



## Three Staff Members Test Positive for COVID-19 at The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre

May 3, 2020 – Ottawa, Ontario  
(as of 9 am)

In the past 24 hours, three staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, 33 staff members have contracted the virus.

The three staff members include two PSWs from Gatineau 2 South and an Allied Health staff member working on Ottawa 2 East.

All staff members testing positive for the virus are self-isolating at home. The entire Perley Rideau community is rallying behind our team. We wish everyone a speedy and full recovery.

In the past 24 hours, no resident has tested positive for COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, 20 residents have contracted the virus and six residents have passed away. Not all of the deaths have been attributed to COVID-19. There are 14 residents being cared for on the isolation unit in the Ottawa building.

As part of a combined aggressive surveillance regime, there have been more than 1670 COVID-19 tests on residents and staff.

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 for the virus;
4. Twice-daily active screening of residents and staff;
5. Additional housekeeping support;
6. Restricted staff movement between buildings and on units;
7. Meal helpers have been hired for every unit in the home to support with meals, nourishment passes, and other duties. Each unit has been assigned a team.
8. Housekeeping staff have increased cleaning across all home units to 16 hours a day.
9. To assist with PSW workload demands, weekly bathing schedules have been adapted to provide first bath/shower of the week, however the second bath/shower will only be completed as needed.

The Command Centre Team is addressing this pandemic, adapting plans and confronting new challenges as they arise.

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

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