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COVID-19 OUTBREAK DECLARED OVER at the John Owen Evans Residence

The Thunder Bay District Health unit declared the COVID-19 outbreak to be over on Friday morning, December 18th, 2020. The Geraldton District Hospital is pleased to announce that all staff and residents are safe and healthy.

Hospital Management implemented its outbreak procedures on the first day of the outbreak. This was a strict lockdown of the Extended Care Unit because the single positive case was a staff member who had worked on the Unit. The lockdown included keeping all residents in their rooms for 14 days. As per infection control standards, staff had to follow contact and droplet precautions for each and every resident which includes donning & doffing gloves, gowns, face mask and shield each and every time they enter or leave the resident's room. This is standard precautionary procedures so that a virus, if in the room, does not get out of the room and get transferred to the next room.

Over the two week outbreak period, all staff in the Extended Care Unit and a few other employees from the Hospital along with all residents were swabbed and tested 3 times. There were over 200 negative results.

Thank you to all the staff for adhering to the strict precautionary procedures. Thank you to the residents for staying in your rooms. And thank you to the family members and loved ones of the residents for your understanding and patience during this difficult period.

Now that the outbreak is declared over, visiting will resume but visiting procedures will be modified because Code Orange has been declared by the TBDHU for both the City and District of Thunder Bay. Family members will be contacted directly by the Hospital regarding the modified visiting procedures.

Thank you!

Kurt Pristanski
Interim CEO