



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

May 2, 2020

To date, we have received confirmation that 68 residents of Mackenzie Place Long Term Care Home in Newmarket have tested positive for COVID-19. The total increased by 12 this week as a result of the re-swabbing of residents who had previously tested negative. Knowing which residents are positive, even when they have no symptoms, helps us better plan their care. All residents in the home are in isolation.

We are saddened to confirm the passing of one resident in the past 24 hours, which means that we have lost 10 people to this virus at the home. This is heartbreaking for the families and the team at Mackenzie Place extends our deepest condolences to them.

We also did mandatory testing of all staff last week and have not identified any new cases to date, so the total positive cases remains 21 employees. The staff who tested positive are in self-isolation at home.

To help support us in our efforts to manage the outbreak, our partners at Southlake Regional Health Centre will be deploying several employees next week to assist at Mackenzie Place. Although the home has been fully staffed since the beginning of the outbreak, this extra help from Southlake in dealing with the demands of the pandemic is very much appreciated. We are very proud of our dedicated employees, who have been going above and beyond and working long hours, sometimes seven days a week, to care for our residents.

We continue to work closely with York Region Public Health and are following strict infection control practices. Staff providing care for residents in isolation (positive or symptomatic) must wear full personal protective equipment (PPE) which includes a mask, face shield, gloves and gown. Staff have been directed to wear a surgical mask in the home at all times.

We continue to do enhanced cleaning at Mackenzie Place, disinfecting high touch areas like doors and handrails, common areas, resident rooms and staff rooms more frequently.

To promote physical distancing, residents are being served their meals in their rooms. Group recreation programming has been replaced by one-on-one activities with residents for social engagement.

We are reaching 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.