**Thursday, October 7 - 3:00 p.m.**

Organizational Update

Good afternoon,

As we look ahead to our second Thanksgiving weekend under the veil of COVID-19, we take time to consider all we are grateful for. In terms of active COVID-19 cases in our Villages, there is only one and, thankfully, this resident from The Village at St. Clair remains symptom-free and the date for resolution is imminent. On Oct. 5, the residents in the affected neighbourhood were tested again and all results returned negative.

All other Villages remain stable and, as we look to COVID numbers in long-term care as whole, we are grateful that the high rates of vaccination are protecting residents, team members, volunteers and visitors. According to the Ontario Long-Term Care Association, there are currently 14 homes with active cases in “outbreak.” Compared to this time last year as a third wave was beginning to wash upon us, these numbers and the low rates of serious illness thanks to vaccines are reasons for gratitude. As for vaccinations, across all 19 Villages, nearly 80 percent of residents have received a third dose booster, offering more protection. As more become eligible, our teams will continue to work with their respective Public Health Units to be sure that number increases.

Our last mention of gratitude is for the people who make up our community: the residents who inspire us with their wisdom and resilience; their extended families and loved ones, of whom the majority offer overwhelming support and encouragement during ongoing difficult times; and the team members who have committed to give of themselves to others and offer support and kindness to those we serve. If we reflect back through 2021 and 2020, it would be easy to sink into darkness, for there was no shortage of grief and hardship, but we can also find light in gratitude. This year, as loved ones safely gather, we wish our community nothing but the light of gratitude.

Thank you

**Villages with Outbreak Status**

