

Riverside COVID Response Update
Rainycrest Outbreak Declared Over and New Visitor Restrictions

A COVID-19 outbreak at Rainycrest Long Term Care Home has been declared over by the Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU). The outbreak was originally declared on February 27, 2021, by the NWHU after two (2) staff members at the Home tested positive through surveillance testing. These asymptomatic staff members were immediately re-tested and both returned negative COVID-19 PCR test results. The NWHU identified that these staff members were not active cases.

Testing of all residents and staff in the Home has occurred.

Vaccination clinics for residents, staff, and essential caregivers will be occurring this week, commencing Tuesday, March 2, 2021, while visiting and short term leaves will resume Wednesday, March 3, 2021. We continue to ask everyone for their understanding and cooperation as it relates to current visitor restrictions and testing protocols. Our focus continues to be on providing the high-quality care that our residents and families expect from us while following all guidelines of the Ministry of Long Term Care and Public Health directives to ensure everyone's safety.

Effective immediately, and until further notice, anyone who has travelled outside of the Rainy River district, with the exception of Nestor Falls or Onigaming, is subject to new restrictions prior to entering any Riverside facility. For long-term care, all Visitors who have travelled outside of the Rainy River district, with the exception of Nestor Falls or Onigaming in the past 7-days will now be required to isolate for 7-days prior to visiting, with proof of a negative COVID-19 test. For LaVerendrye General Hospital, these visitors require 14-days of isolation prior to visiting. Exceptions may be made for palliative patients on a case-by-case basis. Visitors who have travelled outside of Canada remain subject to a 14-day isolation prior to visiting. All visitation protocols remain in place and require strict adherence. Virtual visits remain available with our long-term care residents and acute in-patients when in-person visiting is not safe or limited.

“The decision to implement new travel restrictions across our organization was made after careful consideration, and we ask for your understanding as we navigate these changes.” said Riverside Executive Vice President, Clinical Services & CNE, Julie Loveday. “With the increase of cases in the region, we will continue to take the necessary steps to keep our residents, patients, clients and staff safe. We remind everyone to practice proper hand hygiene, wear a mask when out in public, practice physical distancing and if you are ill or feeling sick please stay home. We're counting on the community to help slow the spread of COVID-19.”

Henry Gauthier, President & Chief Executive Officer, added, “At Riverside, our team is remaining vigilant, recognizing that a highly proactive approach is central to mitigating the risk of COVID-19. The care and safety of our patients, residents, clients, families and the public are top priority. We thank the community for your unwavering support and commitment to the Riverside team during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

###

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Henry Gauthier
President & Chief Executive Officer
Riverside Health Care

Julie Loveday
Executive Vice President, Clinical Services & CNE
Riverside Health Care

Reference:

Kathryn Pierroz - Communications Coordinator, Riverside Health Care, 807-274-3261 ext. 4525

Riverside Health Care is a fully accredited multi-site, multi-function health care system serving the residents of the Rainy River District. Riverside Health Care operates hospitals in Fort Frances, Emo and Rainy River, and Rainycrest Long-Term Care Home and La Verendrye Non Profit Supportive Housing in Fort Frances. Each community is also served by Riverside Community Counselling which provides mental health and addictions services, Community Support Services through Rainycrest and Riverside Valley Diabetes Education Centre which provides important chronic disease management programming. For more information, please visit riversidehealthcare.ca