

---

# Media Release



## **First confirmed death from COVID-19 in the Timiskaming Health Unit area January 12, 2021 - For immediate release**

The Timiskaming Health Unit (THU) is confirming the first COVID-19 death in our catchment area. The individual, a man in his 80s, was transferred to Health Sciences North in Sudbury on January 8 and passed away there last night. His case was not related to a long-term care outbreak. Out of respect for the family of the deceased, no further details will be provided.

“On behalf of all of us at THU, I would like to extend our most sincere sympathies to his family and loved ones,” said Dr. Glenn Corneil, Acting Medical Officer of Health and CEO for THU. “I am sorry that we have such a tragic reminder of how dangerous COVID-19 is and how important it is that we all follow public health measures. We need everyone to make the safest choices at the individual level to stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect our most vulnerable.”

THU will continue to work with health care providers, hospitals, long-term care, and the public to minimize the impact of COVID-19 in our communities.

The province of Ontario is currently in lockdown. District residents need to stay home except for essential travel and especially need to avoid social gatherings. Residents are reminded to:

- Continue practicing physical distancing
- Wear a mask or face covering in public indoor spaces
- Wash hands with warm water or use alcohol based sanitizers and do not touch your face
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow
- Avoid gatherings with people outside of your household, they are prohibited under lockdown
- Avoid non-essential travel within and outside of our district, especially to high transmission areas
- Stay home if unwell and contact your local Assessment Centre (AC) to schedule an appointment for testing
- Respect public health and any additional safety measures businesses have put in place
- Reach out to vulnerable people in your community who may need support

For more information on COVID-19, [www.timiskaminghu.com](http://www.timiskaminghu.com) and the [Ontario Coronavirus website](#).

- 30 -

### **Media Contact:**

Ryan Peters  
Communications Manager  
705-647-4305, Ext. 2250  
petersr@timiskaminghu.com