



**Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak at Portobello Retirement Residence – Orleans
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

March 19, 2021

Ottawa Public Health has declared an outbreak at Portobello retirement residence after one staff member tested positive for COVID-19. The staff member is in self-isolation at home. Residents and staff members are being tested in consultation with Ottawa Public Health.

We are working closely with Ottawa Public Health officials to implement 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 Portobello, disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, 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 Group recreation programming has been replaced by one-on-one activities with residents for social engagement.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 caregivers. 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.

Residents of Portobello who have consented, and are able to be vaccinated, have received their second dose. Staff vaccinations are also underway.

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.