

**Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak Update at Ridgeview Long Term Care Home – Stoney Creek, ON**

**- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

December 17, 2020

Hamilton Public Health Services declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Ridgeview Long Term Care Home in Stoney Creek on December 11 after one staff member tested positive for COVID-19. The staff member is in self-isolation at home. All residents have been swabbed at the direction of Public Health. All staff were swabbed on December 9 as part of frequent staff surveillance testing.

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

All staff are screened at the beginning and end of their shifts and are being cohorted to work in assigned resident areas. All staff are required to wear an appropriate mask and eye protection in the home.

Enhanced cleaning is being done at Ridgeview. We are frequently disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, resident rooms, common areas and staff rooms.

All residents in the affected home area are being asked to remain in their rooms at all times. Individual recreation activities will be continued to maintain social engagement during this period of isolation.

We have informed the residents, their families and the staff of the status of the outbreak. At the direction of Public Health, all visits are cancelled temporarily. Essential caregiver visits and 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.