



## Weekly Community Update

Week of June 19, 2020

Dear friends and neighbours of Haliburton County,

So much has happened in the past three months since the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ontario. I am very proud of the work that we have done as a community and organization to ensure the safety of our residents, patients and staff. We have learned much about our resiliency and adaptability. Moving forward, HHHS will shift its community updates to bi-weekly with the caveat that should the situation change, we will adjust the frequency of our communications as needed.

The changes we have made, such as the physical separation of our hospital and Long-Term Care sites, reducing the number of access points to our facilities and actively screening everyone who enters one of our buildings, will remain in place until further notice. We also continue to accept all emergency and urgent care needs at the **Haliburton Emergency Department**, including those who may have COVID-19 symptoms. The **Minden Emergency Department** remains open to accept all emergency and urgent care needs, but those with COVID-19 symptoms should expect to be re-directed to the Haliburton Emergency Department.

The Haliburton County COVID-19 Community Assessment Centre continues to take appointments for those who wish to be tested. A reminder that if you have at least one symptom of COVID-19 (please visit [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus) for a list of possible symptoms), are concerned you've been exposed to COVID-19 because you have been in contact with a confirmed or suspected case, or you are at risk of exposure because of your employment, you can be tested for COVID-19. **Testing is still by appointment only.** Call the Assessment Centre at (705) 457 – 1212 (press 6) during regular business hours or Telehealth Ontario at 1 (866) 797-000.

For more information about the services and supports available to our community, including mental health supports and community services, please visit [www.haliburtoncares.ca](http://www.haliburtoncares.ca) or call our Community Support Services Response Team at (705) 457 – 2941 or text them at (705) 457-0016, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

We all have a responsibility to keep ourselves, our friends and family, and our neighbours safe from COVID-19. Please continue to be diligent about protecting yourself and others from COVID-19 by staying home if you are feeling sick, maintaining physical distancing, using a cloth face mask when distancing isn't possible (such as when you are out shopping), and washing your hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds. If we look out for one another in this way, I know we can all enjoy another wonderful summer in the Haliburton Highlands.

Take care,

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

Carolyn Plummer  
President & CEO