

August 14, 2020

Dear Families, Friends and Elders,

We are happy to see how well the indoor visits are going overall. The indoor visiting hours for the two (2) designated, Essential Visitors will remain 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please ensure you are leaving the building by 7:00.

Outdoor visits -for all others who book an appointment with the Life Enrichment Team please be reminded that you may have more than 2 people as long as you physically distance.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for indoor visits in Elders suites

- A clean, washed and dried mask that has not been worn prior to coming for your visit is required. If you do not have a clean mask, we will provide you with one.
- Eye protection (for example: face shield, goggles and safety glasses) is recommended. Your eye protection should also be thoroughly cleaned prior to your visit.
- Please make every attempt to come in clean clothing that has not been worn elsewhere before coming to your visit.

Please note that if you are found non-compliant with your PPE you will be reminded once. If you are again found non-compliant you will be refused further indoor visits until the restrictions requiring PPE are lifted. You will be allowed outdoor visits only.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for outdoor visits

- A clean, washed and dried mask that has not been worn prior to coming for your visit is recommended

Outdoor visits will not be permitted in the courtyard. We share the courtyard with River East Personal Care Home. Also, the requirements for indoor visits are that the visitor must go directly to and from the suite and not be in any other area of the home. Getting to the courtyard would require going through the Gathering Room or Ivy Trails. Multiple people will be touching the door, door opener, tables and chairs. We can not keep up with the disinfecting process behind each person.

As a designated essential visitor you may take your loved one through the front door for a walk outside during your visiting hours. You must keep your PPE on as you will not be able to distance yourself during the walk. Please ask for a mask for your loved one to wear for while you are out. Make every attempt to have your loved one keep their mask on also. We do understand this is very difficult for some of our Elders so ensuring your mask is on is essential. While off the property, do not gather with others. Be sure to maintain physical distancing from others and do not go into any buildings.

Of note, during the months when there were no indoor visits permitted in personal care homes our region did not have a single outbreak of influenza, common cold or stomach flu. Since the reopening to indoor visits, three (3) Personal Care Homes have already had to close to visitors again due to outbreak, not COVID. This means that someone entered those homes unwell and did not follow the Infection Prevention & Control guidelines. Please be diligent in assessing yourself prior to coming for a visit. We do not want to be in a position that we must close our doors again.

We will continue to review and modify visiting hours. Thank you for your feedback. We will also continue to review and assess PPE use as we receive instructions from Public Health.

For your interest

Indoor visits began August 4<sup>th</sup>. There have been 212 visitors in our Home since then.

In the same timeframe we have had 20 outdoor visits.

All together we have screened all 232 people prior to their visit.

COVID positive cases in Manitoba are quickly rising. 40 new cases today. To put it in perspective- if each one person who is a new COVID case infects **only 1** other person, this is how the numbers of positive COVID cases can grow within one week.

TODAY- Friday	40
Saturday	80
Sunday	160
Monday	320
Tuesday	640
Wednesday	1280
Thursday	2560
Friday	5120

**PLEASE** be diligent in wearing a mask in public, keeping your distance from others and **WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN.**

Have a wonderful weekend!

Kim Rohm  
Administrator