



**Thunder Bay District  
Health Unit**

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**TBDHU.COM**

March 10, 2021

**To: Directors of Education for the following Schools Boards operating within the City of Thunder Bay and Surrounding Areas:**

**Lakehead Public Schools  
Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board  
CSDC des Aurores Boréales (ÉSC de La Vérendrye & École Catholique  
Franco-Supérieur)  
Lac des Mille Lacs Education Centre**

**RE: Instructions from the Medical Officer of Health on Suspension of In-person Learning**

I am writing to provide follow-up to the instructions I issued to you on February 26, 2021, regarding the suspension of in-person learning in the City of Thunder Bay and in surrounding communities for a two-week period which began on March 1, 2021.

Unfortunately, over the past two weeks we have seen COVID-19 case numbers continue to remain high in our area, including in school-aged children.

As such, under Ontario Regulation 82/20 Section 2(2) (or as current), and Ontario Regulation 263/20 Section 2(2) (or as current) of the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020*, S.O. 2020, c.17, as Medical Officer of Health, I am extending the following instructions for an additional two weeks:

- Suspend the provision of all in-person student learning and before and after school programs for all schools that you operate in the City of Thunder Bay and in communities around Thunder Bay including Oliver Paipoonge, Neebing, Gillies, Shuniah, Comnee, O'Connor, and any school in the nearby unorganized territories
- This current suspension extends until **March 29, 2021**. The need for further extension will be considered closer to that time.

These instructions should not be interpreted to mean that the schools themselves should be closed. Educators and staff can attend school for the purposes of conducting virtual teaching and other activities as needed to support this and for managing school facilities, etc. In addition, in-person instruction to students with special education needs who cannot be accommodated through remote learning and who wish to attend in-person instruction may continue. These instructions also do not apply for child care (birth to 4 years of age).

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For greater clarity, a listing of schools these instructions apply to is attached.

TBDHU is committed to supporting students, families and the school community through these challenging times. We look forward to continuing to work with our school partners. Thank you for your ongoing work during the pandemic response.

Sincerely,



Dr. Janet DeMille, CCFP, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health  
Thunder Bay District Health Unit

Encl.

**Attachment 1**

**List of Thunder Bay and surrounding schools for Board-wide closure  
As at February 26, 2021**

**Lakehead Public Schools:**

Algonquin School  
C.D. Howe  
Claude E. Garton  
Crestview  
École Gron Morgan  
Five Mile  
Gorham and Ware Community  
Kakabeka Falls  
Kingsway Park  
McKellar Park  
McKenzie  
Nor'Wester View  
Ogden Community  
St. James  
Sherbrooke  
Valley Central  
Vance Chapman  
Westmount  
Whitefish Valley  
Woodcrest  
Hammarskjold High School  
Superior C&V.I.  
Westgate C&V.I.  
Lakehead Adult Education Centre

**Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board:**

Corpus Christi  
Holy Cross  
Holy Family  
Our Lady of Charity  
St. Ann  
St. Bernard  
St. Elizabeth  
St. Francis  
St. Jude  
St. Margaret  
St. Martin  
St. Paul  
St. Pius X  
St. Thomas Aquinas  
St. Vincent  
Bishop E.Q. Jennings  
Bishop Gallagher  
Pope John Paul II  
St. Ignatius High School  
St. Patrick High School

**List of Thunder Bay and surrounding schools for Board-wide closure  
As at February 26, 2021 (Continued)**

**Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique des Aurores Boréales:**

École Catholique Franco-Supérieur  
ÉSC de La Vérendrye

**Lac Des Mille Lacs Education Centre:**

I.R. Churchill Elementary  
Seventh Fire Secondary