



Pandemic Pay - All Staff Communication

July 22, 2020

Message on behalf of Tara Gallagher, Director of Human Resources and John Wren Vice-President of Finance and Corporate Services

Dear staff,

On April 24, 2020 the Government of Ontario introduced the COVID-19: Temporary Pandemic Pay aimed at assisting frontline staff experiencing extreme challenges and heightened risk during the COVID-19 outbreak. This government program is designed to support employees who work in congregate care settings or primarily with vulnerable populations, where maintaining physical distancing is difficult or not possible.

On June 22, 2020 and subsequently on July 14, 2020, the Government of Ontario released directions and additional clarity on pandemic pay. Hospitals in the Champlain region have reviewed the eligible employee classifications, as designated by the province, and submitted the necessary paperwork to the government.

To pay eligible employees as soon as possible, and based on receiving the funds from the Ministry, we anticipate that the pandemic pay will be distributed in two installments, one in late August for the first two reporting periods and one in September for the remaining two reporting periods.

We know that there are many frontline staff who have been working very hard throughout the pandemic but have not been included on the list of eligible positions. The Pembroke Regional Hospital and our union partners strongly believe all frontline staff should be included, and we have advocated as a region, and as part of the Ontario Hospital Association. The list of eligible staff and funding is determined by the Government of Ontario.

For more information on eligibility requirements and how payment will be distributed, please refer to the Staff FAQ document that is also included with today's email. If you have further questions about pandemic pay, please email COVID19questions@prh.email.

Thank you for all your hard work during these challenging times.

Tara Gallagher and John Wren