

## **Aréna Cartier to become a non-traditional care site for COVID-19 patients**

**Laval, September 24, 2020** – The Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux (CISSS) de Laval, in collaboration with the Ville de Laval, will open a new non-traditional site (NTS) to care for COVID-19 patients at the Aréna Cartier in three weeks.

Laval is currently on orange alert, and COVID-19 cases are continuing to rise in the region. To prepare for a second wave of COVID-19, the Ville de Laval and the CISSS de Laval are taking the responsibility to collaborate on this project so that they are ready to meet the needs of Laval residents.

### **Goals of the NTS**

- Provide quality care and services to clients with COVID-19 (hot zone).
- Group patients with COVID-19 who require health care but who no longer need to be hospitalized at the Hôpital de la Cité-de-la-Santé or the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital.
- Concentrate health professionals at one site to limit their travel to provide care for these clients.

### **Work ongoing**

The Ville de Laval and the CISSS de Laval are currently working together to set up the site. It will take three weeks to set it up, install the equipment, create space for staff, and bring the site up to standard to receive patients. Once the work is complete, patients will be gradually admitted according to different criteria.

The Ville de Laval and the CISSS de Laval studied a number of options to determine which location could be used as an NTS. The Aréna Cartier is a strategic choice, as the use of the site will also limit the cancellations of sports and leisure activities.

“We would like to thank the sports and leisure associations for their understanding and cooperation. Transforming the arena into a temporary care facility would not be possible without the help of the Ville de Laval, and we thank them very much for their support,” said Chantal Friset, Associate President and CEO of the CISSS de Laval.

“This is a responsible decision by the CISSS de Laval and the Ville de Laval to ensure they are ready to meet the needs of Laval residents given the ongoing pandemic and the rise in cases in the territory. We want to protect our population,” said Laval Mayor Marc Demers.

The public should know that all necessary measures will be taken to ensure compliance with the standards of the Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST), infection prevention and control, and fire prevention and that patient comfort will be an essential priority.

## About the CISSS de Laval

The CISSS de Laval is fully dedicated to learning, innovating and excelling in order to offer residents of Laval and surrounding areas a full range of integrated, quality health and social services accessible to all. Its human capital includes over 10,000 employees and doctors working in 32 facilities, including the Hôpital de la Cité- de-la-Santé, the Jewish Rehabilitation Hospital, the Centre de services ambulatoires de Laval, six CLSCs, five residential centres, the Centre de protection de l'enfance et de la jeunesse de Laval, the Centre de réadaptation en dépendance de Laval and the Centre de réadaptation en déficience intellectuelle et troubles envahissants du développement de Laval. The CISSS de Laval is a research and teaching facility affiliated to Université de Montréal and McGill University. For more information about the CISSS de Laval and the services offered in its facilities, go to [www.lavalensante.com](http://www.lavalensante.com).

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