



January 24, 2021

Outbreak Status Update

Dear Saint Luke's Place Staff, Residents & Families:

We have been informed by Waterloo Wellington Public Health Unit that our **outbreak status continues in the E Wing Unit** relating to a positive case in 1 resident and 1 team member.

As of this afternoon **another one of our team members tested positive for COVID** as detected during our surveillance swabbing process and this team member is currently in isolation at home.

Due to this we will be placed in outbreak status in the E Wing, A Lower and A Second Resident Units.

These affected home areas have been placed on isolation precautions. All residents in the home remain stable and symptom free currently. If we have any resident that may show any signs and/or symptoms- they will be swabbed as a precaution under the direction of the WWPHU.

We completed the COVID vaccination process for all residents consenting to this on Monday January 13th, 2021 with the assistance of a team from WWPHU. We will inform all residents and families of the date of the second vaccination.

We have been informed that our team member vaccination process will resume as of January 28th provided the vaccine is available.

We continue to maintain our current essential caregiver processes as they are in compliance with all requirements of the Ministry of Health, Ontario Health Team and Public Health regulatory bodies.

For those family members enrolled in this program please visit at your own discretion within the requirements. We also want to remind essential care givers to limit visits, be vigilant and strict with wearing appropriate PPE and **not removing it for any reason at any time during your visit.** Keep your distance to protect residents, staff, and yourself.

Please protect yourself and your families and friends wearing masks, ensuring hand hygiene and keeping distance while out in the community to keep it out of our home and to stop the spread in the community.

We understand this continues to be an ongoing difficult and stressful time for you and your families. The health and safety of our residents, their families and our staff are our priority and a duty we take seriously. We continue to take stringent precautionary measures to assist in the

prevention of transmission of any virus and to comply with directives from government officials and public health experts.

Below you will find information regarding:

- Social Distancing and Dining
- Essential Visitors and Caregivers
- Limitations on Outings
- Home Environment
- Protecting the health & safety of residents and staff

We continue to work closely with the Public Health Unit to ensure that any needed testing is conducted in accordance with their directive. Where indicated, residents with symptoms will be quickly tested. Our Team Members are closely monitoring our residents' vital signs twice daily paying special attention to all symptoms including but not limited to: fever, sore throat, temperature, cough, etc. As soon as someone is symptomatic, they are placed in isolation, outbreak protocols are initiated, and a swab is taken and sent for testing. All our precautionary measures continue to be in place with strict adherence as well as diligent twice daily resident and staff monitoring.

Social Distancing and Dining

Social gatherings and functions are deferred, and social distancing continues to be always in place. Our home area dining rooms always remain with social distancing in place. Our social gatherings remain cohorted on separate home areas with group activities remaining on hold.

Essential Visitors and Caregivers

Our visitation is managed in accordance with our policy daily to ensure the health and safety of our residents and staff. Essential caregivers and visitors must comply with active screening measures as well as the weekly swabbing requirements, and those who fail screening or fail to remain current with the required swabbing status will not be permitted in the home. We remain with one essential caregiver and or visitor permitted in the home per resident.

Limitations on Outings

Our outings are managed in accordance with our policy ensuring the health and safety of our residents and staff. We have restricted outings to medical emergencies only. All residents requiring going out for a medical emergency will be required to isolate for 14 days upon return.

Home Environment

Our strict cleaning and disinfectant protocols continue to be in place and are being followed and include enhanced cleaning in accordance with authority driven best practices. We have additional cleaning practices in place as per the recommendations daily. We have further increased our cleaning routines in all home areas.

Protecting the health & safety of residents and staff

All staff are being actively screened when entering the building and at end of shift, including taking temperatures. All staff are wearing the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) consistent with the task they are carrying out as specifically directed by the Chief Medical Officer for the province of Ontario. Our homes have sufficient quantities of PPE to protect staff and residents for several weeks with additional stock on standby.

Additionally, all other heightened levels of infection control and outbreak protocols continue to be actively monitored and adhered to.