



**Media Statement – Update on outbreak at Briarfield Gardens Retirement Residence –  
Kitchener**

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

January 8, 2021

Since Region of Waterloo Public Health declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Briarfield Gardens Retirement Residence on December 28, we have received confirmation that one resident and two staff members tested positive for COVID-19. The resident has recovered, and the staff members are in self-isolation at home.

We continue to work closely with Region of Waterloo Public Health officials and are following our pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. Residents are isolated in their rooms and monitored for symptoms twice daily. All staff are screened at the beginning and end of their shifts and are required to wear a surgical mask and eye protection in the residence at all times.

We are doing enhanced cleaning at Briarfield Gardens, disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, resident rooms, common areas and staff rooms frequently.

To promote physical distancing, residents are being served meals in their rooms. Group recreation programming has been replaced by one-on-one activities with residents for social engagement.

We have informed residents, their families and the staff of the status of the outbreak. Visits have been cancelled during the outbreak, except for essential visitors. We appreciate the patience and understanding of our residents and their families as we take these precautions. After the outbreak is resolved, we will notify families as soon as we are able to resume visits.

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 retirement residences and long term care homes.