

Communiqué to our community: COVID-19

Number 10, June 3, 2020

Expanded COVID-19 testing in Renfrew County

Premier Ford announced last week that he wants more people in Ontario to get tested for COVID-19. As the province gradually begins to open up for business again, increased testing will allow more tracing and management of cases.

Testing is now available to anyone who is symptomatic (at least one symptom of COVID-19), as well as those who are asymptomatic but are concerned they may be at risk (have been exposed to someone with or suspected of having COVID-19, or due to employment).

In Renfrew County, residents may be wondering where they should go to get tested.

Testing is not being done for asymptomatic individuals (those who have no symptoms) in the Renfrew Victoria Hospital ED, notes Dr. Kristian Davis, RVH Emergency Director.

“We are still trying to maintain physical distancing of ill patients with non-acutely ill

individuals. We are supporting the initiative and process of the community paramedic response unit and Renfrew County public health in conjunction with RC VTAC for more aggressive and pervasive COVID-19 testing. The process in place minimizes individual contact with others and healthcare providers. At the same time, the RVH emergency department would like to remind residents that we are here for emergent and urgent care and we encourage all residents to first consider contacting RCVTAC for any medical needs not of an emergent nature,” states Davis.

Testing is being offered at various locations in communities across our region through the Renfrew County Virtual Triage & Assessment Centre (RC VTAC). You are asked to:

- Contact the Renfrew County District Health Unit 613-732-3629 (<https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/>, or RC VTAC 1-844-727-6404 (<https://rcvtac.ca>) for more information or to pre-register.
- Wear a face mask or covering when you go to be tested.
- Bring your health card and driver’s license.

Current test schedule (check the RC VTAC website for updates to schedule):

June	Monday 1st	Tuesday 2nd	Wednesday 3rd	Thursday 4th	Friday 5th	Saturday 6th
Morning 9 am–11 am	Cobden	Petawawa	Cobden	Petawawa	Cobden	Petawawa
Afternoon 2 pm–4 pm	Pembroke	Deep River	Pembroke	Deep River	Pembroke	Deep River
Evening 6 pm–8 pm	Renfrew	Barry’s Bay	Renfrew	Barry’s Bay	Renfrew	Barry’s Bay