



November 24, 2021

## **UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Hello, we have received another positive result of Covid19 from a vaccinated staff member. The staff member last worked on Nov. 20 and had a negative PCR test the day before. Unfortunately they did develop some symptoms later on the 20<sup>th</sup> and upon re-testing was found to be positive. Testing is one of the strategies for infection prevention and control but this alone is not the key to containing spread, as the detection of the virus on the swab will vary depending on the stage of incubation of the virus. Identifying potential contacts and good hand hygiene, proper use of PPE and maintaining a 2 metre distance when not providing care are a few of the tools in containing any spread.

Those residents who had contact with the staff member will now be on isolation and retested on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> to Dec.1<sup>st</sup>.

The results from the resident testing completed on Monday have all come back negative.

### **How does Ottawa Public Health determine who is on isolation and when they are no longer required to isolate?**

Ottawa Public Health (OPH) guidance is that when a resident has a close contact with a positive case, meaning someone who provides direct care including a staff member or a visitor, that resident will be placed in isolation. The resident will be tested as soon as possible and then retested in approximately 7-10 days. If all of the test results are negative the resident can be out of isolation on the 11<sup>th</sup> day after contact as long as they do not have any symptoms.

OPH is considering each case individually so some of the residents will be out of isolation earlier than others, rather than grouping all of the residents together in a single group. This is a much more humane and practical approach to dealing with the outbreak.

The next planned update will be on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021.

Be safe and take care,

***Janet Morris***  
President and CEO