



MEMORANDUM

TO: Bethesda Staff and Familyhome Providers
FROM: Brian Davies, Chief Executive Officer
DATE: March 18, 2021
SUBJECT: Operations Update

Dear Staff and Familyhome Providers,

On March 8, we advised that a staff working within one of our residential programs at Fly Road had tested positive for COVID-19. We are pleased to advise that this staff has made a full recovery! There have been, and currently are, no other confirmed cases.

We have been fortunate to have had very few cases of COVID-19 within our organization since the start of the pandemic in March, 2020. This can be attributed to all staff and Familyhome providers understanding how imperative the pandemic measures that have been implemented are. We ask that you continue to:

- Complete every screener fully and honestly knowing that should you fail the screener no punitive action will be taken, only support received
- Maintain physical distancing, when possible
- Utilize increased hand hygiene
- Follow enhanced cleaning protocols
- Wear a mask and face shield/goggles, as directed
- Utilize additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as directed

With these actions, we can continue to protect each other.

We are pleased to advise of the ongoing eligibility of our staff for the COVID-19 vaccine, with staff in our Adult Clinical and Children's Services programs now included within the eligibility. This is a positive step forward in our fight against COVID-19 and we would like to encourage each of you, if you haven't already, to book an appointment for your COVID-19 vaccination, when eligible.

For those receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, please see the attached Media Release from Niagara Health advising of the extended time period between first and second vaccine doses. The Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca vaccines require two doses as it is after the second dose (around 7-14 days after) that the vaccine becomes highly effective and long lasting. With this, and to ensure the safety of the individuals we support, our staff and Familyhome providers, the use of PPE will be ongoing for all staff, including those who are eligible for and have received their first vaccination, until specific direction is provided.

These difficult times continue to remind us of the amazing staff and Familyhome providers we have working at Bethesda. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication; it is an honour to work with you.

Respectfully,



Brian Davies