

PRESS RELEASE



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For more information, please contact:
Michelle Wellman, Executive Assistant to CEO
Campbellford Memorial Hospital
E: mwellman@cmh.ca P:705-653-1140 x 2006

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Campbellford Memorial Hospital Caring for You

Campbellford Memorial Hospital (CMH) continues to provide essential services and its staff, physicians and community partners are working very hard to promote and protect the health and well-being of our community amidst the rapidly changing COVID-19 Pandemic.

Making Room for Pandemic Patients

We are guided by the principle that the safety of our patients, our team and our community is paramount. CMH is making changes within our hospital to minimize the potential spread of infection and make room for patients impacted by the pandemic.

- We have created dedicated areas to provide care to patients with suspected and confirmed positive COVID-19, and have plans established to ramp up our capacity if demand requires it.
- We are making changes within our ER waiting area and ER department to minimize the potential spread of infection.
- Our services will be complemented with the March 31 opening a Trent Hills COVID-19 Assessment Centre. The Centre will be used exclusively for the purpose of COVID-19 assessments and testing for individuals of all ages who have mild symptoms. Offered in addition to existing local COVID-19 assessment centres (Northumberland Hills Hospital, Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Quinte Health Care), the Trent Hills COVID-19 Assessment Centre opens March 31, 2020. This will be a mobile COVID-19 assessment centre that will be scheduled to locations in Campbellford, Warkworth and Hastings. The centre will initially open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Hours of operation are likely to increase as the local COVID-19 situation changes. The Trent Hills COVID-19 Assessment Centre will be operated by the Trent Hills Family Health Team and the Northumberland County Ambulance & Paramedic Services and is the result of collaboration between these organizations and the Northumberland Ontario Health Team network, Campbellford Memorial Hospital, and MPP Northumberland-Peterborough South David Piccini. Community residents who have mild symptoms of COVID-19 should call their doctor or nurse practitioner's office during business hours to book an assessment. Walk-ins (without an appointment) to the Trent Hills COVID-19 Assessment Centre are not permitted.

- Our hospital is also part of a regional response team with community partners who are committed to a coordinated local response that maximizes resources for greater impact within the extended community. For example, Northumberland County Paramedics are supporting in-home assessments for those who have mobility challenges or are unable to secure transportation to the assessment centre.

Carefully Managing Supplies and Equipment, While Ensuring Staff and Patient Safety

We have shared guidelines for proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) usage for staff and physicians caring for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients. There is a global shortage of PPE and medical equipment required to protect our health care workers against potential infection. We are judiciously using current PPE within our inventory and working with regional partners and government to secure additional supplies. We have also received several donations of PPE from business and individuals through CMH Foundation and we are grateful for these donations.

To supplement our current inventory of Personal Protective Equipment, the hospital is continuing to call out to community organizations, businesses and others (e.g. dental offices, nail spas) for in-kind donations of PPE that could supplement existing supplies and support the safety of our front-line personnel, while reducing the spread of infection. This request is in anticipation of a potentially prolonged response to the pandemic. Ideally, but not necessary, the following items should be in original and unopened packaging:

- N-95 Masks (Mask sizes: 3M 1860 SM, 1860 REG, 1870+ ONE SIZE, 8110 SM & 8210)
- 3M Filters – p100 2091/07000 in original packaging
- New Goggles and Eye Protection that meets Health and Safety Standards
- Disposable Isolation Gowns
- Surgical Masks with or without shields
- Non-latex Disposable Gloves

If your organization or business has access to inventory that is not being used at this time and would like to donate these items to the hospital, please contact John Russell, Executive Director, Campbellford Memorial Hospital Foundation at jrussell@cmh.ca or call 705-632-2014 (E-mail is best). Please do not bring these items to our Emergency Department. All equipment donations must be vetted and cannot be dropped off without first confirming they can be accepted. We will arrange for delivery or pick-up with you when you contact John Russell.

All Volunteer Activities Ceased at CMH during Pandemic

CMH has received calls from community members expressing interest in volunteering to support our team in the care of patients impacted by the pandemic. This gesture of community support is genuinely appreciated. However, in the interest ensuring the safety of our staff, patients and the broader community, CMH is not inviting volunteer support at this time.

On March 19, CMH ceased all on-site volunteer activities. This includes CMH Auxiliary volunteers, Patient and Family Advisors, Foundation volunteers, Board members, Spiritual Care volunteers and St. John Therapy Dog volunteers.

From the CMH Foundation:

We are grateful for the support demonstrated by our generous donors and others who are rallying around our health care team. Your on-going support is reassuring our front-line staff and physicians that the community values their commitment to care in these challenging times. For example, support from our generous donors in the past is now assisting our hard working team do the best it can to be ready today. A few examples include:

- BiPap Ventilators that many donors, including our own Auxiliary, funded with gifts in the past couple of years are helping respiratory patients today. If required, a BiPap could be used on a COVID patient not requiring intubation. A generous gift made just last week will equip our hospital with an additional ventilator.
- NOCO Spray room-disinfecting machines purchased over the past few years with gifts are now working OVERTIME. Thank you to those donors including the Brian Todd Foundation Community Fund for purchasing one of the machines for us in 2016. (These are critical tools in our infection control battle).
- Last week, 40 new I-V Pumps funded through the Buy a Pump Campaign, went “live”, meaning staff training was completed and they were put into use on the Patient Floor and in the Emergency Department.

How you can help:

The hospital has a growing list of medical equipment it needs to successfully take on the current challenges and provide future health care for the community. The list of needed equipment now includes Noco-spray Room Sterilizer Units, Infrared Thermometers, Patient Ceiling Lifts and the funds to create a Permanent Negative Pressure Room at the Hospital. To raise the funds for these needs, the CMH Foundation has launched the special ***Support the Effort Campaign***.

If you wish to help us with the COVID-19 response, please consider donating toward our ***Support the Effort Campaign*** (go to www.givetocmh.ca). Your donations will be directed toward the Hospitals' highest priority needs during this challenging time.

Your donation today will ensure our staff has the essential lifesaving equipment, technology and supports they need to provide the best possible care and safety for all. Donations to the ***Support the Effort Campaign*** can be made in the following ways:

- Mailing a cheque to the CMH Foundation, 146 Oliver Road, Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0
- Securely on-line at www.givetocmh.ca
- Via E-transfer to arunciman@cmh.ca
- Using a credit card and calling Angela at 705-653-1140 ext. 2107, Catherine at 705-653-1140 ext. 2104 or John at 705-632-2014
- Contacting the CMH Foundation to discuss other arrangements.