

## Communiqué de presse

## Pour publication immédiate

## Saint-Jérôme regional hospital becomes a designated centre for people with COVID-19 in the Laurentians

Saint-Jérôme, April 7, 2020 – The Ministry of Health and Social Services (MSSS) has identified the Saint-Jérôme regional hospital as a newly designated COVID-19 centre for the Laurentian region. As a result, people testing positive for COVID-19 needing hospitalization can receive care there from now on.

Until very recently, people with COVID-19 from the Laurentians were automatically transferred to a hospital in another region as soon as they required hospitalization. As of now, the Saint-Jérôme regional hospital will be added to the possible options for hospitalization. However, patients testing positive for COVID-19 in need of obstetrical and paediatric care will not be taken to Saint-Jérôme but will be transferred to a center designated for that purpose.

"The hospital has been waiting for the ministry's approval for a while. We have therefore had the time necessary to adequately prepare ourselves. Our staff is ready, and we have a 63-bed section available to provide the care necessary for people who develop complications related to COVID-19. I'm proud of my teams on the ground who are adjusting to all these changes and are mobilizing to take on this situation. Everyone is putting their hearts into it and it is very beautiful to see," said Ms. Rosamonde Landry, présidente-directrice générale of the CISSS des Laurentides.

This designation by the ministry required a lot of preparation on the part of many teams in order to free up the units that will admit people who test positive for COVID-19. Many rooms are now specially set up for maximum reduction of the risk of contagion. Furthermore, strict demarcation of zones within the hospital will make it possible to provide services without putting at risk the units that receive patients for other types of

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