

**To:** All staff and physicians  
**From:** Dr. John Dornan, interim President and CEO  
**Date:** Sept. 30, 2021  
**Re:** **A Thank You From Horizon's CEO**

Eighteen months into the pandemic and we are currently experiencing record breaking numbers of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and outbreaks. Since the beginning of the pandemic there has been constant change across our organization, and while change is not easy, the one constant has been the dedication, drive and commitment of our health care staff and physicians.

You have played, and continue to play, an important role in keeping New Brunswickers safe from COVID-19, and healthy by continuing to provide the health care services they need. Thank you!

On the best of days, being a health care worker isn't easy, and in today's COVID-19 reality, there are additional challenges to overcome. It will get better; brighter days are ahead. Health care is important and essential work and you are living examples of resilience and strength.

The sad fact some people are choosing to take their frustrations out towards health care workers, with protests at health care facilities, and targeted threats and acts of vandalism is disheartening. This is unacceptable and is not representative of how most people feel.

While the daily parades, honking and balcony cheers may have stopped, our health care workers continue to be, and will forever be heroes.

What we're experiencing now is a pandemic of the unvaccinated and our health care system is feeling its effects. There are outbreaks across the province, in our hospitals, nursing homes, schools and shelters. But our staff and physicians continue to show up to work, show up for their patients, their communities and each other.

I've heard many inspiring stories of our staff giving it their all. Our assessment centres continue to reach new records for testing every day. Our vaccination clinics are available early mornings and evenings, in communities, big and small, across the province to ensure people have the opportunity to be vaccinated.

Horizon's mental health teams provide support to patients and staff during outbreaks across the province. COVID-19 affects not only a person's physical health, but mental health as well.

Every day, every shift, staff in ALL areas of Horizon are stepping up to ensure patients and clients receive quality care and feel safe in our facilities.

On behalf of Horizon's Executive Leadership Team, I celebrate the work you are doing, and I encourage you to congratulate your colleagues on a job well done and thank each other for the continued support.

With your collaboration and dedication, I am confident we will get through the fourth wave as a stronger organization. I am grateful Horizon has such a dedicated team.

Sincerely,  
Dr. John Dornan  
Interim President and CEO