



**Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak at Brierwood Gardens Long Term Care Home –  
Brantford**

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

January 4, 2021

Brant County Health Unit declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Brierwood Gardens Long Term Care Home in Brantford on January 3rd after one staff member tested positive for COVID-19. The staff member is in self-isolation at home. All residents on the affected wing have been tested at the direction of Public Health. Staff are being tested today as a part of ongoing surveillance testing. This outbreak does not involve the retirement residence.

We are working very closely with Public Health officials and are following strict 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 Brierwood Gardens. We frequently disinfect high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, common areas and staff rooms. Resident rooms are cleaned daily.

At the direction of Public Health, all residents of the long term care home are to remain in their rooms at all times. Residents who received care from the affected staff member have been placed on contact/droplet precautions. 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. Although general visits are suspended while the province is in lockdown, visits from essential caregivers 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.