

Update from CEO and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) March 18, 2021

General update

 There was one new COVID-19 cases confirmed in the province today in the Eastern Health region. There are now 34 active cases in the province. Please see pandemic hub for up to date information <u>here</u>.

Operations Update

 Recent Occupational Health and Safety audits have shown that health care workers are wearing jewelry and artificial nails. Rings, watches, bracelets and artificial nails hinder proper hand hygiene and are not permitted in care areas (see hand hygiene policy <u>here</u>). We encourage all health care workers to leave their watches and jewelry at home in order to ensure proper hand hygiene and reduce transmission of communicable disease (see staff safety tip sheet <u>here</u>).

Human Resources Update

- We have developed a new COVID-19 vaccination request form for staff (see <u>here</u>). Please email the completed form to Shelley LeRoy at <u>shelleyleroy@westernhealth.nl.ca</u>. If you are unable to email the form, please call the Employee Health line at 1-833-710-0408 to complete the form by telephone.
- It is important that you complete your daily COVID-19 self-assessment one hour before work (see <u>here</u>). Those who work in long term care must complete the self-assessment twice daily. If you are unwell, do not report to work, report your absence through established process and call Employee Health at 1-833-710-0408.
- There are many positive ways to take care of yourself and stay healthy. Explore the Virtual Care and e-Mental Health options available for health care workers (<u>here</u>). Reach out we're here for you.
- Please reach out for support if you need it. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can be reached at 1-866-784-5306.
- Please feel free to call the Toll Free COVID-19 Navigation Staff Line (1-833-920-0096) or email COVID19@westernhealth.nl.ca with your questions or inquiries.

Please see our **COVID-19 Intranet page** for more information.