



**Media Statement – Update on outbreak at Forest Heights Long Term Care Home – Kitchener  
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

May 26, 2021

Region of Waterloo Public Health declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Forest Heights Long Term Care Home in Kitchener May 9 after one resident tested positive for COVID-19. The home had previously been placed into suspect outbreak on April 30 due to a staff member testing positive.

During this outbreak, two residents and four staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. Both resident cases have since resolved. Two staff cases have also resolved, and the remaining two staff members are at home in isolation.

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 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 Forest Heights. We frequently disinfect high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, common areas and staff rooms.

At the direction of Public Health, all residents Gibbon home area are to remain in their rooms at all times under contact and droplet precautions. Individual recreation activities will be continued to maintain social engagement during this period of isolation.

All Forest Heights residents who consented to and were able to be vaccinated have now received their second dose. Staff vaccinations are also ongoing.

We are regularly updating residents, their families and staff on the status of the outbreak. General visits remain suspended for Gibbon home area, however visits from essential caregivers and essential visits for palliative residents will be permitted. Outdoor general visits for all other home areas are 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.