



## Weekly Community Update

Week of May 29, 2020

Dear friends and neighbours of Haliburton County,

Today's update includes information about two important moves that have been made this week - new COVID-19 testing criteria outlined by the province and our regional collaboration on a gradual, phased approach to resuming non-urgent procedures and tests.

### New COVID-19 Testing Criteria

Effective immediately, testing at the Haliburton County COVID-19 Community Assessment Centre is available to anyone in the following situations:

1. If you have at least [one symptom of the virus](#), even if it is a mild symptom,  
OR
2. If you are concerned you might have been exposed to COVID-19 as a result of contact with a confirmed or suspected case,  
OR
3. If you are at risk of exposure of COVID-19 as a result of your employment, including essential workers such as health care workers, grocery store employees, and other front-line workers.

To help control volume and protect the health and safety of Assessment Centre staff, **an appointment is required for COVID-19 testing** – but no Ontarian who is symptomatic or is concerned they have been exposed to COVID-19 will be declined a test. Anyone who meets the criteria and wants to make an appointment can call the Haliburton Family Medical Centre at 705-457-1212 (press 6) during regular business hours.

### Regional Hospitals Ramping Up Non-Urgent Care

Today, [we shared a plan](#) that HHHS, along with our regional hospital partners, will follow as we start resuming non-urgent procedures and tests. We will proceed gradually and carefully as we ramp up diagnostics, such as ultrasound, and post-surgical support programs, such as physiotherapy.

HHHS staff will reach out to patients as spaces become available, and we will be prioritizing patients based on risk and urgency.

As we ramp up these procedures and testing, the health and safety of staff, patients, residents, and the community, as well as our capacity to respond to any changes in local COVID-19 activity will remain our top priorities.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carolyn Plummer'.

Carolyn Plummer  
President & CEO