

For Immediate Release | July 20, 2021

Interior Health extends administrator at The Florentine in Merritt

Merritt – Interior Health’s board of directors has extended the appointment of an administrator to oversee the day-to-day operations of The Florentine.

“The care and safety of those living at The Florentine is our utmost commitment,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “Therefore, I strongly support the decision by the Interior Health board of directors to extend the appointment of the administrator.”

The Interior Health board reached the decision based on recommendations from medical health officer, Dr. Carol Fenton.

The administrator was initially appointed March 23, 2021. Since then, the operator made the decision to initiate a twelve month notice period to cease the Florentine’s long-term care operations. The administrator’s term is therefore extended until those operations officially end.

The recommendation to extend the appointment was based on detailed reports from interim site administrator Matt Renfrew and Interior Health’s Licensing program.

The administrator is responsible for the operation and management of the care home and supports critical functions including:

- Care planning and delivery
- Site management
- Staff recruitment, orientation and education
- Developing and implementing policies and procedures
- Overall compliance with the legislated standards of care

Matt Renfrew is an experienced health-care leader with expertise in long-term care. He is currently a manager of clinical operations at the Overlander long term care home in Kamloops and has led that site since 2013.

The Florentine is a privately owned, long-term care home with 20 independently funded beds. The assisted living section of the site falls under the jurisdiction of the Assisted Living Registrar and is not subject to the administration process being applied to the long-term care section of this care home.

- 30 -

Media, for information:

Media@interiorhealth.ca

1-844-469-7077