



April 8, 2020

Dear Staff and Physicians,

As we approach the Easter season, our thoughts naturally take us to memories of celebrating with the people we love. Like many of you, I had hoped to spend time together with family but will be separated from them because of the current health crisis.

While Easter 2020 promises to be very different in the way you celebrate, the message remains: Easter is a time of renewal, regeneration and new beginnings. We all long to see the COVID-19 pandemic behind us—and one day we will—but for the time being, we can be leaders in how we respond to this. Whether at work or with our families, we can make the most of what we've been dealt and be an example to those around us.

At work, you already have. I have seen the deeply-rooted values of our organization play out in your interactions with patients and colleagues throughout this crisis. You continue to show them compassion, empathy and respect as you strive for excellence despite the constantly changing conditions.

The same leadership qualities that guide your work are equally as important at home, especially now. Empathy, compassion and respect can go a long way toward drawing us closer together, albeit virtually, during periods of uncertainty.

As you think of creative ways to connect with your loved ones this weekend, I hope you can face the upcoming holiday with gratitude and confidence and that you return with a renewed energy and a deeper sense of purpose. Your patients and colleagues, your family and your community are counting on you.

For those of you who will be working during the holiday, I thank you for the sacrifices you continue to make for our patients and their families.

It's an honour to work alongside each of you every day. Stay safe and be healthy.

Happy Easter,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen McGrath".

Karen McGrath

