

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 25, 2021

Respiratory Outbreak Declared at Rainycrest

Riverside Health Care in conjunction with the Northwestern Public Health Unit has declared a Respiratory Outbreak at Rainycrest Long Term Care Home.

Visitor restrictions have been added to permit ONLY palliative visitors to the Home at this time. In addition, all admissions, transfers, discharges and social activities are cancelled until further notice.

As a precautionary measure all symptomatic individuals have been tested for COVID-19, currently all tests are negative. We remind the public that this is not a COVID-19 outbreak.

To further enhance our team's ongoing efforts additional precautions are being taken including, but not limited to, isolation of symptomatic individuals, additional high touch cleaning practices, cohorting residents and staff where possible, and the temporary closure of the tuck shop and hair salon. We believe these added measures will enhance the Home's ability to reduce the risk of transmission.

We recognize how emotionally difficult and challenging this news will be. We thank everyone for their understanding and cooperation. We encourage our residents' loved ones, friends and well-wishers to keep in touch. We have technology in place at all sites for our residents to have conversations via video chat applications, and our staff at each site will be happy to schedule these with you.

The public is reminded to prevent getting and spreading infections by:

- Washing hands often, for at least 15 seconds with soap and warm water or by using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer;

- Maintaining good cough and sneeze etiquette, including sneezing/coughing into a tissue, your sleeve or elbow;

- Putting all used tissues in the garbage right away;

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, or mouth; and

- Staying at home if sick, to avoid spreading infections to others.

The Outbreak Management Team will continue to monitor the situation. The care and safety of our residents, team members and families are a top priority.

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For Further Information:

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Riverside Health Care

Reference:

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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 Valley Diabetes Education Centre which provides important chronic disease management programming. For more information, please visit riversidehealthcare.ca