

Ministry of Long-Term Care

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October 5, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Long-Term Care Home Stakeholders

FROM: Sheila Bristo
Assistant Deputy Minister
Long-Term Care Operations Division
Ministry of Long-Term Care

SUBJECT: Visits to Long-Term Care Homes

As the province experiences a surge in cases of COVID-19, we are making every effort to continue to protect residents, staff and visitors in long-term care homes.

Requirements for visits to long-term care homes continue to be established in Directive #3 issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Today, the Ministry of Long-Term Care (Ministry) is releasing an updated COVID-19 Visiting Policy (policy), effective October 7, 2020, to provide guidance for homes located in an area that has been identified as having higher community spread of COVID-19.

Changes have been made to the types and number of visitors permitted to visit the home. As a reminder, a caregiver is a type of essential visitor who is designated by the resident and/or their substitute decision-maker and is visiting to provide direct care to the resident (e.g. supporting feeding, mobility, personal hygiene, cognitive stimulation, communication, meaningful connection, relational continuity and assistance in decision-making).

Specifically, the policy indicates that, subject to direction from the local public health unit:

1. Where the area has **not** been identified as having higher community spread and the home is **not** in an outbreak:
 - A maximum of 2 caregivers per resident may visit at a time.
 - A maximum of 2 general visitors per resident may visit at a time.

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2. Where the area **has** been identified as having higher community spread or the home **is** in an outbreak:
 - A maximum of 1 caregiver per resident may visit at a time (subject to direction from the local public health unit).
 - No general visitors are permitted to visit.

3. If a resident is self-isolating or symptomatic:
 - A maximum of 1 caregiver may visit that resident at a time.
 - No general visitors are permitted to visit that resident.

The City of Ottawa, the City of Toronto and the Region of Peel have been identified as communities with higher community spread of COVID-19, until further notice. General visitors are not permitted to visit long-term care homes in these communities effective October 7, 2020. Essential visitors, including caregivers, are the only type of visitors who may visit long-term care homes in these communities.

The Ministry will issue an update on any changes to the list of communities that are identified as areas with higher community spread.

All visitors to the home continue to be required to follow public health measures (e.g., active screening, physical distancing, hand hygiene, masking for source control) for the duration of their visit in the home. Caregivers must also attest to having a negative COVID-19 test within the previous fourteen days, without a subsequent positive test.

Homes are reminded that they should be providing training to caregivers to address how to safely provide direct care, including putting on and taking off required PPE, and hand hygiene. The frequency of retraining should be indicated in the home's visitor policy.

Homes must ask caregivers and general visitors to verbally attest that they have read/re-read the home's visitor policy on a monthly basis. The home's visitor policy should include education about physical distancing, respiratory etiquette, hand hygiene, IPAC practices and proper use of PPE. The home's visitor policy should also include guidance from Public Health Ontario pertaining to putting on and taking off PPE and hand washing.

The Visiting Policy continues to balance the need to protect against the risk of COVID-19, and support residents in receiving the care they need, including maintaining their physical and emotional well-being.

We are also reviewing feedback received from the sector on the current policy for residents leaving the home's property for a short stay absence or temporary absence as outlined in Directive #3. We are working with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and

exploring options to address the feedback received. As a reminder, homes must provide residents leaving on a short stay absence with a medical mask (if tolerated). Homes should also remind residents about the importance of public health measures including physical distancing.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

(original signed by)

Sheila Bristo
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Long-Term Care

c:

Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care
Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Policy Division
Brian Pollard, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Capital Development

Attachments:
COVID-19 Visiting Policy

Appendix

List of homes located in an area that has been identified as having higher community spread of COVID-19.

