Waypoint continues to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation and implement decisions to help reduce the risk of virus transmission as much as possible for our patients, staff, and community.

During this difficult time we want to assure you the hospital has several measures in place to protect your health and that of your loved one while in our care, and our team remains dedicated to treating everyone with care and respect.

With safety as our top priority, the following measures are currently in place at the hospital:

- **Visitor Restrictions**
  Effective March 17, 2020, all visits to Waypoint were suspended except for compassionate reasons. Compassionate visits will be considered for end of life care or palliative circumstances and must have prior approval. Professional visits including legal counsel or specialist care will continue.

- **Patient Movement Restrictions**
  Effective March 21, 2020, all off-unit movement for patients was suspended. This is to minimize the spread between individuals and across programs and support infection control measures. Patients must remain on their units. The canteens are available with delivery options or staff are able to pick up items for patients. Outdoor secure courtyards are considered part of the unit and outdoor time is still permitted with monitoring of social distancing. The hospital is ensuring opportunities are available to safely provide outdoor time for patients who are on regional programs without outdoor courtyards.

- **Delivery Restrictions**
  Effective March 21, 2020, the hospital suspended all food deliveries for patients and staff from outside vendors, as well as other deliveries to patients, such as Amazon and online shopping outlets, as well as any packages from family members. This is a very difficult decision but helps to minimize entry points for transmission into our buildings and is another important way to reduce the spread of this virus based on how long the virus can live on surfaces such as plastic and cardboard.

**Temporary closure of the Georgianwood Program**
All hospitals are looking at options to reduce non-essential service. Waypoint has made the difficult decision to temporarily suspend the voluntary Georgianwood Program. We understand the important work that occurs on the Georgianwood program and these changes are temporary. The program will resume treatment as soon as possible.

**Social Distancing Reminder and no Loitering**
We’re being told by public health experts that social distancing is one of the most important things we can do to stop the spread of this virus. While this can be difficult when space is
limited, we can get creative. Greeting with a wave, not congregating around the care desk and doing your best to keep apart 6ft or 2 meters

**What precautions and measures does Waypoint have in place?**
Waypoint has routine practices for managing situations such as flu outbreaks. In addition, the hospital has implemented the following additional precautions and measures:

- All admissions are screened for travel history and symptoms of illness.
- Patients are asked to let staff know if they are feeling unwell with any symptoms of illness.
- Appropriate processes and precautions are in place for patients with acute respiratory symptoms or have been in contact with a person who has travelled or is ill, including isolation rooms if necessary.
- Community staff are endeavouring to do as much as possible by telephone and the teams are also exploring other digital alternatives. Screening for travel and any symptoms of illness must be completed before any face to face meeting.
- Visitor restrictions are in place, patient movement and deliveries have been restricted and the Georgianwood Program is temporarily closed.
- Entrances to the hospital have been reduced and screening is taking place for anyone entering the hospital.
- Infection Prevention and Control procedures and practices are robust with ongoing training and support for staff.
- Hand washing stations and clear signage is posted throughout the hospital advising visitor restrictions to keep patients safe.
- Waypoint has adequate personal protective equipment and the necessary facilities to contain spread.
- Enhanced cleaning is in place for busy areas including our entrances and at our community locations.
- The Emergency Response Plan was initiated and includes daily meetings to ensure we are up to date and prepared.

You can take care of yourself and stop the spread by:

- practicing frequent hand washing/using hand sanitizer
- coughing and/or sneezing into your arm or a tissue and not onto your hand
- avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- avoiding close contact with individuals who are sick
- practicing social distancing and staying home if you are ill

If you are looking on-line for information we would encourage you to use reputable websites including the World Health Organization, Health Canada and the Government of Ontario. The Government of Ontario website lists the status of cases in Ontario including confirmed positive and negative cases.

This is a challenging time for everyone. You may be seeing people wearing masks, your routines have changed and activities cancelled. We urge you to speak with your team about your feelings and ask questions so you feel informed.

Information is changing rapidly and we will provide further updates as needed. Up to date information can be found on the website at www.waypointcentre.ca.