



March 5, 2025

UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Hello,

Outbreak Status

We are currently in respiratory outbreak on Donegal. As always, we all need to be vigilant and follow infection prevention and control practices. Masking is mandatory for staff and strongly recommended for visitors on Donegal. Masking is mandatory for visitors visiting any resident on isolation. Wash your hands frequently with alcohol based hand sanitizer or soap and water. Monitor yourself for symptoms daily and if you are not feeling well, do not visit at St. Pat's.

We strongly recommend that all visitors to St. Pat's to take our Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) online education. The training modules include a set of modules specifically geared towards our visitors. The education is on the McGill website and you will need to enroll using your personal email address prior to starting. The link to the education is as follows:

[Infection Prevention and Control at St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa](#)

Resident Income Tax Preparation Reminder

Just a reminder that our audit firm, Welch LLP, is once again offering free income tax preparation services for lower-income residents. Residents whose income was less than \$30,000 in 2024 are eligible. Residents or their family members can contact our Resident Accounts Clerk, Kachi at ext. 227 to provide their income tax slips. Alternatively, this information can also be emailed to financeoffice@stpats.ca. The Welch tax team has requested that all information be provided to them by March 17, 2025.

In Case of Emergency

Residents and visitors can use the call bell located in each room's bathroom to alert staff to an emergency situation. Emergency call buttons are also located in all of the common areas, including on the balconies, in the secure garden and on the front porch.

Pest Control/Plant Removal

We have identified that pests are hiding in plants on the fourth floor. Both live and fake plants are a known preferred environment for some pests. To address this issue effectively, our team will be bagging and removing all plants on that floor. In addition, we will be inspecting the plants throughout the home for pest activity and disposing of them as required.

Please note: Plants cannot be taken home, as this may transfer the pest issue to your home, which we want to avoid. As well, please limit bringing in any new plants until further notice.

New Hires

We are actively recruiting staff for various roles and to fill vacant positions. We hold a new hire orientation session at least once a month to be able to onboard new staff in a timely manner. In February, we welcomed the following new hires to the St. Pat's team:

- 7 Personal Support Workers
- 3 Registered Practical Nurses
- 1 Registered Nurse
- 4 Dietary Aides
- 3 Housekeeping Aides
- 1 Admin/HR Clerk

These new staff members received two full days of orientation, most of which consisted of in-classroom learning. Their training will also consist of them completing several "buddy" shifts with senior staff of their departments.

Be well and stay safe,

Monique Patterson,

President and CEO