



30

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DEEP RIVER

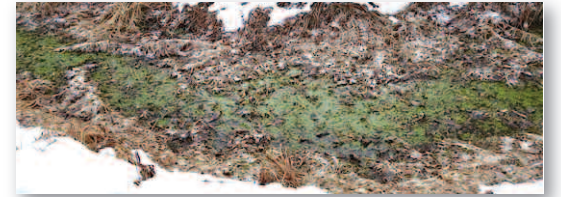


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NORTH RENFREW

TIMES



DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

\$1.50 (HST INCL.)

“Unprecedented times”

BY TERRY MYERS

After building for weeks, concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping the globe hit close to home this week.

With health and travel advisories changing by the day, if not the hour, notices began falling like dominoes as public events and facilities were cancelled and closed.

With health care on the front line, the Deep River and District Hospital announced Sunday that it was stepping up measures to protect patients and residents from the novel coronavirus.

In a statement Friday, the hospital announced that all visitors would be screened before entering the premises. Visiting hours would also be limited to the hours of 10 am to 7 pm.

But by Sunday afternoon, the hospital said it was taking further steps by banning visitors and volunteers from the hospital and Four Seasons Lodge long-term care completely.

“If a resident or patient becomes very ill or requires end-of-life care, arrangements will be made for visiting on a case by case basis,” the hospital said.

“This is an extreme measure; however, these are unprecedented times.

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A notice on the doors at the Deep River and District Hospital notes that all persons entering the building will be subject to screening for COVID-19. The hospital has since moved to ban almost all visitors. On Tuesday, the province announced a state of emergency for Ontario. For details, see page 3.



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