



COVID-19 Update May 29, 2020

We're about to enter the month of June—almost a quarter of the year dealing with the COVID pandemic. We continue to take all the precautions required, doing our best to keep Residents, our co-workers, and ourselves safe. We are doing our best to avoid transmission of the COVID-19 virus along with the Provincial Health Officer, Fraser Health, and other public agencies.

Our twice-daily screening of Residents and staff continues. We take temperatures and monitor for any new or worsening symptoms. Staff wear masks and other Personal Protective Equipment when in Resident care and common areas. The safety of our Residents and staff is our number one priority.

Our prevention practices continue to include distancing between Residents, enhanced daily cleaning, and encouragement of Residents to practice good hand hygiene and social distancing themselves.

You may have heard recently about the Single Site Order for care homes. This provincial Order requires staff to work only in one care home, assisted living residence, or mental health building. The restriction is another important part of reducing the risk of COVID occurring in care homes. We had limited staff work locations in early April. The most recent Single Site Order means single site work assignments are now in place across the province. We are grateful for our staff who are working at our care homes and will welcome back the staff who have been assigned elsewhere when the Order is lifted.

We continue to balance the need for family connections with the very important Infection Prevention and Control best practices. The province is carefully re-opening, but there is no change to restrictions in care homes. As our provincial health officer and Minister of Health said this past week, how we succeed in bringing back the important visits that are an essential part of life and long term care is that we continue to do the things that are required.

The visits by phone and window really do make a difference. Also, in supporting family connections, we remind you that ***when pre-arranged and discussed with the Recreation staff team***, we can help with:

- Food brought for a Resident, which must be:
 - In a single-use container that can be thrown out
 - With a longer shelf, not needing refrigeration, and non-perishable
 - With the Resident's name on it and date delivered
 - Left with staff at the entrance, ***as pre-arranged***
- Essential care items for a Resident, which must be:
 - New products (for example, soap, lotion)
 - In a disposable bag with the Resident's name and date delivered
- Potted plants, flowers, and vases, which must be wrapped so we can clean before bringing the item in

We are so grateful for your support of the staff team and touched by your efforts to stay connected with your loved one in this environment of precautions and restrictions. If you have questions for any of us, please call us. Please continue to take very good care!

~ Heidi, Krista, Georgia, Dr. Windt and the whole staff team