



December 27, 2019

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Northwood's Computer Network Affected by Virus**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Halifax, NS - On December 21, 2019, Northwood's computer network was affected by a sophisticated virus. Northwood responded to this incident promptly and disconnected all affected systems before the virus could spread.

At this time, there is no evidence that personal information or private health information has been accessed. If at any time, it has been determined that unauthorized access has occurred, clients will be advised as soon as possible.

"Our clients and families can be assured that we are taking this matter extremely seriously," says Janet Simm, Northwood President & CEO. "We are working closely with a number of our partners including the Nova Scotia Health Authority, the Department of Health and Wellness and cyber security experts. The matter has been reported to police and is currently being investigated."

Northwood staff continue to provide the best care possible with facilities and programs continuing to operate. While many of Northwood's computer systems have been shut off, staff are now completing processes manually and this is causing a challenge for home care scheduling.

"Client care and safety remain our top priority," says Janet Simm. "We are prioritizing our home care clients to ensure there are minimal disruptions."

The patience and support of Northwood clients and partners is appreciated throughout this situation. Updates will be provided on [www.northwood.care](http://www.northwood.care) as needed.

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If you have any questions please contact:  
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### *About Northwood*

*Since 1962, we have led the way as Nova Scotia's most dynamic continuing care organization committed to innovation and change. We are the largest not-for-profit continuing care organization in Atlantic Canada and are recognized both here at home and across Canada as an extraordinary example of the power of social justice, but we like to call it the power of love!*