

February 16, 2022



UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello, we have had one other staff member who has tested positive on a rapid test, however there is no resident contact. We have also had 2 designated caregivers test positive on a rapid test however they have not visited in a 48 hour period and therefore there is no resident contact.

There are some changes for the Ministry of LTC (MoLTC) protocols which are anticipated for Monday, Feb. 21 and March 14 as follows:

MoLTC Targeting February 21, 2022 to:

- Resume all general visitors 5 years and older who have had at least two COVID-19 vaccine doses.
- Children under 5 years of age would continue to be restricted from entering a long-term care home, except for infants 12 months or younger.
- Increase limits on the number of visitors (including caregivers) that may visit a resident at one time to 3.
- Expand social day absences to all residents regardless of vaccination status.
- Resume social overnight absences for residents who have had at least three COVID-19 vaccine doses.
- Social group activities should remain as small groups (i.e., up to 10).

MoLTC Targeting March 14, 2022 to:

- Resume visits by general visitors under 5 years old. No vaccination requirement for those under the age of 5.
- Increase limit on the number of visitors (including caregivers) at a time per resident to 4.
- Allow social overnight absences for all residents regardless of vaccination status.

We are awaiting finalization of these directives, as the MoLTC has only identified that these were target dates. If we are still considered in outbreak general visitors may be delayed until the outbreak is over. We are awaiting further guidance from Ottawa Public Health on this issue and hope that we will hear soon.

Vaccination Requirements for General Visitors and Designated Caregivers

Vaccination requirements for entering long term care homes have not changed. At the present time any designated caregiver is required to have the first dose of COVID-19 to gain entry to home. As of February 21, the requirement changes to must have 2 doses to enter a long term care home. The only exception is when a resident is palliative.

Be well and stay safe,

Janet Morris

President and CEO