



May 7, 2020

UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello, today we are looking forward to the Canadian Snowbird flyover this afternoon. Unfortunately, it will be near dinner time so our evening staff and residents will be limited in being able to see them, but I am sure we will hear them!

The signs of spring are appearing, including the first day of our landscaping crew here to start the spring clean!

Today we have no new positive results! We continue to do swabs for any residents with symptoms and are always awaiting test results. At this time, we know that in total nine residents and three staff have had positive test results.

There have been some questions about how long an outbreak lasts. Public Health has informed us that an outbreak is over 15 days after the last date of a positive test swab being done. As an example, if a resident was tested on Feb. 10 and found to be positive, the outbreak would be declared over on Feb. 25, if there were no residents with symptoms on that home area.

The other frequent question we are hearing is when will further testing be done. Testing is done for all residents or staff who have symptoms. The process is that when we identify a resident with any symptom, they are placed in isolation and all of the necessary PPE requirements are put into place. We then call Public Health to provide a test kit. Once that is delivered we perform the swab, and send it to the lab for processing. We do not have a supply of swabs to perform testing, as this is managed through Ottawa Public Health.

Any staff member with symptoms is directed to a testing centre for the completion of the testing and are off until we receive the negative test result.

Provincially LTC homes are in the process of having surveillance testing done, which was done at St. Pat's on Saturday, May 2. I have not heard of any provincial plan to complete additional surveillance testing. This may be in development but it has not been announced. We will keep you informed if we hear any information on that matter.

We miss all of you and hope that you are all well while you care from a distance,

Janet Morris
President & CEO