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Personal Support Worker (PSW) Day is celebrated in Ontario on May 19 every year, and I want to take this day to recognize and celebrate all our PSWs, Resident Care Aides/Attendants (RCAs), Health Care Aides (HCAs), Guest Attendants (GAs) and Care Support Assistants (CSAs) across BC and Ontario, whom residents rely on for the compassionate care and services they need.

Our extended PSW team make up the largest percentage of Sienna's workforce and are the backbone of Long Term Care and Community Care in Canada, and around the world. This year as we fight COVID-19, and as we enter another week where residents are not able to see their loved ones, the importance of PSWs could not be greater. This year it is even more important to recognize their immeasurable contribution and because of that, I extend this recognition to our fantastic BC team members, as well.

I recently visited Camilla, Madonna, and Altamont Care Communities, where the impact of COVID-19 has been devastating. I was overwhelmed by the incredible work and hardship that these teams are experiencing every day. They are there for the residents and for each other. Under very difficult circumstances, they are focused on bringing joy and compassion to residents, while working alongside many new health care partners and new team members with professionalism and resilience.

I am deeply appreciative for every personal support worker, resident care attendant, health care aide, guest attendant, and care support assistant for their commitment and the gifts of kindness, empathy and respect they bring to their roles every day; while also taking care of their own families and responsibilities in this profoundly unique time.

As a former personal support worker myself, I have a special place in my heart for the valuable work and major contribution that our entire care team make every day to residents at Sienna, and to our society as essential workers.

Please join me in recognizing the extended PSW care team for the incredible work they do and the difference they make in the lives of residents and co-workers. I send each of our team members a deep and heartfelt thank you for the extraordinary work they do protecting residents and each other from the spread of COVID-19.

Lois Cormack,
President & CEO