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**For Immediate Release**

**October 1, 2020**

**COVID-19 testing moves to scheduled appointments-only beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Brantford, ON** – Brant Community Healthcare System continues to address increasing demand for COVID-19 testing in the community. To help address high volumes, the COVID-19 Assessment Centre located at the Brantford Civic Centre will no longer be accepting walk-ins. The new process takes effect Friday October 2, 2020.

Moving to booked appointments-only will streamline the testing process so that patients and families can be seen in a timely manner. The goal of this change is to schedule appointments within 24 hours of the request. Currently, the assessment centre operations are accommodating approximately 500 tests each day.

“We want to ensure everyone who needs to be tested for COVID-19 can be served in a timely manner,” said Dr. David McNeil, president and CEO of BCHS. “To be successful, we are moving to scheduled appointments only at the assessment centre.”

The COVID-19 Assessment Centre is located at the Brantford Civic Centre auditorium, 79 Market Street South. Hours are from 8am to 10pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 6pm Saturday and Sunday by appointment only as of Friday, October 2, 2020.

To book an appointment for COVID-19 testing, please send an email to [Covid.assessment@bchsys.org](mailto:Covid.assessment@bchsys.org) with your name and telephone number, or call the hotline at **519-751-5818**. For more information, please visit [www.bchsys.org/en/covid-19.aspx](http://www.bchsys.org/en/covid-19.aspx)

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