



**Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak at Forest Heights Long Term Care Home – Kitchener  
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

November 5, 2020

Region of Waterloo Public Health declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Forest Heights Long Term Care Home in Kitchener on November 5 after a staff member tested positive for COVID-19 as a result of staff surveillance testing. The staff member is in self-isolation at home.

We are working very closely with Public Health officials and are following pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. All residents are monitored twice daily for symptoms.

All staff are screened at the beginning and end 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 are frequently disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, resident rooms, common areas and staff rooms.

At the direction of Public Health, all residents on the third floor are isolated to their units with contact and droplet precautions in place. One on one recreation activities will be continued to maintain social engagement during this period of isolation.

We have informed the residents, their families and the staff of the status of the outbreak. At the direction of Public Health, all indoor and outdoor visits are cancelled temporarily. Essential caregiver visits and essential visits for palliative residents will be permitted.

We recognize how difficult these measures are for residents and their families. We appreciate the patience and understanding of families as we put these precautions in place for the safety of the residents.

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.