



January 5, 2022

UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello, unfortunately we had 3 additional staff test positive on rapid tests. These staff had worked on Kilkenny and Dublin. There are additional residents on these home areas who are now in isolation. The families of the residents affected by this will be contacted directly.

We are experiencing significant delays in receiving results from PCR tests with results ranging from 5-10 days. We have been in touch with the public health lab to identify this concern however they are overwhelmed at this time. We have been told that any positive result will be communicated immediately but there is a delay in receiving negative results.

Mobile RN and RPN Telephone Technical Issues

There have been some challenges with our mobile telephone system and I know that this has been frustrating for staff and families. We had an IT support company review the system and they will be making some modifications to try and address these sporadic technical disruptions. I have also asked that voicemail be added to the care centre telephones to provide an option for leaving a voicemail message. As soon as these are implemented by the IT support company we will let you know.

Staffing

In the fall of 2021 we received notice of additional funding for additional staffing to move toward the provincial average of 4 hours of care by 2024/25. This new funding will allow us to increase hours for a variety of roles within the home.

As a unionized employer, we posted a number of new positions based on this new funding in November. Staff, based upon seniority, have won these new positions. In many cases staff who applied and won these new positions will have increased hours or have won a position which is on a different shift which fits better with their home life. St. Pat's is not reassigning staff randomly but staff may move based upon the staff being awarded a new position as per the collective agreement's job posting process.

The staff who have new full time positions or a better schedule for their home life are eager to start these positions and we all look forward to increased hours on the home areas. We recognize that there will be some changes and disruption when the staff move to their new positions, but we believe after some settling it will be a more stable situation overall. These changes will occur for the start of the pay period of January 8, 2022 and I know that everyone will welcome these new members to the team.

Stay safe and be well,

Janet Morris

President and CEO