



Increased Staff Testing for COVID-19 at The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre

May 1, 2020 – Ottawa, Ontario
(as of 9 am)

In the past 24 hours, three staff members of The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre tested positive for COVID-19 bringing to 29 the total number of staff infected with the virus. The number of residents who have contracted the virus remains steady at 20. Since the start of the pandemic, five residents have passed away. Not all of the five deaths have been attributed to COVID-19.

As part of an aggressive testing and surveillance regime that has resulted in 1670 tests on residents and staff, more than 100 staff members from the Perley Rideau are today being tested for COVID-19.

The staff members testing positive today positive worked on Ottawa 1 West, Ottawa 2 East and the isolation unit. Staff from all units where either a staff member or resident has tested positive for COVID-19 are being asked to make themselves available for testing today. As a result, staff from Gatineau 2 North, Gatineau 2 South, Ottawa 2 East, Ottawa 1 West and the isolation unit have been contacted by Perley Rideau staff and asked to submit to testing.

All 29 staff members who have tested positive for the virus are self-isolating at home. We wish them well and look forward to their return following two negative tests for COVID-19.

In total, there have been 990 tests on staff and 680 tests on residents.

“This testing will help us identify individuals who are asymptomatic and at risk of unknowingly spreading the virus,” says CEO Akos Hoffer . “In the coming days, these results will inform our decision-making so that our team can react, adapt and continue to protect our community .”

The Incident Command Team gathers daily to address this pandemic and new challenges as they arise.

Questions may be directed to Jay Innes, Director of Communications, via Telephone: (613) 526-7170, ext.2207 or Email: info@prvhc.com.

The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre is one of the largest and most progressive long-term care homes in Ontario. In addition to the 450 long-term and short-stay care beds for Veterans and members of the public, the Perley Rideau campus includes a Seniors Village with independent-living apartments for 200 seniors. It employs a staff of more than 850.

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