

December 20, 2023

## UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello, unfortunately we have 2 residents on Carlow who have tested positive for Covid19, which meets the definition of an outbreak.

As Carlow is now in outbreak, everyone visiting on Carlow must wear a mask for their entire visit.

Anyone who is visiting a resident who is positive for Covid19 or on isolation must also wear a gown, gloves, and eye protection.

### Visitors masking:

The season for all respiratory illnesses is here! The community is facing a difficult situation with respiratory infections, including influenza, RSV and COVID-19. These viruses can cause serious complications, especially for older adults and people with chronic health conditions. These illnesses are expected to increase in the next few weeks, reaching their peak around late December and early January. Across the province, COVID-19 hospitalizations are at their highest levels since last year, and we are seeing a slightly higher risk of COVID-19 hospitalization among long-term care residents compared to last year.

We urge you to take all the necessary precautions to protect yourself and your loved ones from these infections, including getting vaccinated. Although not mandated by the Ministry of LTC **it is strongly recommended to wear masks in resident areas.** As always please keep practicing hand hygiene and following infection prevention and control protocols. We appreciate your work and dedication in keeping residents and each other safe.

### Merry Christmas

I hope that you and your family are able to have a holiday season which is filled with joy and peace. This season of hope is a special time and I wish you a wonderful time with family and friends.

*Janet Morris*  
President and CEO

