



First Resident Death from COVID-19 at The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre

Friday, April 24, 2020 – Ottawa, Ontario

It is with profound sadness that The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre shares news of the passing of a community member resident from complications related to the COVID-19 virus. We have extended condolences to the family and friends of the resident. We are working with our Family and Friends Council and the Residents' Council to provide what comfort we are able.

The deceased was a resident on Ottawa 1 East. A total of nine residents have tested positive for COVID-19. Six residents living on the Gatineau 2 South unit tested positive for COVID-19, although all were asymptomatic. The positive results were identified as part of a facility-wide testing campaign for 407 residents and 850 staff. Residents who test positive for COVID-19 are transferred to a 20-bed isolation unit.

As guided by the Ontario Ministry of Health, the Perley Rideau declared a facility-wide outbreak on April 15th, following the first positive test received by a staff member. On April 18th, an aggressive precautionary testing regime was implemented for all residents and staff. To date, there have been 424 resident tests and 836 staff tests for COVID-19. In total, 16 staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. All remain at home in isolation with mild symptoms. We wish them a rapid recovery and thank them for their dedication. We look forward to their return.

Perley Rideau continues to maintain open and transparent communications with staff, residents and families.

Several measures have been taken to protect residents and staff, including:

- 1 Ongoing testing for COVID-19 for residents and staff;
- 2 Mandatory procedural face masks for all staff;
- 3 Contact tracing for all individuals testing positive;
- 4 Twice-daily active screening of residents and staff;
- 5 Additional housekeeping support;
- 6 Restricted staff movement between buildings and on units; and
- 7 Publication of details of our pandemic planning and actions.

"We are heartbroken by the passing of one of our residents. Please rest assured of our relentless efforts to prevent further spread of this virus in our community," says CEO Akos Hoffer. "The unwavering commitment and compassion of our team will help us through this."

The Incident Command Team gathers daily to address this pandemic and new challenges as they arise.

Family members of our residents should direct their questions to their loved one's Care Manager.

Others questions may be directed to Jay Innes, Director of Communications, via Telephone: (613) 526-7170, ext.2207 or Email: info@prvhc.com.

The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre is one of the largest and most progressive long-term care homes in Ontario. In addition to the 450 long-term and short-stay care beds for Veterans and members of the public, the Perley Rideau campus includes a Seniors Village with independent-living apartments for 200 seniors. It employs a staff of more than 850.

Jay Innes,

Communications Director

The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre

613-526-7171 ext. 2207 | Cell: 613-608-3497

jinnes@prvhc.com

-30-