



**Media Statement – Update on Columbia Forest Long Term Care Home – Waterloo
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

July 13, 2021

Region of Waterloo Public Health has confirmed that two residents of Columbia Forest Long Term Care Home in Waterloo have tested positive for COVID-19 since the outbreak began on July 2. We regret to confirm that one resident has passed away with COVID-19 during the outbreak. The team at Columbia Forest offers its most sincere condolences to the families and friends of the resident who passed away.

At the direction of public health, all residents in the affected home area and all staff members were tested. All results have returned negative.

We are working closely with Waterloo Public Health officials and are maintaining pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. We are doing enhanced cleaning at Columbia Forest frequently disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, common areas and staff rooms.

All residents are monitored closely for symptoms twice daily and are tested if they present any potential signs or symptoms of the virus.

Staff are screened at the beginning of their shifts. All staff are required to wear an appropriate mask and eye protection while in the home.

All residents in the home have been asked to self-isolate in their rooms. Meals are served in resident rooms with supervision and assistance as required. To maintain stimulation and social engagement during this period of isolation, individual recreation activities continue.

All Columbia Forest residents who consented to and are able to be vaccinated have now received both doses. Vaccinations for staff are ongoing.

We are regularly updating residents, their families and staff on the status of the outbreak. Although general visits are suspended on the affected unit due to the outbreak, visits from essential caregivers and essential visits for palliative residents will be permitted.

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.