

April 9, 2021

**A Message from Kim Delahunt, President & CEO and Dr. Peter Cino, Chief of Staff & Vice President Medical Affairs**

**Ramp down of elective surgeries and non-emergent/non-urgent acute care activities**

On April 8<sup>th</sup> all hospitals and Primary Care Providers in Ontario received a memo from Matthew Anderson, President & CEO Ontario Health instructing that hospitals (except those in Northern Ontario Health Region and Pediatric Specialty hospitals) begin to ramp down all elective surgeries and non-emergent and non-urgent activities by Monday, April 12, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.

These requests from Ontario Health are in response to an increase in positive COVID-19 case counts and widespread community transmission of the virus provincewide. The goal is to preserve critical care and human resource capacity as we respond to Wave 3 of the pandemic.

We are grateful to our staff and physicians and Dufferin County Paramedics, who continue, daily, to care for our patients. We are fortunate to have such a dedication and expertise. This pandemic has taken its toll on people's resilience. We are committed to supporting our patients, leaders, staff and physicians to stay safe.

We will begin to ramp down all elective surgeries and non-emergency and non-urgent activities and procedures as of Monday, April 12, 12:01 a.m. This includes minor procedures in Ambulatory Care. Emergent and urgent surgeries, such as cancer care will continue, and the hospital's emergency department remains open to see any patient requiring urgent care.

Patients that have upcoming surgeries and appointments at HHCC will be contacted by their surgeons' offices or the hospital, if their surgery, or procedure is cancelled at this time. Patients that have not received a phone call, should proceed to the hospital as scheduled. Please refer to our [COVID-19 page](#) on our website to find out what is open and closed.

These are difficult and challenging times and information is changing rapidly. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work together. As more information becomes available we will share it and we will continue to do what is best for those who work and receive care here.

We are grateful to have even more vaccinations available in our local area and across the province. Our hope is that as many people as possible get vaccinated. If you haven't already rolled up your sleeve, you can schedule your vaccination [here](#).

Please make sure that you are taking full precautions and protect yourself. Please stay safe and remain vigilant. Thank you for your patience and understanding.