



Preparing for Outdoor Resident Visits at The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre

June 23, 2020 – Ottawa, Ontario

There is no change to the status of the outbreak at the Perley Rideau from June 22nd. One Veteran resident is receiving enhanced care on the COVID-19 isolation unit and four staff members who tested positive for the virus are following the required safety protocols.

Following the guidance for the resumption of visits published recently by Ministry of Long-Term Care, the Perley Rideau is committed to provide every resident with an outdoor 30-minute visit each week. The Ministry's document defines a visitor "as any family member, close friend or neighbor."

The Ministry document can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3e1n7VK>

The baseline for a long-term care home to accept visitors requires that a home not be on outbreak. The Perley Rideau is on a facility-wide outbreak.

Due to the current outbreak, the earliest possible start date for outdoor visits is Tuesday, June 30. Visits will be scheduled seven days/week in three blocks of time:

- 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- 1:00 PM – 4:45 PM (with a 30-minute break over staff shift change)
- 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

These visits will be conducted in the courtyard adjacent to the Main Entrance atrium. The doors from Lupton Hall open into the courtyard.

For visitors, the courtyard will be accessed through a gate in the wooden fence that spans the Main Entrance and the Rideau Building.

At this gate, visitor screening will be conducted in accordance with Ministry guidelines (more details to follow in the days ahead).

In the courtyard, fences will be installed to direct walking traffic and support safe physical distancing.

In the courtyard, visiting stations will be created so that residents and visitors can maintain safe physical distancing.

Our teams are currently working on a draft schedule, based on individual resident needs and routines.

Individuals serving as the Power of Attorney will be the single point of contact for scheduling purposes. This individual will be contacted by a member of the Perley Rideau team by phone to communicate the resident's assigned visiting slot day and time.

We will accept requests to change the assigned visiting slot but may not be able to accommodate all requests immediately.

It is up to each resident's family and friends to determine the individual to be the designated visitor. It can be a different visitor each week, so long as that individual has successfully passed all screening requirements.

More information will be available later this week regarding setup of the outdoor visiting area and what to expect during the visit.

Essential visitors – those who have a resident who is very ill and dying -- are still permitted to visit, as has been the case throughout this pandemic. Staff engage these essential visitors directly and make all necessary arrangements to support a safe visit.

**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 care beds for Veterans and members of the public, the Perley Rideau campus includes a Seniors Village with 139 independent-living apartments. It employs a staff of more than 850.