



June 7, 2021

UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello, we have no positive Covid19 cases at St. Pat's.

Visiting

As of June 9th, there are some changes to visiting protocols in LTC homes across the province and at St. Pat's. There are now different levels of contact that various visitors can have with residents, depending on the vaccination status of each person. Today we are attaching again the chart provided by the Ministry of LTC to clarify these new changes. It is also posted on our website: https://stpats.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/LTC-Visitor_Absences_Social-Gatherings-Snapshot_June-3-2021_Final.pdf

Given that the new changes outlined on the attached chart identifies that if someone is fully vaccinated, which means 2 shots at least 14 days ago, there are some things they can do which those who are not vaccinated will not be able to do. We will now need to confirm vaccination status for designated caregivers and for other visitors who visit indoors.

We know that many of you, as designated caregivers, have provided proof of vaccination and we do have that information but will need to confirm. We would ask all visitors to bring your vaccination confirmation ticket that you received from the Ministry of Health when you visit as of June 9, 2021. We can confirm your status once and then it will not be required for future visits. Please provide this information to anyone who is visiting indoors with a resident as we will need to confirm their vaccination status as of June 9th.

Once your vaccination status is confirmed, those who are fully vaccinated will be provided with a lanyard and a yellow badge to identify full vaccination status. This will allow everyone to be clear that you are able to engage in a number of interactions with the person you are visiting. You can drop the lanyard at the screening table when you leave.

We are hoping that this system will make it easy for everyone to identify fully vaccinated visitors and know that they do not need to wear eye protection; can have close contact and may go to the dining room and join in activity.

This will also apply to general visitors visiting both outdoors and indoors as there are different physical distancing requirements depending on their vaccination status. General visitors will be asked to provide proof of their full vaccination status and provided with a lanyard as well.

Residents who are not able to go outside for a visit due to the resident's mobility limitations or health condition can have general visitors indoors. The nursing staff are in the process of identifying which residents would meet this criteria. The substitute decision maker/POA will be

contacted directly for these residents to identify that general visitors are an option for them. General visitors will only be able to visit the identified residents.

The protocols for those residents who are palliative will not change with these new requirements.

We know that this may mean that for some designated caregivers who have had one vaccine and are still waiting for your second appointment, that this will change some of the previous protocols. You are eligible to book your second vaccine in a shorter timeframe than originally planned. If you have not yet scheduled a second vaccine, please do so as soon as possible.

Resident Outings

As of June 9, residents who are fully vaccinated can go for a social outing. Please let the nursing staff on the home area know if you are planning on an outing so they can ensure that everything is set up for the resident to go out for a visit. Upon return they will need to go through the screening process.

Residents who are fully vaccinated can now go out for overnight visits. Please speak to Monique Patterson, VP, Nursing or Pam Smith, Assistant, VP Nursing to discuss this option. The resident will need to have a PCR test upon return and will need to isolate until the result is received. We will need to ensure that there is an isolation room available as part of the planning requirement for those who are in a shared room.

As with all of the previous changes, we may need to adjust as we implement and see how things work. Stay tuned!

Be well and stay safe and cool,

Janet Morris
President and CEO