

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **LWDH suspends non-essential outpatient services**

*Kenora, ON, March 7, 2021* – As released yesterday, Lake of the Wood District Hospital declared an outbreak situation in the hospital which has now expanded to include ten patients. Due to the size of the outbreak, the hospital will suspend all non-essential / elective outpatient services for 14-days, effective immediately. Anything that can be delivered virtually will be explored. LWDH will reach out to anyone who was scheduled to attend an appointment to advise of changes / cancellations.

The hospital is working with the Northwestern Health Unit to determine the source of the outbreak and has created an isolated COVID-19 ward to mitigate risk of further spread. Significant staff testing is occurring on-site as well as through the ANHP COVID-19 Assessment Centre.

Essential services such as dialysis and chemotherapy will continue.

Morningstar Centre and the Community Mental Health & Addiction programs, which are physically external to the hospital, will also continue.

We would like to express sincere gratitude to LWDH staff for their bravery, flexibility, dedication and motivation to do all they can to protect our patients and communities during this difficult time.

#OurCommunitiesOurHospital

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