

Pembroke Regional Hospital

MEMO

To: All Staff & Physicians
From: Occupational Health & Safety
Date: 2024 April 5th
Subject: Solar Eclipse April 8th

As you are undoubtedly aware, an almost total solar eclipse will occur in the Renfrew County region on Monday, April 8, 2024, at approximately 3:25 p.m. While the eclipse promises to be a spectacular event, you must take precautions to keep yourself safe.

The following are important safety tips provided by the [Canadian Space Agency](#) and [Renfrew County and District Health Unit](#) (RCDHU).

Eye Protection: It is never safe to look directly at the sun without certified eye protection, especially during a solar eclipse. Viewing the eclipse without protection can result in severe eye damage or permanent blindness. To observe the eclipse safely, you will need [ISO 12312-2](#) certified solar viewing glasses or a certified handheld solar viewer. See [here](#) for a list of safe solar lens suppliers.

Indirect Viewing Methods: You should consider using a safe indirect eclipse viewing method. This can include creating a [solar eclipse projector box](#).

Stay Informed: Be mindful of any safety advisories issued by [RCDHU](#) and use reliable sources of information regarding the [timing and duration of the eclipse](#).

Road Safety: As some of us may be on the road at this time, here are some safe driving tips from [RCDHU](#).

While at the hospital, please keep yourself and your patients protected. Units that have rooms facing the sun should close blinds to protect patients. Don't look at the sun unless you have approved eye protection or a viewing box. Set TVs to a station such as CBC or stream live.

So, whatever you do or wherever you are, follow the above tips, be safe, and enjoy this event!