

Renovations Continue in Rideau Veterans Residence Secure unit for Veterans established on Rideau 1 North

December 8, 2022 – Ottawa, ON

- Following a pause to gather additional expert feedback and to update the unit's design for improved resident safety, renovations on the Rideau 1 North (R1N) unit will resume on December 12th, 2022.
- Consultation with the psychogeriatric resource team and other unit staff resulted in design changes to bring the nursing station into the unit and the construction of a wall near the unit's entrance.
- The team identified an opportunity to improve the staff and resident experience on the unit including relocating the nursing station inside the unit, closer to the popular resident activity room and to better monitor residents prone to wandering.
- Earlier this year, renovations were started to establish a secure unit specifically for Veterans living in the Rideau Veterans Residence.
- Among the renovations are changes to the door controls, to provide secure access.
- Areas that are under construction will continue to be well marked and signage on the unit is intended to keep everyone safe and informed.
- The work is expected to last approximately two to three months.
- Residents and members of the Perley Health community will be frequently updated and informed if any delays are encountered.
- Veteran residents who would have qualified to move to the new secure unit, but choose not to be re-located, will continue to be accommodated on the secure unit of Gatineau 1 North.
- View a map of Perley Health: <https://www.PerleyHealth.ca/essential-information>

These improvements are made possible, in part, thanks to generous donor support to the Perley Health Foundation.

Background

- There is a need for more secure beds as the incidence of adults living with dementia increases.
- The terms 'wandering/exit seeking/elopement' is often associated with residents living with dementia and these residents require the safety of a secure unit.
- Residents that require the secure unit will be able to exit the unit with supervision or support.
- Independent residents living on the unit will receive a FOB to swipe at the pad near the door, unlocking the door to provide free movement throughout Perley Health.
- Access to the courtyard will remain the same for the Rideau 1 North residents.
- The Gatineau secure unit (Gatineau 1 North), that provides care to Seniors and Veterans, will transition to become a secure unit for members of the community.

For questions, please contact Samantha Diceman, Manager of Resident Care, at ext. 2113 or Rachel de Kemp, Director of Nursing, at ext. 2414.