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NEWS

LOCAL SENIOR DIAGNOSED WITH CORONAVIRUS DIES

BRYAN MYERS
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A Georgetown man diagnosed with COVID-19 has died.

Jack Martin Kerman, a resident of Mountainview Residence, was recently taken to hospital after a fall and was subsequently tested for COVID-19. On March 31, the results came back positive.

He succumbed to underlying medical conditions that were likely advanced by the infection, wrote Christoph Summer, administrator and owner of Mountainview Residence.

The two staff who had been directly assisting the man were also tested and confirmed positive.

On Friday (April 3), an update from the residence confirmed six cases of COVID-19, including the man

who passed. Three of those residents have been hospitalized, and eight more residents are awaiting test results.

The Terrace and Care units presently have no cases.

"The health department receives daily logs of our resident's temperatures and any symptoms," Summer wrote in a daily update to families. "Based on these symptoms, public health instructs us on who to swab with nasal swabs."

Summer told the Independent/Free Press so far most of the cases haven't presented any symptoms.

"Most of the residents we've swabbed have just had a cough or congestion," he said.

At press time, five staff members had confirmed cases. Ten staff members

have been sent home to await test results.

Prior to the provincial and federal curve-flattening measures, Mountainview Residence had halted all non-essential visits. Anyone entering the building was also screened according to the Ministry of Health guidelines.

As measures to mitigate the pandemic increased, measures taken at the residence were adjusted accordingly. Since March 12, residents have had their temperature taken daily in an effort to monitor and detect early warning signs of an infection. Now that the residence is in outbreak, temperatures are being taken twice daily.

Residents can be brought home, according to the update, but residents and their families would be required to self-isolate for 14 days.

"A lot of families have to decide, if they're already home or working from home, can they care for their loved one at home," Summer said.



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