

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, 4:30 p.m. September 21, 2020)

RCDHU Update on COVID-19 Outbreak at Fellowes High School

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU) is confirming that no additional positive tests among students, staff, or close contacts at Fellowes High School were received yesterday or today. RCDHU will continue to monitor test results, conduct contact tracing as required and update the school community as new information becomes available.

Due to the increasing number of cases in Renfrew County and District, a local virtual COVID-19 Briefing was held this morning with panelists including RCDHU's Acting Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Robert Cushman and representatives from our local health care sector, municipal and provincial governments; Debbie Robinson, Warden for the County of Renfrew, Dr. Fitzsimon, Clinical Coordinator for Renfrew County Virtual Triage Assessment Centre (RCVTAC), John Yakabuski, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, Mike Nolan, County Emergency Management Coordinator, Brittany Martin, Registered Nurse and Pandemic Advisory for Algonquins of Pikwakanagan, and Mike LeMay, Mayor of the City of Pembroke.

The message was clear, "we are now entering our second wave, mainly because of COVID fatigue, and if we aren't vigilant and stick to the basics of maintaining our social bubble, wearing masks and washing our hands, we risk returning to lockdowns and restrictions like before," states Dr. Cushman.

All partners reiterated the importance of adhering to public health measures: stay home if you are sick, avoid contact with people who are ill, limit social activities, keep your bubble small, practice physical distancing (2 metres), wear a mask/face covering when physical distancing cannot be maintained, wash your hands, and use the COVID Alert App.

Dr. Cushman reminds us that "COVID-19 has not gone away, it has not become less contagious, it can and will spread rapidly if we don't remain vigilant about isolating anyone with symptoms. If you have any symptoms you must <u>self-isolate</u> and **call RCVTAC to arrange an appointment** to get tested."

For COVID-19 testing dates and times visit the Renfrew County Virtual Triage Assessment Centre (VTAC) <u>testing schedule</u> or call VTAC at 1-844-727-6404 to book an appointment for testing.

For all other information, visit RCDHU's website at https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/ or call 613-735-8654.

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