



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

**January 13, 2021**

### **All outpatient and surgical services to continue at Lake of the Woods District Hospital**

*Kenora, ON* - Following Premier Ford's announcement on January 12th to lessen mobility and the alarming spread of COVID-19 infection in Ontario, the hospital has received many questions from the community regarding whether we are reducing services. Today we had some patients cancelling their appointments because they did not know whether they could come to the hospital for service.

Lake of the Woods District Hospital is an essential community healthcare provider and is fully compliant with all directions we have received from the Provincial Government regarding our role as a hospital and the services we are providing to support our communities for the COVID-19 pandemic. LWDH remains diligent with strict screening processes, PPE use and other COVID-19 precautions to ensure the safety of our staff and patients who are in our care. LWDH has already implemented many changes since the pandemic began to shift from in-person to virtual care where we could, and to restrict visitor access for patients in compliance with provincial direction.

Further to the Premier's announcement, we have not received any directives from government to reduce service or to further restrict visitor access. If you are scheduled for a surgery or appointment at the hospital please plan to keep that appointment unless you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. In this event, please follow up directly with the appropriate department. The LWDH main switchboard can be reached at 807-468-9861.

LWDH will keep the public fully informed should changes be required to service delivery.

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#### **Media Contact:**

Charlene Kissick, LWDH Brand Management

807-464-1941

[ckissick@lwdh.on.ca](mailto:ckissick@lwdh.on.ca)

[www.lwdh.on.ca](http://www.lwdh.on.ca)

