



Toronto: Oct 5 – Story 6

Phyllis: One day, I'm a, wake up and I'm, I having a raspy throat. The nurse comes down, swabs me, guess what? I test positive. And that passed. Wasn't I exposed to somebody else. Three other people, at three different times. I had to isolate again for five days each. So, I was isolated for 25 days altogether.

The reason I moved in here was because I was having visual problems, and I couldn't manage on my own, at home. So then when COVID virus hit we were locked in into our rooms we were not out. I was doubly hit, because at that time, I completely lost my vision.

So, I really was alone. I have a television. I cannot see it, but I can hear it. I have talking books. I can't write, I can't do crafts or anything like that, because I cannot see! I can do... I could do my own breakfast and my lunch.

And because I was, I hadn't been here very long. I didn't know many people in here to call the people, that, that live here themselves. So, I lost contact with ... People. I'm a people person, I need people around me. You know you were robbed of... human contact. You know, the PSW, she would grab your arm because I need assistance. But she had all these gowns [laughs] on, and all that. It, it really wasn't whole human contact really. And it seemed like it was lasting forever.

Well, they've been very good here. They did keep in touch with us. They've kept us up to date on all our vaccines. They have a good system going.

Fortunately, I have a lot of friends outside of here. And they kept in touch with me by telephone. And I have a partner and he would come once a week, he couldn't come in either.

As time went on... You know, it seemed to... Some of the restrictions got loosened a bit. And we were allowed to sit outside in our chair. But we had to wear our mask. And it was such a lovely thing. I mean you hear – there was laughter, there were people talking to each other. And we ... I live ... And, I don't know if you've been up on the floors it's a long, long corridor. You know, you, you know, you'd say "Oh," so and so down the hall "Hi! Hi!" Because you know it's like, you were on a desert island and all of a sudden there people around you.