



## **Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak at Heritage Lodge Retirement Residence – Vankleek Hill**

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

March 28, 2021

Eastern Ontario Health declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Heritage Lodge Retirement Residence in Vankleek Hill on March 28 after one staff member tested positive for COVID-19. The staff member is in self-isolation at home. All residents will be tested between today, March 28, and tomorrow March 29.

We are working very closely with Eastern Ontario 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 Heritage Lodge. We frequently disinfect high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, common areas and staff rooms.

At the direction of Public Health, all residents are to remain in their rooms at all times. Individual recreation activities will be continued to maintain social engagement during this period of isolation.

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

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 retirement residences and long term care homes.