



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

July 23, 2020

We received confirmation on July 23 that one staff member of Columbia Forest Long Term Care Home in Waterloo tested positive for COVID-19 and an outbreak has been declared by Region of Waterloo Public Health. The staff member who tested positive is in self-isolation at home.

We are working closely with Region of Waterloo Public Health and are following pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. All residents are monitored closely for symptoms and all staff are screened at the beginning and end of their shifts. All staff are required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) in the home at all times.

We are doing enhanced cleaning at Columbia Forest including disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, resident rooms, common areas, and staff rooms more frequently.

We have adjusted our mealtime and recreation activities to promote physical distancing. All residents in isolation are served meals in their rooms. We have structured our dining service to maximize physical distancing during mealtime while allowing the staff to provide supervision and assistance as required. Group recreation programs have been replaced by one-on-one activities to maintain social engagement.

We have informed residents, their families and the staff of the status of the outbreak. We will continue to reach out to all families of residents as often as possible to provide updates on their loved ones during this time of physical isolation.

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.