

## **Press release** For immediate release

## TWO HULL HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19

**Gatineau, March 27 2020** – The CISSS de l'Outaouais informs the population that two employees of the Hull Hospital have unfortunately been diagnosed with COVID-19. In order to prevent any spread and to take all the necessary measures to protect the current staff, we have placed 11 employees in isolation, effective immediately. The positive case count for the region now stands at 18 cases.

The CISSS de l'Outaouais takes this situation very seriously. We care deeply about the health of these affected and isolated employees, as we do for all employees in our organization. These isolation measures are therefore put forward to protect all of them. The president and CEO of CISSS de l'Outaouais, Ms Josée Filion, said : "I am very concerned about what the employees who are affected and in isolation are going through. Their well-being and health are as important to me as are all the employees of the CISSS de l'Outaouais. I would like to thank each and every one of them for being here and to assure them that their protection remains my priority. »

In addition, the Public health department is currently conducting rigorous investigations in order to establish every contact these two employees have had as well as any individuals who received a positive result for Covid-19. A thorough inquiry is underway and all significant contacts that may have taken place in environments where these workers may have been circulating will be contacted as quickly as possible. This includes patients, family members and other health care workers.

Protecting employees and the population in this time of pandemic remains our first priority as a health and social services institution. We would like to emphasize the seriousness of this situation and that we took immediate action to avoid any further cases at the Hull hospital.

In order to support the Hull Hospital team, which will be understaffed, a contingency plan will be put in place so that nurses from the Gatineau Hospital and other facilities will be available to assist the Hull team.

In order to limit the spread in our hospital environments as much as possible, we are currently setting up cold, warm and hot zones in emergency rooms and care units. These designated zones will separate patients coming in for any emergency situation other than the Covid-19 (cold zone) from those showing symptoms (warm zone) or affected (warm zone) by the Covid-19.

The CISSS de l'Outaouais continues to make every effort in the fight against Covid-19 for both our employees and the public.



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