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**For Immediate Release | November 15, 2020**

**Interior Health declares long-term care outbreak at The Hamlets at Westsyde in Kamloops**

KAMLOOPS – Interior Health has declared a COVID-19 outbreak in units C1 and C2 at The Hamlets at Westsyde long-term care home after conducting a thorough public health investigation.

One staff member has tested positive for COVID-19. No residents are experiencing symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19 at this time. IH will continue to monitor the situation, while implementing additional infection control and preventive measures.

To protect the safety of all residents, outbreak protocols have been implemented in the affected units including a temporary pause in visits.

IH public health is directly contacting anyone who may have been exposed to COVID-19 to ensure they are also taking appropriate precautions (self-isolation or monitoring) as required.

Interior Health continues to take steps to protect the health of all staff, individuals in care and families at long-term care homes. This includes:

- Ensuring long-term care staff are only working at one care home (as per the provincial single site order).
- Monitoring all residents for respiratory symptoms and conducting COVID-19 testing on anyone with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Enhanced cleaning protocols and COVID-19 visitor policies.

To date, no long-term care residents have tested positive for COVID-19 at any homes in IH.

The Hamlets at Westsyde is privately owned and operated with 109 publicly funded long-term care beds.

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