



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 28, 2020

### **Riverside Increased Testing – Asymptomatic Individuals**

Ontario Premier Doug Ford recently encouraged people to "please go get a test", and Riverside agrees. Aggressive testing is another tool available to combat this virus. Riverside has received approval from the Provincial Government to increase its testing capabilities; COVID-19 testing appointments may be scheduled directly through our Assessment Centres.

Assessment Centres are authorized to test anyone that is: Symptomatic; Asymptomatic but concerned about exposure to known or potential cases; or Asymptomatic and has risk from exposure (essential workers, health care workers, etc.). As of May 26, 2020, there have been 989 tests completed at Riverside's Assessment Centres.

To make an appointment directly through Riverside, call (807)274-3261, ext. 4913. No Ontarian will be denied an appointment but appointments must be scheduled. Drive-thru testing offered in May will continue through the summer months.

"As we reopen services under a 'new normal' status we firmly believe that increased testing of asymptomatic individuals, as a complement to symptomatic testing, is a necessary added precaution to improve our ability to protect the most vulnerable in our society." said Henry Gauthier, Riverside President & CEO.

As we move into summer, we ask everyone to continue to remain vigilant in safe practices, including social distancing, regular hand washing, use of masks and accessing testing, as appropriate. Riverside is now testing all staff on a monthly basis to assist in protecting residents, patients, clients and our District.

Thank you for your doing your part to support our communities!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Henry Gauthier  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Riverside Health Care

Reference:

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Riverside Health Care is a fully accredited multi-site, multi-function health care system serving the residents of the Rainy River District. Riverside Health Care operates hospitals in Fort Frances, Emo and Rainy River, and Rainycrest Long-Term Care Home and La Verendrye Non Profit Supportive Housing in Fort Frances. Each community is also served by Riverside Community Counselling which provides mental health and addictions services, Community Support Services through Rainycrest and Riverside Valley Diabetes Education Centre which provides important chronic disease management programming. For more information, please visit [riversidehealthcare.ca](http://riversidehealthcare.ca)