



To: **Families and Friends**
CC: **Board of Directors**
From: Sherry Kerr, Executive Director
Date: July 12, 2021
Re: Outbreak Declared at the Stedman House

It is with deep regret that I inform you that the Brant County Health Unit has declared a COVID-19 Outbreak at our Stedman House Location.

We recently have learned that one of the staff members tested positive for COVID-19. As she had been working during her contagious time, the Health Unit has declared the Outbreak.

Please let me assure you that this staff member wore appropriate PPE when providing care and when in close contact with residents, so we sincerely hope this is an isolated incident. However, it does reflect that COVID-19 is still a very serious public health issue and we will take every precaution to ensure the health and safety of the residents.

We are now all protocols as outlines by the Brant County Health Unit.

There protocols include:

1. Staff who were not fully vaccinated (14 days past 2nd dose) and had contact with the staff with COVID have been contacted and are now isolating and awaiting COVID tests.
2. All residents have been isolated, will be tested and will continue to be isolated and screened for symptoms until the Outbreak is declared over.
3. Immediate family members of the residents have been notified.
4. The Stedman House is closed to all non-essential staff and visitors and will remain closed until the Health Unit has declared the Outbreak over.
5. Management is working on the staff deployment plan and the residents at Stedman House will always receive full care by qualified staff.
6. As per the Outbreak policy and Participation Support Services Pandemic Plan our Outreach services may be reduced or canceled so that staff can support the other vulnerable areas of the organization. If need be then Colborne Street supports will also be reduced to minimum services to accommodate staff redeployment.
7. **Staff who are assigned to work at the Stedman House will not be assigned to work elsewhere until the Outbreak is declared over.**
8. All staff at Participation Support Services continue to follow all Infection Prevention and Control Measures. This includes screening daily for symptoms, always wearing the appropriate PPE and maintaining clean high touch surface areas and frequently hand washing.

Please feel free to email me directly with any questions or concerns you may have.

With Regards
Sherry R. Kerr, Executive Director