

Message to Community: Increased testing volumes; Maintaining safety while resuming some services; Cloth masks needed



Following the province's introduction of expanded testing guidelines, the RMH COVID-19 Assessment Centre has seen a significant increase in testing numbers. To date, RMH, in partnership with Kawartha Lakes Paramedic Service, has provided 2176 assessments, and 1019 tests. "This increased testing volume is helping to identify COVID-19 cases in our community," says Kelly Isfan, President and CEO, "and we encourage any community member who is concerned that they could have COVID-19 – whether due to mild symptoms, close contact with a suspected or confirmed case, or being at high risk due to their employment – to call us at 705-328-6217 to arrange testing."

Expanded testing may often result in additional cases says Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, Medical Officer of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, especially with people who do not have any symptoms of the virus. "The province and public health have been telling people to assume that everyone they come in contact with could potentially be a carrier of the virus," says Dr. Noseworthy. "We know that some people are asymptomatic (have no symptoms) yet have the virus and this additional testing is helping to identify those cases so we can help stop the spread."