



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

April 23, 2020

The Government of Ontario updated testing guidelines for COVID-19 to allow for testing of whole home areas of long term care homes, at the discretion of local public health authorities, in cases where there is a declared outbreak of COVID-19 among residents or staff members.

Ottawa Public Health recommended this approach for Montfort Long Term Care Home after a staff member tested positive on April 7. As of April 22, the testing has confirmed that 44 residents and 15 staff members are positive for COVID-19.

We are very sad to confirm that we have had 11 residents pass away with COVID-19. Those residents passed away between April 13 and 21 and were confirmed to have COVID-19. We offer our most sincere condolences to the families and friends of the people we have lost to this pandemic.

We continue to monitor all residents for symptoms, including fever, twice daily. The staff members who tested positive are at home in self-isolation. We continue to screen all staff for symptoms at the beginning and end of their shifts.

We would like to thank Ottawa Public Health and Hôpital Montfort for their proactive approach to testing and the Ottawa Community Paramedicine Program for administering the tests. Knowing which residents have tested positive is helping us to better isolate, monitor and care for the affected residents.

We know this is a very stressful time for residents, family members and staff at Montfort. We are doing everything we can to contain the outbreak, working closely with Ottawa Public Health experts to implement outbreak protocols and infection prevention practices.

All staff providing care for residents in isolation (positive for COVID-19 or with respiratory symptoms) wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) which includes a mask, face shield, gloves and gown. All other staff in the home have been directed to wear surgical masks at all times.

We continue to update residents' families via email and phone, and are prioritizing those who are in isolation or have experienced a change in condition.

Revera continues to do everything we can to keep our residents and employees safe as we work to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 at our long term care homes and retirement residences.