

**Mission >>** As a strong and progressive community hospital, we commit to providing high quality and compassionate care in a sustainable manner.

**Vision >>** A trusted community hospital providing exemplary care to you and those you love.

For Immediate Release

## ESHC Emphasizes PPE Requirements Following Outbreak Announcement

March 25, 2022

ESSEX COUNTY – The announcement of an outbreak on an inpatient unit at Erie Shores HealthCare shows the need for continued visitor restrictions and PPE requirements.

The outbreak stems from two patients who tested positive for COVID-19 on March 18, 2022. It's believed those patients were infected by a visitor to the unit who had tested negative on a hospital-administered rapid-antigen test prior to the visit but later tested positive for the virus. The outbreak declared by the Windsor and Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) today is the first at Erie Shores HealthCare since the beginning of the pandemic.

The outbreak is impacting the 2-Centre inpatient unit. Until it is rescinded, visitors will not be permitted on the unit unless it is to visit a patient receiving palliative care.

The decision by WECHU to declare an outbreak emphasizes the need for ongoing visitor restrictions and full PPE use at the hospital. Currently, an inpatient is permitted two visitors, with one allowed at the bedside at a time. All visitors must also pass a rapid-antigen test each day they visit and wear a mask and eye protection in all areas of the hospital. These protections will remain in place to keep our patients and staff safe.

### **ABOUT ERIE SHORES HEALTHCARE**

Erie Shores HealthCare, located in Leamington, Ontario, cares for the residents of Essex County. With over 500 staff, Professional Staff and volunteers, Erie Shores provides an array of specialized acute, complex continuing care, allied and ambulatory care services. For more information about Erie Shores HealthCare, visit [www.erieshoreshealthcare.ca](http://www.erieshoreshealthcare.ca) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.

For media inquiries, please contact:



Kevin Black  
Communications and Public Affairs Specialist  
Erie Shores HealthCare  
519-819-8943 | [kevin.black@eshc.org](mailto:kevin.black@eshc.org)