

For Immediate Release
June 18, 2020

RED LAKE COVID-19 ISOLATION CENTRE OPENING

The Kenora District Services Board and Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital are opening the Red Lake COVID-19 Isolation Centre on June 18. The Centre provides a space for possible or positive cases of COVID-19, and their close contacts, who have no other available means to self-isolate safely. Self-isolation helps limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

The Centre is located at the old Norseman Inn, 28A Highway 105, in Red Lake. It is a collaborative effort of community partners, including the Municipality of Red Lake, Red Lake Employment Office Ontario Provincial Police, Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, Red Lake Area Emergency Shelter, New Starts Women's Shelter, Northwest Health Unit, the Red Lake Family Health Team, AND Community Counselling and Addiction Services.

"The Red Lake COVID-19 Isolation Centre is not a shelter open to the public and provides safe and appropriate supports and services for individuals who would not otherwise have access to a space to self-isolate while they await test results or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19," says Sue LeBeau, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital.

In April, the Government of Ontario provided the Kenora District Services Board with direct funding supports to address the implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic. "On behalf of the partners who have been working to get the Red Lake COVID-19 Isolation Centre off the ground, we want to give thanks to the Government of Ontario for providing additional financial support through the Social Services Relief Fund as we are better able to support those who are most vulnerable in the community," says Henry Wall, Chief Administrative Officer of the Kenora District Services Board.

If individuals do not have a place to self-isolate safely, they are asked to contact the Red Lake COVID-19 Assessment Centre at 807-727-7035 for evaluation and testing, Public Health's COVID-19 hotline at 1-866-468-2240, or their Primary Care Provider. People can also be referred by the above agencies or self-refer by calling the Isolation Centre at 728-3026.

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