

## A message to our Partners and Community – December 7, 2020

On December 6, 2020 we received notification that a Waypoint employee has tested positive for COVID-19. We continue to have zero patient cases and have only had two other staff cases since the pandemic began last spring. These cases were reported on May 2 and November 2. We remain focused on infection prevention and control following direction from the Simcoe/Muskoka District Health Unit. We have not been put into outbreak status at this time but will keep our patients, families, staff and community informed if this changes.

The staff who tested positive worked on four patient units last week that include our Bayview, Forensic Assessment and Beckwith Programs. In an effort to keep everyone safe, reduce the risk of transmission and following the Health Unit's direction, we have implemented the following:

- Suspended in-person visits on the four affected units. Virtual visiting is being offered.
- Patients from the four affected units are not leaving their unit and patients are being confined to their rooms for isolation from others where possible.
- Testing for COVID-19 began today of all patients on the four affected units.
- Requiring all staff who are deemed to be a high-risk contact with the staff member in question to not be at work, self-isolate and be tested. All staff from these programs will also be tested.
- Suspended on-unit services that are not essential. Patients will also not attend any off-unit appointments unless for emergency purposes.

Based on the latest provincial masking guidelines released this past weekend, starting Dec. 8, 2020 we will also be requiring patients in the hospital to wear a mask when outside of their room or within 2 metres/6 ft of a health care worker.

We continue to communicate regularly with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and will make any additional adjustments as required. All safety precautions remain in place – universal masking, screening, hand hygiene, use of full PPE in our isolation unit and for any symptomatic patients, physical distancing, etc.