



May 4, 2020

It was a quiet weekend. We have no residents requiring testing. On Friday, we tested 31 employees as a proactive measure to ensure that we are not missing cases from asymptomatic individuals. All those tested were negative. We will continue to test staff this week to ensure we are not unknowingly bringing the virus into the facility. With no individuals displaying symptoms, this will demonstrate that what we are doing is working. In addition, if there is a positive result, testing now before symptoms are seen might allow us time to limit transmission.

Today we are admitting a new resident. This will be the first of five admissions over the next week. They first must be tested for COVID-19 with a negative result and they will be isolated for 14 days as a further safeguard.

Mother's Day is fast approaching. Items sent by mail must be received by Thursday to allow time for the items to be quarantined for Sunday. We have made specific arrangements with Flower Trends Florist on Quinpool Road who will make one delivery on Friday, May 8. No other deliveries will be accepted. Contact them directly at 902-429-7673 if you wish to send flowers.

On Friday, the province lifted some of the restrictions around provincial and municipal parks, school grounds, sports fields and trails; we can travel to a cottage, go fishing, and head to the driving range or the garden centre. This allows us to spend more time outside doing some of the familiar activities that can contribute to our mental wellness. For the general public, this is a welcome relief to many weeks of restrictions; but this move is not an indication that the virus is gone. COVID-19 is still a threat to the residents in long-term care facilities. We still can only socialize within our household unit. We can still only shop when necessary. Beaches and playgrounds are still closed. We must continue to distance from each other. Dr. Strang and the Premier asked us to use our common sense. We can get outside, but we can't get comfortable. Please keep doing what you are doing, it IS working, and it must continue in order to protect those most vulnerable.

Unless there is new information to report, this message will be updated on Wednesday, May 6.