## **Media Release**



## Outbreak declared at Kirkland Lake Gold

March 3, 2021 - For immediate release

On March 3, 2021, Dr. Glenn Corneil, Acting Medical Officer of Health and CEO for the Timiskaming Health Unit, declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Kirkland Lake Gold. A workplace outbreak is declared if there are two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases with an epidemiological link in the workplace within a 14-day period where both cases could have reasonably acquired their infection in the workplace.

The outbreak is currently under investigation. Four positive cases have been confirmed. The Timiskaming Health Unit has been working with representatives from Kirkland Lake Gold to ensure all necessary contact tracing is being completed. Kirkland Lake Gold is taking all necessary precautions to reduce the risk of infection and prevent the transmission of COVID-19. Contact tracing is underway and those who have been identified as close contacts have been, or are in the process of being notified.

"Everyone involved in this investigation has provided valuable support," said Dr. Corneil. "COVID-19 can appear quickly in an area at any given time and everyone needs to remain vigilant in order to ensure we do everything we can to reduce the spread."

District residents are reminded to follow public health measures:

- Continue practicing physical distancing
- Wear a mask or face covering in public indoor spaces
- Wash hands with soap and warm water or use alcohol-based sanitizers and do not touch your face
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow
- Avoid gatherings with people outside of your household
- Avoid non-essential travel outside of our district, especially to high transmission areas
- Stay home if you feel sick and contact your local Assessment Centre (AC) to schedule an appointment for testing
- Respect public health and any additional safety measures businesses have put in place
- Reach out to vulnerable people in your community who may need support

For more information on COVID-19, visit www.timiskaminghu.com and the Ontario Coronavirus website.

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