



**Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak at Arbutus Long Term Care Home – Vancouver
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

August 31, 2021

Vancouver Coastal Health declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Arbutus Long Term Care Home in Vancouver on August 30 after a resident tested positive for COVID-19. The resident is in isolation in the home. At the direction of public health, all residents on the affected unit have been tested. Staff are also being tested.

We are working very closely with Public Health officials and are following strict pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. All residents are monitored three times daily for symptoms.

All staff are screened at the beginning of their shifts. All staff are required to wear an appropriate mask and eye protection in the home as directed by public health.

Enhanced cleaning is being done at Arbutus. We frequently disinfect high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, common areas and staff rooms.

At the direction of Public Health, all residents on the affected unit are to remain in their rooms at all times. Individual recreation activities will be continued to maintain social engagement during this period of isolation.

Most Arbutus residents who consented to and are able to be vaccinated have now received both doses. Most staff are also fully vaccinated. Vaccinations for the remaining residents and staff are ongoing.

We have informed the residents, their families and the staff of the status of the outbreak. At the direction of Public Health, general visits to the affected unit are cancelled temporarily, essential visits for palliative residents will be permitted.

We recognize how difficult these measures are for residents and their families. We appreciate the patience and understanding of families as we put these precautions in place for the safety of the residents.

Revera continues to do everything we can to keep our residents and employees safe as we work to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at our long term care homes and retirement residences.