



NEWS

## A third person at a Lindsay nursing home has died from COVID-19

Close to two dozen residents at Caressant Care McLaughlin Road Nursing Home test positive for COVID-19 along with 19 staff members

By Catherine Whitnall Kawartha Lakes This Week

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A third resident at Lindsay's Caressant Care McLaughlin Road Nursing Home has lost their battle with COVID-19.

According to Stuart Oakley, Caressant Care Nursing and Retirement Homes Ltd. communications and marketing manager, a resident passed away Monday (Jan. 25) night at the home. As of Tuesday, the death is the third since an outbreak was

declared in the home earlier this month.

“Our hearts go out to the families affected and we are heartbroken because the residents are like our family as well and it is never easy to lose a loved one,” said Oakley.

On Tuesday (Jan. 26), the long-term care home reported there were 22 positive residents and 19 positive staff. At Caressant Care Lindsay Nursing and Retirement Home on Mary Street, which is also in outbreak, there are no resident cases in either the nursing or retirement homes. One staff member in the nursing home recently tested positive for the virus. Two positive staff cases from the retirement home remain at home in isolation, Careessant Care says.

“For both homes we continue to have daily calls to monitor and ensure appropriate supports are in place and have amazing community support for our homes,” said Oakley.

Staff from Ross Memorial Hospital have volunteered to work alongside Caressant Care staff to help with housekeeping, infection control measures, and, where necessary, provide direct resident care. In total, 96 individuals reside at the McLaughlin site, with 145 staff members, and 61 residents at the Mary Street retirement home, where there are 30 staff.

All residents’ families have been called to update them on the situation. Regular swabbing is being done to determine who may be positive. Deep cleaning is being carried out daily, especially high-touch areas of the home. Infection prevention and control strategies have been put in place with those who are positive being kept together and away from residents who have tested negative, Oakley said.

The company is also continually monitoring staffing and are working hard to identify gaps, filling them as quickly as possible.

As for vaccinations, the company is looking at a date in mid-February and waiting to receive more information from the local health unit.

“Public health officials inform us that we are close to getting the vaccinations for our staff and residents. This is good news for the homes and community,” said Oakley, adding no date has been confirmed.