City of Ottawa
Facility Name
Carleton Lodge
Carlingview Manor
Centre d'Accueil Champlain
Extendicare Laurier Manor
Extendicare Medex
Extendicare New Orchard Lodge
Extendicare Starwood
Extendicare West End Villa
Forest Hill
Garden Terrace
Garry J. Armstrong Home
Glebe Centre
Granite Ridge Care Community
Hillel Lodge (The Bess and Moe Greenberg Family)
Longfields Manor
Madonna Care Community
Manoir Marochel
Montfort
Peter D. Clark Centre
Residence Saint-Louis
Royal Ottawa Place
Sarsfield Colonial Home
St. Patrick's Home
The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre
The Salvation Army Ottawa Grace Manor
Township of Osgoode Care Centre
Villa Marconi
Élisabeth-Bruyère Residence

Region of Peel
Facility Name
Burton Manor
Camilla Care Community
Cawthra Gardens
Chartwell Wenleigh Long Term Care Residence
Cooksville Care Centre
Erin Mills Lodge Nursing Home
Extendicare Brampton
Extendicare Mississauga
Faith Manor Nursing Home
Grace Manor
Hawthorn Woods Care Community
King Nursing Home
Malton Village Long Term Care Centre
Maple Grove Care Community
Mississauga Long Term Care Facility
Peel Manor
Sheridan Villa
Silverthorn Care Community
Streetsville Care Community
Tall Pines Long Term Care Centre
The Village of Erin Meadows
The Village of Sandalwood Park
Tullamore Care Community
Tyndall Nursing Home
Vera M. Davis Community Care Centre
Villa Forum
Woodhall Park Care Community
Yee Hong Centre - Mississauga

City of Toronto
Facility Name
Altamont Care Community
Apotex The Jewish Home for the Aged
Belmont House
Belmont House LTCH
Bendale Acres
Carefree Lodge
Castleview Wychwood Towers
Cedarvale Terrace
Chartwell Gibson Long Term Care Residence
Chartwell Trilogy Long Term Care Residence
Chartwell Westbury Long Term Care Residence
Chartwell White Eagle Long Term Care Residence
Cheltenham Care Community
Chester Village
Copernicus Lodge
Craiglee Nursing Home
Cummer Lodge
Deerwood Creek Care Community
Dom Lipa
Downsview Long Term Care Centre
Eatonville Care Centre
Ehatore Nursing Home
Elm Grove Living Centre
Extendicare Bayview
Extendicare Guildwood
Extendicare Rouge Valley
Extendicare Scarborough
Fairview Nursing Home
Fieldstone Commons Care Community
Fosterbrooke
Fountain View Care Community
Fudger House
Garden Court Nursing Home
Harmony Hills Care Community
Harold and Grace Baker Centre
Hawthorne Place Care Centre
Hellenic Care for Seniors (Toronto)
Hellenic Home - Scarborough
Humber Valley Terrace
Ina Grafton Gage Home
Isabel and Arthur Meighen Manor

City of Toronto
Facility Name
Ivan Franko Home (Etobicoke)
Kennedy Lodge
Kipling Acres
Labdara Lithuanian Nursing Home
Lakeshore Lodge
Lakeside Long Term Care Centre
Main Street Terrace
Maynard Nursing Home
McCall Centre Long Term Care Interim Unit
Midland Gardens Care Community
Mon Sheong Home for the Aged
Mon Sheong Scarborough Long Term Care Centre
Nisbet Lodge
Norfinch Care Community
North Park Nursing Home
Norwood Nursing Home
Providence Healthcare
Rockcliffe Care Community
Rose of Sharon Korean Long Term Care
Seniors' Health Centre
Seven Oaks
Shepherd Lodge
Sherbourne Place
St. Clair O'Connor Community Nursing Home
St. George Care Community
Suomi-Koti Toronto Nursing Home
Tendercare Living Centre
The Heritage Nursing Home
The Kensington Gardens
The O'Neill Centre
The Village of Humber Heights
The Wexford
Thompson House
Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans' Care
True Davidson Acres
Ukrainian Canadian Care Centre
Valleyview Residence
Vermont Square
Villa Colombo Homes for the Aged
Wellesley Central Place
Wesburn Manor

City of Toronto
Facility Name
West Park Long Term Care Centre
Weston Terrace Care Community
Westside
Yee Hong Centre - Scarborough Finch
Yee Hong Centre - Scarborough McNicoll