



**Thunder Bay District
Health Unit**

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MARATHON

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RED ROCK

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School Board Learning Centre
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TBDHU.COM

April 8, 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 inform you that the letter of instruction dated March 24, 2021 that was issued by me under the *Reopening Ontario Act*, will not be extended. Those instructions were set to expire on April 12, 2021; therefore, I would expect schools to re-open at that time for usual activities including in-person learning and child care programs. This should be done in accordance with all provincial and public health direction.

I strongly recommend the resumption of in-person learning for all ages. The measures you have collectively implemented across all schools since last September have been successful at keeping students and staff safe while in the school setting. As you know, the suspension of in-person learning was done because of the impact the high number of community cases had on schools. In-person learning is vital to the overall health and wellbeing of students and suspending this has detrimental consequences on students and families. TBDHU is committed to working with you to ensure the ongoing safety of students and staff as we continue to navigate this pandemic.

Thank you once again for your ongoing work during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

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