Tuesday, March 17 8:15 pm

Good evening everyone;

It has been another busy day so thank you for your patience as the central decision-making team has assessed the influx of information.

Organizational Update

New Return-to-Work Guidelines

We are acting on the latest and best advice from Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer who has directed that “Workers who have travelled and are part of workplaces that are essential to daily living are able to return to work as long as they are asymptomatic. However, they should **self-monitor** for a period of 14 days and identify themselves to their employer so that a plan can be put into place to ensure the protection of those workplaces.”

The full **active screening process still applies to all who enter our Villages** and if, at any time, a team member develops any respiratory symptoms, they must notify their Village leader.

Attached you will find a document that helps clarify the difference between self-monitoring, self-isolating and isolating in relation to COVID-19. We have also amended the screening forms to reflect this new directive and remind everyone to use the attached one if using paper.

Essential Visitors, Volunteers and Contracted Services

At this point, there is no change in directives from the Ministry of Health, so we are still allowing family members to visit a loved one who is deemed palliative or critically ill. As well, those who are actively supporting a loved one with dining or are essential in calming or supporting at-risk residents living with dementia and severe personal expressions are still able to come. These people are critical members within our circle of care, and until the Ministry of Health places a full ban, this is our policy, which is always **subject to immediate change**.

We do, however, ask our families to drastically limit their time in the Villages and stay in only one key area to offer support. We know your teams are doing all they can to connect residents remotely, so thank you all for that.

Our trusted volunteers who are deemed by the Village to be offering essential direct care, as well as our chaplains, are still welcome unless The Ministry of Health bans all but our front-line, direct care team members in our neighbourhoods.

At this point, our salons can remain open, but strictly for internal residents only. Our intent with this policy is to recognize the wide range of residents who live within the Continuum of Care in our Villages; we must maintain as many valued elements of Village Life as possible and balance that with the hope that this service will ensure that independent residents don’t leave The Village for a service that can be provided within, risking infection in the process.

Some helpful guidelines for operators are attached.

Thank you so much for all your hard work and patience as all information is distilled, decided upon and communicated. You are all amazing!