



June 27, 2023

UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello, we are very excited to provide to you the most recent Covid-19 Infection Prevention and Control changes which were announced by the Ministry of Long Term Care. It is certainly a long time coming and welcome news for staff, residents, volunteers, and all of the dedicated family members and designated caregivers.

Summary of Changes to be Implemented at St. Pat's as of Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Masks are no longer required for everyone all of the time. Everyone is welcome to continue to wear a mask but it is no longer a requirement. The need for masks should be evaluated on a case by case basis, and based on whether a resident has any symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections. This means that if a resident is showing any symptoms you should wear a mask when entering their room but otherwise you do not need to wear a mask.

1. The need for physical distancing without a mask is no longer required. This means that visitors and designated caregivers may now join in for sharing a meal and a beverage in communal areas such as the dining room or Harvest Room. Staff will now be able to return to the staff rooms for meals and breaks once we get these rooms reconfigured for them.
2. Over the next few days we will be bringing out more chairs and furniture on the ground floor to allow spaces to share a table and a meal with your loved one.
3. Please continue to sign in when you enter the home. The purpose for this is to monitor who is in the Home for fire safety and for infection contact tracing if necessary.
4. Residents can make a choice of asking staff and visitors to wear a mask when they are providing care. We will post a sign making this request and provide masks at the entrance to a resident's room if this is their preference.
5. Please remember that if you are not feeling well, do not visit.
6. Continue to practice good hand hygiene to prevent the spread of illness.

10th Anniversary Launch Celebration

Today we are having the launch party to start the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of moving into our current home. Although we had great plans for a lovely June celebration outside under a tent, the weather is not being cooperative! The event will therefore be moved indoors on the first floor in the lobby and the Gathering Place. Masks will not be required at this event.

St. Marguerite d'Youville Statue

This weekend a new statue arrived in the Larry Kelly Family Garden. For many years our new marble statue of St. Marguerite d'Youville was displayed at Maison de Retraites Notre-Dame de la Providence. This was a retreat house run by the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa in Orleans. Unfortunately, this retreat centre has recently closed. Given that the St. Patrick's Home was also founded by the Grey Sisters, the Sisters of Charity of Ottawa have donated this statue to St. Pat's. Special thanks to Paul Harris, Manager, Support Services and his staff for moving the statue which weighs about 2,000 lbs (a ton)!

As we have sent out this week's update early, we are not planning to send an update tomorrow.

I look forward to seeing everyone's smiles!

Janet Morris

President and CEO