

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – COVID-19 Assessment Centre Opens at Temiskaming Hospital

Temiskaming Shores, ON, April 14, 2020 – As of April 15, 2020, Temiskaming Hospital will be operating a COVID-19 Regional Assessment Centre. The drive-through Assessment Centre will be located at the North entrance of the hospital, whereby individuals remain in their vehicles for their assessment. The Assessment Centre testing will be by appointment only through a referral from the Timiskaming Health Unit.

For the safety of health care workers and patients, “walk-in” appointments are prohibited.

“This is an important new step in the ‘COVID-19, Not In Our House’ campaign at the Hospital,” stated Mike Baker, President & Chief Executive Officer at the Temiskaming Hospital. He continued, “The Hospital received a significant number of swabs today and combined with the recently increased lab capacity in the North, we are able to provide increased testing for the community.”

Thank you to all of our community members who are supporting the Hospital and who are helping to flatten the curve.

If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, complete the self-assessment on the Timiskaming Health Unit website www.timiskaminghu.com and/or call the Timiskaming Health Unit COVID-19 line at **705-647-4305 or 1-866-747-4305, ext 7.**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How does the drive-through at the Temiskaming Hospital COVID-19 Assessment Centre work?

Individuals will be directed to drive to the screening area as indicated by outdoor signage. You will be asked to provide your Health Card for identification. You will remain in your vehicle for the duration of the assessment.

Will the Temiskaming Hospital COVID-19 Assessment Centre accept “drive-in” or individuals without a referral?

Not at this time. The Assessment Centre will see individuals who have a referral from the Timiskaming Health Unit and a scheduled appointment.

(more)

Will I have to wear a mask if I visit the Temiskaming Hospital COVID-19 Assessment Centre?

No, you will not be required to wear a mask as you will remain in your car. The nurse will be wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Can a family member or friend accompany me to the Assessment Centre?

Since individuals remain in their vehicle for the duration of the testing (swab), visitors are permitted to remain with them inside the vehicle but will not be assessed or swabbed. Just a reminder, to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, physical distancing is needed and may not be achievable in a car.

-30-

For further information, contact:

Lesley Kaross, COVID-19 Media Relations Officer

705.647.1088 extension 2030

lkaross@temiskaming-hospital.com

