

## VIDEO | Bobcaygeon community rallies behind Pinecrest Nursing Home

*Todd Vandonk*

Hundreds of motorists drove down Highway 36 in Bobcaygeon honking their horns in support of residents and staff inside Pinecrest Nursing Home on Wednesday, April 1.

The small long-term care facility is experiencing the largest COVID-19 outbreak in Ontario. As of April 1, at least 12 residents of the home have died and more than two dozen staff members have tested positive for the virus. A spouse of a resident has also died.

"I'll almost cry talking about it but it is a tragedy," explains Carol Grover.

"We all feel so helpless. This was a good idea to show our support."

The convoy of vehicles lasted nearly 20 minutes. Many vehicles did a loop and drove by the nursing home for a second time.

People honked, waived, blew kisses, waved flags, and held out signs with different messages for those most impacted by the virus.

"I think everybody's heart is breaking for the people in there. We just want to show our support," says Marion McMahon.

Staff members and a resident of the home came outside and waved in appreciation of the support. Staff members were in tears and holding their hands to their hearts.



**A PINECREST NURSING HOME RESIDENT WAVES IN APPRECIATION AS HUNDREDS OF VEHICLES DROVE BY THE LONG-TERM CARE HOME TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT AS THE HOME DEALS WITH A COVID-19 OUTBREAK. Todd Vandonk | Torstar**

"I feel for the staff and the people that are losing their family members and are unable to be with them," says Justine Carroll.

Many businesses in the small community have also placed messages in their windows or on their billboards.



**WHITE PINE REALTY INC DISPLAYS A BOBCAYGEON STRONG SIGN IN ITS DOWNTOWN WINDOW. Todd Vandonk | Torstar**

Signs of encouragement are also seen in many windows of residents' homes.



**NEARBY TRENT LAKES RESIDENT RHONDA BAKSH SHOWS HER SUPPORT FOR BOBCAYGEON. Todd Vandonk | Torstar**