VIDEO: Pinecrest resident finally gets to enjoy the great outdoors

This Week

For the first time since the COVID-19 outbreak gripped Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon, resident Lorraine Button went outside for a walk.

On Friday afternoon, Pinecrest administrator Mary Carr released a video to local media showing Button, 91, going for a walk outside to applause from staff members who lined up to cheer her on. Button beat the odds after testing positive for COVID-19 on April 1.

For the last three weeks, Carr and medical director Dr. Michelle Snarr have been sharing word on the COVID-19 outbreak at the Bobcaygeon long-term care home.

The virus not only claimed the lives of 29 residents, but also volunteer Jean Pollock who had been visiting her husband Ted who was a resident there until he passed away April 4. Many residents as well as staff members also became ill.

Since April 9, there have been no deaths reported at the home.

Buoyed by this optimistic news, that perhaps the worst is over for the nursing home residents and staff, Button was allowed to go for a walk outside on Friday.

According to Carr, Button loves to be outdoors and goes on walks around the community daily.

The video shared captured the first walk of its kind in weeks and the staff are clearly thrilled to share this moment with her.

Carr says with the support of Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, residents who had previously tested positive but have been healthy for at least 14 days are able to reintroduce exercise into their daily routine.