

# NURSING HOMES COVID-19 CLEAR

*PRESS RELEASE - peopleCare, Tavistock*

“As a precaution, in addition to enhanced testing based on symptoms, Public Health units across Ontario are engaging in proactive surveillance (or “universal”) testing of all residents and staff in long-term care homes and congregate retirement settings. This precautionary step is meant to help the government understand the current status of COVID-19 in individual homes.

peopleCare Tavistock wholeheartedly supported universal testing as we are fully committed to doing everything possible to stop the spread of this very contagious virus. Testing of all residents and staff wrapped up last week and we were thrilled to learn that we had no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our Tavistock Home.

Having a clear and up-to-date picture of COVID in long-term care homes helps with infection control and isolation of ill residents, which are both key to diligently preventing and managing outbreaks. In

addition to keeping up with our enhanced measures, such as active screening, universal masking, rigorous infection control practices and ongoing PPE refreshers, peopleCare Tavistock continues to look for new measures we can implement.

Most recently, we welcomed a team of infection control specialists from Woodstock General Hospital to do a full walkaround of the Home and review all of our outbreak management and joint health and safety practices, to see if they could find any opportunities for improvement. The team was impressed by the IPAC measures we have in place, the training we’ve done with staff on PPE, how we care for ill and healthy residents separately and much more.”

*The Maples Home for Seniors*

COVID-19 testing was done over 4 days at The Maples from April 27th to April 30th. 43 residents and 71 staff member results were all negative.

*Mrs. Elaine Zehr talks with her family on an iPad from her room at peopleCare, Tavistock.*



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