



Thunder Bay District Health Unit

MAIN OFFICE

999 Balmoral Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6E7
Tel: (807) 625-5900
Toll-Free in 807 area code
1-888-294-6630
Fax: (807) 623-2369

GERALDTON

P.O. Box 1360
510 Hogarth Avenue, W.
Geraldton, ON P0T 1M0
Tel: (807) 854-0454
Fax: (807) 854-1871

MANITOUWADGE

1-888-294-6630

MARATHON

P.O. Box 384
Marathon High School
building,
14 Hemlo Drive, Suite B
Marathon, ON P0T 2E0
Tel: (807) 229-1820
Fax: (807) 229-3356

RED ROCK

P.O. Box 196
Superior Greenstone District
School Board Learning Centre
46 Salls Street
Suite #2
Red Rock, ON P0T 2P0
Tel: (807) 886-1060
Fax: (807) 886-1096

TERRACE BAY

P.O. Box 1030
19 Hudson Drive, Suite 100
Terrace Bay, ON P0T 2W0
Tel: (807) 825-7770
Fax: (807) 825-7774

TBDHU.COM

November 22, 2021

To: The St. Martin School Community,

This letter is to inform you that, since Friday afternoon, the Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) has been notified of 11 additional cases of COVID-19 associated with the St. Martin School outbreak. This brings the total in the outbreak to 20 cases associated with the school and related settings. These recently identified cases were all considered close contacts of other cases. At this time, six classroom cohorts (including childcare) and six buses have been directly impacted. TBDHU continues to follow-up with all new cases to determine whether further school exposures may have occurred.

At the testing event held on Saturday November 20th, over 180 individuals associated with the school who would be deemed at lower risk of exposure were tested. The results so far are negative for COVID-19 with a small number of results are still pending. Overall, this is good news as it shows that there wasn't broader exposure in the school setting outside of the cohorts currently identified. Thank you to everyone who attended to get testing.

This is a complex school outbreak as indicated by the number and timing of cases, exposures and impacted cohorts. As well, ongoing case finding and follow-up continues. In collaboration, TBDHU, the school and school board have made the decision for the school to remain closed to in-person learning until Monday, November 29th. This was deemed to be the best option to effectively manage and contain the outbreak while ensuring the safety of staff and students.

Further communication will be provided in the days to come.

Sincerely,

Janet DeMille MD, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health
Thunder Bay District Health Unit