Dear students,

Following communications sent on March 11 and 13, we are writing to provide the latest information on how we are managing the COVID-19 outbreak in residence. In response to the evolving situation related to COVID-19 variants of concern (VOCs) in the community, KFLA Public Health has implemented the Ministry of Health’s interim guidelines on case, contact and outbreak management. This enhanced contact management applies to all cases and contacts in the province.

In residence, this means that we are in frequent, daily contact with KFLAPH, working collaboratively to quickly move any high-risk contacts they identify to our isolation residence in Smith House. In addition, the members of that individual’s household are also required to isolate, pending a negative test result of the high-risk contact. Most households that have been required to isolate have been able to do so in their own rooms and the isolation period has been quite brief, (typically 24-48 hours), due to quick turnaround times for test results.

We have previously notified you of the positive cases in Watts Hall and one confirmed positive case in Victoria Hall. There is an additional case of COVID-19 in Brant House, not associated with a VOC. This individual is isolating in Smith House and KFLAPH has conducted contact tracing.

As we have done all along, Residence Facilities staff are continuing to clean shared spaces and high touch points frequently, under identified protocols. For more details about our regular, ongoing cleaning protocols, please review this information.

It is critical, now, more than ever, that you ensure that you are limiting contact with others to only your household, adhering strictly to mask requirements, good hand hygiene practices and respecting the guest requirements as outlined in the Residence Community Standards.

Please take your responsibilities as a community member seriously and make choices that ensure your own safety, as well as that of your community members. Tomorrow, on St. Patrick’s Day, please do not attend parties, whether on or off-campus. Help limit the spread. It’s not worth the risk.

Asymptomatic testing appointments are available by contacting Student Wellness Services at 613-533-2506 or through their new online booking form. SWS have extended evening hours this week for testing.

We appreciate your vigilance. It’s crucial that we all do our part to keep our community safe.

The Residence Life and Services Team