

October 13, 2021

On behalf of the Board of Directors for the United Church Home for Senior Citizens, (The Drew) in Sackville New Brunswick, I would like to address the deep concern around the presence of Covid-19 in the Drew.

Our deepest appreciation goes to the families of those residents in the care of the Drew. Their patience and understanding has been critical for the unfolding of the response by staff and those groups who arrived on site quickly following the confirmation of a positive test.

This has been an extremely difficult time. For at least eight families this has been a tragic time ending in the death of their loved one. And our condolences go out to the families. The Drew is a community within itself and these deaths weigh heavy on the hearts of staff as well.

To date (October 13, 2021) there have been a total of forty (40) positive cases at the Drew since September 13, 2021. Of those, thirty (30) have been among residents. Nineteen (19) residents have recovered as of the time of writing. Ten (10) staff members have tested positive and nine (9) have recovered as of yesterday.

The Board of Directors have been in weekly contact with the management of the Drew. The Board has confidence that the protocols which were put in place have been followed. We have also been privy to the steps taken by both the New Brunswick Association of Nursing Homes and the government of New Brunswick.

We do acknowledge the high level of anxiety prompted by recent news reports. But, please be assured, everything that can be done under the circumstances is being done. The PROMT team responded immediately to oversee the implementation of the pandemic protocols. Assistance from the Red Cross moved quickly thereafter into the Drew. The presence of these two groups has been invaluable.

The staff and management at the Drew have worked long hours over the past eighteen months and even more so in the last month. Our deep gratitude to each and all of them. They deserve our thanks and ongoing support. We remain sincerely grateful to those staff members who have put service above self in so many ways.

At this point in time we would urge everyone to push pause on any calls for a review of the process. Please know that the Executive Director, Linda Shannon, is in regular meetings with medical and government officials and the workings of



The United Church
Home For
Senior Citizens, Inc.

Drew Nursing Home
Tantramar Residences



Sackville, New Brunswick
Canada
E4L 4S2
506 364 4900
Fax: 506 364 4921

the response efforts are monitored constantly. The important thing is to support the ongoing efforts to bring this outbreak to a resolution.

Our commitment is to ensure the care of our residents. We know this past month has been difficult for all involved. But we believe we are beginning to reach a resolution.

May I encourage you to be in contact with the New Brunswick Minister of Social Development, the NB Minister of Health and/or Michael Keating, the Acting Executive Director of the New Brunswick Association of Nursing Homes, for further information.

Catherine Gaw

Chair, The Board of Directors
The United Church Home for Senior Citizens—The Drew
Sackville, New Brunswick