Sunday, March 29 – 4:00 p.m.

Organizational Update

Good afternoon,

As of the release of this update, we still have **no confirmed positive cases of COVID-19** in any of our Villages, though we are awaiting results of testing from Public Health. So far, all returned swabs have come back negative.

Our teams have all been working hard to contain the threat of COVID-19 in our Villages, but also preparing for the eventuality that with increased testing capacity in Ontario, we could receive confirmation of a positive case.

We are prepared for all eventualities and we’re grateful for your continued vigilance.

No changes to our Essential Visitors/Return-to-Work policies or Active Screening Protocols – Temperature Checks will remain in place at all screening for the duration of the pandemic.

Anyone Who Fails Screening is Not Permitted to Enter and We Strongly Recommend Residents in both LTC and our Retirement Homes only leave if it is absolutely necessary.

Important Infection Control Reminder

It is critical that at the first sign of any of these symptoms: **Fever over 38.0; cough; shortness of breath**, the following steps be put into place immediately:

* Isolation: team members must use PPE to go in and out as per the tables supplied; try to limit the number of people providing care per shift so as few people as possible are potentially exposed; If it’s a secured neighbourhood or Emma’s; try to move to one-on-one support to keep the resident isolated; Disposable dishware
* Per shift infection surveillance form started on PCC
* Line list for Public Health started
* Swabs obtained for Public Health
* Contact public health to confirm if neighbourhood is on watch or in outbreak (they are saying outbreak sometimes even when there is only one case so **please confirm**)

Emergency Ministry Orders/Challenging Media Reports

In response to emergency order from the Province expanding regulatory flexibility to meet all needs in the face of the COVID-19 crisis, our position across Schlegel Villages is to remain business as usual. We will not be acting on these orders unless we experience a significant COVID-19 outbreak and will adjust accordingly at that time. In addition, please be aware that there have been media reports indicating that these orders will erode care in LTC, but that won’t be the case in our Villages.

Our Culture is strong at Schlegel Villages and we are grateful our teams are working hard to support each other, with as little disruption as possible in the lives of our residents.

PPE Updates for Ministry and ORCA

There are two surveys that have been released regarding PPE inventory:

* The first is through ORCA. There is **no action required** from any RH GM or AGM. Rose and Joanne will continue to respond on behalf of the Villages.
* Last night a mandate came down requiring daily updates at the Village level on PPE inventory. Three documents are attached, including a spreadsheet. **These updates will be required daily** as an important tracking of these important supplies and our LTC villages will need to send directly to MOHLTC daily.

Child Care Services for Essential Health Care Providers

In order to support health care and other frontline workers during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Province of Ontario has allowed some licensed child care centres to reopen.  We will send information as received, however a summary of locations and information on how team members can apply is attached for Waterloo Region, Guelph-Wellington, Hamilton and Toronto.  Please reach out to your People team resource if you need any support.

Team Member Identification Cards

We are starting to see team members being approached by law enforcement officers inquiring where they are travelling to when taking public transportation. In our efforts to be proactive, we have ordered business cards for each Village that clearly identifies they are an ESSENTIAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER and has the Village address and phone number for confirmation. Please distribute to your team members as needed.  These cards should be delivered either Monday or Tuesday at the latest with attention to the GM.

Thank you for all you do!