

COVID-19 claims two lives at Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon

This Week

Two residents inside Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon have died from COVID-19.

Details were released in a press release issued by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit on Thursday night.

The release states that one resident died on Tuesday and the other died on Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

“This is truly a horrible time for the families and friends of the residents, as well as our staff,” says Mary Carr, administrator of Pinecrest Nursing Home. “We have a number of medically fragile and vulnerable people living in our home; our residents are like family to our staff. Our sympathies go out to all of the families and friends of the people we have lost.”

The health units says as of March 26, [there have been 14 staff members inside the long-term care home](#) confirmed as COVID-19 positive, and four who have had negative results. Test results are still expected for 16 staff.

While no additional residents were tested, 35 others did develop symptoms, including the two who are deceased.

[On March 20, Health Unit announced that three residents of the Pinecrest Nursing Home](#) in Bobcaygeon had tested positive for COVID-19.

The tests came after the Health Unit declared a respiratory outbreak at the facility on March 18 and tests were done on three symptomatic residents.

“In following our provincial outbreak guidelines, we did not do any additional tests on residents as we already had confirmation the virus was in the home,” says Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, medical officer of health for the HKPR District Health Unit.

According to the health unit, once the initial respiratory outbreak was declared, staff at Pinecrest followed all proper procedures to help contain the spread of the virus.

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“Ill staff did not come to work, arrangements were made to have them tested and they were advised to self-isolate at home; residents were isolated as best they could be in the smaller facility; group activities were stopped; and meals were served to residents on trays rather than in the dining room,” reads the release.

Pinecrest has been closed to visitors since March 14, with the exception of