## HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ALERT March 1, 2023



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local
Timiskaming Health Unit:

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## **New Liskeard**

Tel: (705) 647-4305 Toll Free: (866) 747-4305 Fax: (705) 647-5779

## **Kirkland Lake**

Tel: (705) 567-9355 Toll Free: (866) 967-9355 Fax: (705) 567-5476

After-Hours or Weekend On-Call Number (705) 647-3033

www.timiskaminghu.com

## **Measles Update**

**To:** Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, and Midwives Hospital Infection Control Departments and Emergency Departments

On Feb. 8, 2023, the <u>Pan American Health Association</u> issued a statement concerning the potential increase in measles cases worldwide, including Canada. This concern is due to decreased vaccine coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic and an anticipated increase in travel during student's school breaks.

Attached you will find Dr. Kieran Moore's recommendations that all health system partners be on alert and be prepared for suspected measles cases and to support their patients to ensure they have up-to-date routine immunizations, especially if they have plans to travel.

Hospital Occupational Health and Safety and health care provider offices should ensure ALL staff are up to date with either two doses of documented measles vaccination OR documented laboratory evidence of immunity. This includes for individuals born prior to 1970, as per the OHA/OMA Measles Communicable Diseases Protocol.

For additional information on Measles vaccine, diagnosis, testing, reporting requirements and infection prevention and control precautions, please call THU or visit <a href="Public Health Ontario-">Public Health Ontario -</a> <a href="Measles">Measles</a>.