



## NEWS

## Lindsay long-term-care home's COVID-19 cases on the decline

Caressant Care McLaughlin Road Nursing Home pleased to see numbers stabilizing and reports no further loss of life

By Catherine Whitnall    Kawartha Lakes This Week

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

The war is far from over, but staff at Caressant Care McLaughlin Road Nursing Home are glad to finally be winning some battles against COVID-19.

The Lindsay long-term-care facility was declared in outbreak on Jan. 9 by the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit after one initial positive case of the virus. In just two weeks, the facility had dozens of active resident and staff cases and, to date, 11 residents have died.

But Caressant Care Nursing and Retirement Homes Ltd. communications and marketing manager Stuart Oakley notes the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel is getting brighter.

On Tuesday (Feb. 9), the nursing home reported 29 active resident and 10 active staff cases; none of which is new.

“We are pleased to see stabilization continuing, and we are very glad to report that the first doses of the Moderna vaccine have been administered to many of our residents,” states an update on the facility’s website.

Close to 50 residents have joined dozens at Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon, Caressant Care’s Mary Street site and Victoria Manor, in being vaccinated at this point.

The facility has also begun virtual visiting between families and residents, led by activity director Amber Cockburn. There is also a virtual town hall meeting planned for Thursday (Feb. 11) to provide an update on the situation and give opportunity for further questions.

Oakley also reported that concerns relating to the facility’s HVAC system being a possible contributor to the virus’ spread from the first to second floor have been resolved.

“No link has been found to the HVAC system; we were simply looking at every possibility,” said Oakley, adding new filters were installed on Monday (Feb. 8) as part of the regular maintenance schedule.

The nursing home continues to receive assistance and support from the local Red Cross, Ross Memorial Hospital — which is providing nurses, housekeepers and an environmental services manager — the health unit and Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

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