

For Immediate Release | February 22, 2021

## Interior Health declares COVID-19 outbreak over at Royal Inland Hospital

KAMLOOPS – Interior Health has declared the COVID-19 outbreak over at the Royal Inland Hospital (RIH).

Two units were included in the outbreak. An outbreak on unit 6 South was declared over earlier this month and the outbreak on 6 North was declared over today.

“We are deeply saddened that four people linked to this COVID-19 outbreak succumbed to their illness,” said Susan Brown, IH president and CEO. “I would like to send our condolences to the loved ones and caregivers of those who passed away, and our sincerest appreciation for the efforts made by the entire hospital community who worked tirelessly to contain the outbreak.”

In total, 69 staff, 36 patients and four deaths were connected to the outbreak, which was first declared on Jan. 22.

Dr. Albert De Villiers, Interior Health chief medical health officer, also noted the work of hospital leaders and staff, as well as IH communicable disease specialists, to contain the outbreak and maintain services at RIH.

“I also want to thank the community whose efforts to prevent COVID-19 circulation help health care teams every day.”

Although this outbreak is declared over, COVID-19 still circulates throughout Interior Health communities. It is essential that everyone continue to avoid social gatherings and limit socialization to their immediate household bubble, and follow public health guidelines to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

Remember to:

- Keep to your household bubbles and avoid social gatherings.
- Stay home when you are sick; get tested if you have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Practise physical distancing
- Wear a mask and wash your hands often
- Avoid non-essential travel

Interior Health has frequently updated COVID-19 information on our public website [www.interiorhealth.ca](http://www.interiorhealth.ca)