

For Immediate Release | January 18, 2021

Interior Health declares outbreak over at McKinney Place in Oliver

OLIVER – Interior Health has declared the COVID-19 outbreak over at McKinney Place long-term care in Oliver.

“I want to thank our staff for their commitment and dedication during this challenging outbreak at McKinney Place long-term care,” said Susan Brown, Interior Health president and CEO. “Everyone stepped up to ensure the people living at McKinney Place received the best possible care, and on behalf of everyone at Interior Health, we send our condolences to the families who lost a loved one during this difficult time.”

An outbreak is declared over when two incubation periods, or 28 days, have passed from the last onset of symptoms in a resident.

“This has been one of our most challenging outbreaks so far and I’m happy to see this outbreak declared over,” said Dr. Albert de Villiers, chief medical health officer. “As the vaccination roll-out continues across Interior Health, I am hopeful we will see fewer outbreaks in our long-term care facilities.”

All eligible residents and staff at McKinney Place have been offered their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccination.

There were 78 COVID-19 cases linked to this outbreak: 55 residents and 23 staff. Sadly, 17 residents passed away due to their illness.

Interior Health has frequently updated COVID-19 information on our public website www.interiorhealth.ca

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INFO BULLETIN

For Immediate Release | January 6, 2021

Interior Health declares outbreak at Sunnybank Retirement Home in Oliver

OLIVER – Interior Health has declared an outbreak at Sunnybank Retirement Home long-term care in Oliver.

Four staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. All individuals in close contact with these individuals are in self-isolation and monitoring for symptoms.

Sunnybank Retirement Home is operated by Interior Health and has 51 publicly funded long-term care beds. Interior Health will continue to monitor the situation, while implementing additional infection control and preventive measures.

There is no indication of any connection to the nearby COVID-19 outbreak at McKinney Place long-term care in the same community.

To protect the safety of all residents, outbreak protocols are in place, including a pause in all visits at this site.

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

Interior Health has frequently updated COVID-19 information on our public website www.interiorhealth.ca

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INFO BULLETIN

McKinney outbreak over

Chelsea Powrie - Jan 18, 2021 / 3:31 pm



Photo: Contributed

Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s top doctor, has declared the COVID-19 [outbreak at McKinney Place](#) in Oliver over.

At her regularly scheduled COVID-19 press conference Monday afternoon, Henry confirmed the good news.

"We are very thankful that McKinney Place is under control," Henry said.

"That was a very challenging outbreak in Interior Health and we know 17 people in the McKinney Place community lost their lives in that outbreak."

All 17 of those deaths were residents, out of 59 who lived at the IH-run facility at the beginning of the outbreak late last year. Fifty-four residents contracted the virus in recent weeks as well as 23 staff members.

An update on the other Oliver care home experiencing an outbreak, Sunnybank care home, is expected via an IH news release this afternoon.

Health Minister Adrian Dix also addressed the loss at McKinney.

"I can tell you from my own experience, the day an outbreak is declared is a very, very difficult day indeed, and the day it is declared over, is a day of some relief," Dix said.

"I'm thinking of everybody who has lost someone in those care homes, everyone who has been through that experience, even if they were not diagnosed positive with COVID-19, everyone who is working in those care homes, we are thinking of them today on what is, I would say, a better day today."

COVID-19 claims lives of two more South Okanagan care home residents

Five residents of the Oliver care home have died since the outbreak was first declared

- [JESSE DAY](#), Jan. 26, 2021 5:30 p.m., [NEWS](#)



Interior Health is reporting two more COVID-19 related deaths at Sunnybank Retirement Centre in Oliver.

There have now been five deaths connected to the outbreak since it was declared Jan. 6.

In total, 37 cases of the virus have been confirmed at the care home, including 27 residents and 10 staff.

The two new deaths make up half of the four total deaths reported by Interior Health Tuesday (Jan. 26). A resident at Noric House care home in Vernon and one community member also succumbed to the virus.

There have been 66 total deaths in the Interior Health region since the start of the pandemic — the majority of which in long-term care homes.

“Our sympathies go out to the loved ones and the caregivers of the four people we lost today due to COVID-19. I know that when we think about our own family and friends, and keeping them safe, that is our motivation to focus on following public health orders,” said Interior Health CEO Susan Brown.

“It will take all of us to get through these challenging days across Interior Health and around B.C.”

There were 54 new cases in the Interior Health region reported Tuesday, bringing the total number of active cases to 985.