

For Immediate Release | March 11, 2021

Interior Health declares COVID-19 outbreak over at Westsyde Care Residences

KAMLOOPS – Interior Health has declared a COVID-19 outbreak over at Westsyde Care Residences.

Thirteen staff members and 17 residents tested positive for COVID-19 during the outbreak. Sadly, two people in care died.

“My sincere sympathy goes out to the families and caregivers of the individuals who died in this outbreak,” said Susan Brown, Interior Health president and CEO. “This has been a difficult outbreak and I appreciate the effort by the facility as well as IH officials who supported the work to control the virus.”

Westsyde Care Residences is a privately operated group home for people with brain and spinal cord injuries, with several of the 21 beds publicly funded for IH clients.

“Fortunately, these outbreaks are becoming less frequent as more people are getting vaccinated, but it’s important that people continue to take precautions to prevent illness until the rest of the population is immunized,” said Dr. Albert de Villiers, IH chief medical health officer.

People in all communities are reminded to remain vigilant and:

- Keep to your household bubbles and avoid social gatherings.
- Stay home when you are sick and get tested if you have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Practise physical distancing and use a mask if you cannot.
- Wash your hands often.
- Avoid non-essential travel.
- Get vaccinated when eligible

Booking a COVID-19 test:

Online: You can book an appointment online through the COVID-19 Test Booking Form:

<https://interiorhealthcovid.secureform.ca/index.php>

By phone: Call the COVID-19 Test Booking Line at 1-877-740-7747 for assistance with booking your test.

Interior Health has frequently updated COVID-19 information on our public website

www.interiorhealth.ca