



April 23, 2020

UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Good day to everyone, we remain COVID-19 free as of today.

It was a great pleasure to wake up today and not have to clean ice and snow off of my car like yesterday! At this time, it is very important to find small blessings in our day.

We have two new feathered friends at St. Pat's. They landed here earlier this week and are certainly making themselves at home!



Bereavement Process

The Chief Coroner of Ontario has implemented some changes regarding how the death of a resident is dealt with during this pandemic. Dealing with the death of a loved one is never easy, and the current pandemic makes this time even more difficult. Although I certainly hope that all your loved ones will remain well during this time however, it is important to share the changes that are being put in place following the death of a resident. This process will be followed for all resident deaths during the pandemic, regardless of whether the death is linked to COVID-19 or not.

Families will be asked to select and contact a funeral home immediately following the death of their loved one. I know that many families have already made these arrangements and we have this information already. These changes mean that things will move quickly following the death of a loved one, so we suggest that you make decisions about funeral arrangements and select a funeral provider in advance if you have not already done so and let us know about this choice.

Unfortunately, the new process also means that families will not be able to have contact with their loved one following death including for cultural or religious practices or accompany them leaving St. Pat's for the last time. Our staff will transfer your loved one to the care of the funeral home personnel within three hours of the death. The Leaving Ceremony will still happen on the resident home area for those who choose this, however, it will not be while accompanying the person leaving the building.

We would ask that you please follow up with the funeral home regarding arrangements and visitation.

Please know that these process changes are a result of exceptional circumstances, and we are sorry we cannot provide the same time for families, friends and staff to say goodbye.

Family Council Ontario and the Ontario Association of Resident Councils (OARC) webinar

As a follow-up to the information regarding the Family Council Ontario and the Ontario Association of Resident Councils (OARC) webinar please find a message from OARC:

“Thank you for your interest in OARC’s “Courageously Living Through COVID-19 Together: Residents and Families” webinar. OARC does not have another webinar scheduled at this time. However, they can add your name to their waitlist and you will be notified and registered should a spot open up.

OARC recorded the previous webinar, that occurred on April 15th, and if you are interested in viewing/listening to the recording please click here:

<https://link.spamstopshere.net/u/5a3f91bb/YDwQo2uF6hG4O7HWYFsSiw?u=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FEIZZTu6WTSM>

OARC will record the April 28th session as well and will post it on their website as soon as possible.”

Please let Cheryl Elliott know if you wish to be included on OARC’s waiting list.

Stay safe at home. You are making a difference from a distance.

Janet Morris
President & CEO