



November 16, 2020

**RE: RHA Important Update**

Dear RHA membership, families/guardians and staff,

**Covid-19 Outbreak Status Confirmed at Residence 28**

This is to advise all staff and membership (individuals, families/guardians) that we are dealing with a confirmed outbreak at one of our single family homes, Residence 28. This weekend we confirmed two positive cases linked to this home that provides housing supports for 5 residents. Alberta Health Services (AHS) has been notified. All safety protocols to limit further exposure and containment have been implemented. We are confident that there has been limited to no cross exposure of staff and residents in this home in other areas supported by RHA and in the community. Everyone who has had direct contact have been notified and have been encouraged to follow AHS guidelines for testing and isolation.

Our highest priority is working on containment strategies to stop the spread. RHA is following the lead provided by Alberta Health Services and Communicable Disease Control. RHA has taken and continues to take additional precautions required by AHS, such as doubling sanitization/cleaning in the homes; staff wearing full PPE (mask, face shield, gloves, gowns) at all times; eliminating staff cross over to work in other sites outside of the isolated home; currently outdoor/indoor visits will not be permitted with individuals in this home.

**Encourage Suspending Visitor/Resident Outings**

RHA is strongly requesting that families/friends consider suspending social visits/outings with residents in RHA homes for the next few weeks. The impact to the residents in shared living is significant each time there is a suspected/probable exposure to covid-19. Requirements for implementing isolation from roommates and staff wearing full PPE is difficult for everyone. Please help us to reduce exposure and risks at this time as covid-19 positive numbers surge in our communities.

**"In the days ahead, we all have a role to play in getting case numbers down to protect our health care system, keep schools and businesses open, and protect vulnerable Albertans. This is our last chance to avoid more restrictive measures," Hinshaw said.**

Sincerely,  
**Ann Marie LePan**

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