

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2020



Thunder Bay District
Health Unit

TBDHU Moving to Yellow Level of Provincial Framework

Today, the Government of Ontario placed Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) in the “Yellow-Protect” category of the provincial COVID-19 response framework. Strengthened public health measures will come into effect in that will further help control the spread of COVID-19 in the TBDHU area. These come into effect on Monday, November 23, 2020, at 12:01 a.m.

“We have seen a significant increase in cases that included two large outbreaks in the past few weeks. While these were brought under control quickly, it is clear that COVID-19 is here and it can spread quickly. It is important that we all take the necessary measures to control the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.” says Dr. Janet DeMille, Medical Officer of Health. “Moving into the “yellow” category means that certain business, such as restaurants, bars, and fitness facilities, for example, will adopt enhanced measures to reduce spread of the virus in those in those facilities.”

In addition to the general public health measures, there are some new and specific measures that come with the provincial Yellow-Protect category. The measures impact:

- Restaurants, Bars and Food or Drink Establishments,
- Sports and Recreational Fitness,
- Meeting and Event spaces
- Retail
- Personal care services
- Cinemas
- Performing arts facilities

For a detailed listing of the general and sector specific restrictions please visit the Province of Ontario website, and specifically the [Yellow-Protect](#) category. All measures are detailed in [Ontario Regulation 364/20](#) under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*.

With the move to the yellow level, TBDHU is also recommending that all Long-term Care Homes in the TBDHU coverage area restrict visitation to essential visitor and caregivers only. TBDHU also recommends these establishments to restrict short-stay and temporary absences to essential trips only.

TBDHU will continue to support businesses and workplaces in implementing and adopting all the measures that need to be put in place to protect their workers and the public. Resources and support specific to sectors is currently being updated and will be provided.

As we move into the yellow category we encourage residents to view the [most recent video update](#) provided by Dr. Janet DeMille and remind everyone to follow all [general public health recommendations](#).

Visit the [TBDHU Website](#) for more information or contact TBDHU at (807) 625-5900 or toll-free: 1-888-294-6630.

-30-

For more information - Health Unit Media: news@tbdhu.com.