



NEWS

Mary Street retirement home edges closer out of outbreak

Caressant Care McLaughlin Road Nursing Home has 29 active resident cases and 18 active staff cases

By [Catherine Whitnall](#) Kawartha Lakes This Week

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As Caressant Care Lindsay Retirement and Long-Term-Care Home on Mary Street eyes the light at the end of the outbreak tunnel, its sibling site on McLaughlin Road continues to battle to gain ground over its own COVID-19 outbreak that has claimed nine lives.

Caressant Care Nursing and Retirement Homes Ltd. communications and marketing manager Stuart Oakley said on Friday (Feb. 5) that there are 29 active resident

cases, with 19 resolved, and 18 active staff cases, with 19 resolved.

“Staff are doing well despite the challenges and remain focused on containing the spread as best as possible and caring for residents,” said Oakley.

“Every 'thank you' and messages of good wishes are definitely appreciated by the staff who are absolute heroes fighting an invisible enemy. They also deeply appreciate all the personal sacrifices everyone is making to do their part in limiting the spread of COVID-19 by following public health guidelines such as wearing face coverings, staying home as much as possible, practicing social distancing and good hand hygiene.”

In the home, residents who are symptomatic and have tested positive are being kept isolated from those who have tested negative. The home also undergoes a deep clean several times a week.

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Oakley said the facility is still hoping for vaccination to begin as soon as possible for those who have consented and are not symptomatic. The process is being managed by the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, which is still awaiting word on when additional supplies will be made available for the area.

“Red Cross is helping in the home as well with doing reminder training on wearing and taking off PPE. We continue to have strong support from our care partners with daily calls and staffing is being bolstered using agency staff where needed,” continued Oakley.

The nursing home has been receiving assistance and support from the Ross Memorial Hospital, the health unit and Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to stay on top of housekeeping and infection control measures and, where necessary, provide direct resident care.

While Mary Street's long-term-care section was declared out of outbreak a week ago, the retirement home currently remains in outbreak following the positive testing of two staff members. Oakley anticipates the retirement home should be cleared in the coming days.

As efforts to combat the virus continue, both facilities continue to keep all residents' families updated and encourage them, where possible, to stay in contact with loved ones either by phone or virtually.

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