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Statement on Report by the Canadian Forces

Today, we received a copy of a report by the Canadian Forces on its findings from its time at Altamont Care Community, where it has been working alongside our team since April 27. We continue to be deeply saddened by the impact the pandemic is having on long-term care homes. Our commitment to our residents, their families, and our team members is to making sure the issues identified by the Canadian Forces are all dealt with immediately and permanently.

With the support of the Canadian Forces, Altamont has continuously evaluated and implemented additional measures, processes, and protocols in line with provincial and public health direction and requirements, to care for and protect our residents and staff during this crisis. As the report notes, we have already increased staffing levels and flattened the infection curve.

COVID-19 has had a severe impact on an already lean staffing complement at Altamont, which will only continue as we deal with this virus over the coming year or more. To deliver the level of care that our seniors deserve, the staffing challenges we face in the long-term care sector must be addressed. We are committed to working with the government, and our health system partners, to solve this urgent issue.