Coronavirus Outbreak Declared at Pinecrest Nursing Home As 10 New Cases Reported in Kawartha Lakes Today

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KAWARTHA LAKES-The Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit has declared a second Coronavirus outbreak at Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon.

"Through our ongoing, precautionary staff testing we do at Pinecrest Nursing Home every week, a staff member who is showing no symptoms has tested positive for COVID-19." Jenelle Whalen, Administrator, Pinecrest told Kawartha 411 News. "Pursuant to our ongoing infection prevention and control measures, the staff member was wearing appropriate personal protective equipment during all resident interactions and in all areas of the home."

Whalen says immediately upon being informed of the positive result, the Director of Care implemented additional outbreak measures including cohorting staff where possible, suspending group activities, and isolating residents to their rooms with in-room meal service. All residents were tested yesterday for COVID-19, and no residents are showing any symptoms at this time.

"We are hopeful that, through our ongoing efforts, we have been able to contain any spread of this virus within our home."

Even with this new positive case, very little will change at Pinecrest Nursing Home according to Whalen.

"We have been COVID-19 free since May 14, but as this virus is still present in the province, many of our infection prevention and control measures remained in place Including active staff screening at the beginning and end of each shift, ongoing monitoring of residents, wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment at all times, and enhanced cleaning measures of all high touch surfaces."

In an outbreak declared last spring numerous residents contracted Coronavirus and 28 died from the illness. Some residents were vaccinated on January 27th.

Officials are reporting at a total of ten new cases of Coronavirus in the City of Kawartha Lakes today. The new cases today means there is currently 60 active cases of the virus in Kawartha Lakes with the health unit tracking 78 high-risk contacts. Of the previous high-risk contacts, one has become a confirmed case.

An outbreak has also been declared at the Cobourg Police Department.

This story has been updated with more information from Pinecrest on the outbreak and measures to contain it.

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