



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

April 14, 2020

Last week, the Government of Ontario updated their testing guidelines for COVID-19. Going forward, testing of whole home areas of long term care homes in the province may be done in cases where a single resident or staff member at a long term care home has tested positive for COVID-19.

This new guideline was applied to Montfort Long Term Care Home by Ottawa Public Health, where a staff member tested positive last week. When some residents in a home area began to present symptoms of respiratory illness, all 32 residents of the home area were tested, as well as a couple others who were showing respiratory illness symptoms. The results came in on April 12 and confirmed that 24 residents tested positive, one-third of whom were asymptomatic at the time of being swabbed. Seven of the residents tested negative. We continue to monitor all residents for symptoms, including fever, twice daily. Three staff members have now also tested positive and are at home in isolation. We continue to screen all staff for symptoms at the beginning and end of their shifts.

We are grateful to Ottawa Public Health for their proactive approach to testing. We would also like to thank the paramedics from the Ottawa Community Paramedicine Program for coming in to administer the tests. Knowing which residents have tested positive, and in which areas of the home they live, puts us in better position to isolate affected residents and provide them with appropriate care and support. All residents who have tested positive are in isolation.

We know this is a very frightening time for anyone who has a family member living at Montfort. We are singularly focused on doing everything we can to contain this outbreak. We are working closely with public health experts to implement and comply with their directives, and we are very grateful for their support.

All staff providing care for residents in isolation (positive for COVID-19 or with respiratory symptoms) must wear full 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.