

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patient capacity expanded at Lake of the Woods District Hospital Dialysis Unit

Kenora, ON, April 2, 2024 – In early 2021, Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) together with the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation, generous donors and patients celebrated the grand opening of a new Dialysis Unit in Kenora. Previously located on the main floor of the hospital next to the Emergency Department, moving the Unit to the 4th floor was thoughtfully planned and opened the door to expanding patient capacity. In December of 2023 we saw that potential become a reality! Ray Racette, President & CEO explains “It is extremely important for patients, when requiring three dialysis treatments per week to be close to home and with their families. Expanding patient capacity was a priority in our hospital, and has resulted in improved patient access.”

The Dialysis Unit went from six to eight chairs with morning and afternoon treatments, six days per week. This equates to an overall patient capacity from 24 to 32 patients, a 33% increase. The Dialysis program at LWDH continues to run at full capacity as a satellite site of Thunder Bay Regional Health Science Centre. Corinne Coffey, Manager of Ambulatory Services shares “The most important and wonderful part of this expansion is that every one of our patients who was receiving dialysis in Thunder Bay while waiting for a spot closer to home was repatriated back to Kenora.”

In order to accomplish the expansion, nursing support was increased, there are now three nurses on every 12-hour shift in the unit.

Dialysis is a crucial treatment for kidney failure that helps remove unwanted toxins, waste products, and excess fluids from the blood. The 2021 Dialysis Unit upgrades included the purchase of a new Reverse Osmosis (RO) Machine, funded entirely by the generosity of our community through the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation. Proceeds from LWDHF’s first three months of the online 50/50, along with individual donations including the generous contribution of \$100,000 from Norah Marr in her late husband William’s memory, have helped to help to keep exceptional care close to home.

Media Contact:

Charlene Kissick, Brand Management Lead
807-464-1941

ckissick@lwdh.on.ca

www.lwdh.on.ca

