasha Holder



More Vaccination "Shots"



Pembroke Regional
 Hospital Foundation



Fondation de l'Hôpital
 Régional de Pembroke