

April 16, 2021

A message for our families

We are so pleased to be supporting the growing number of designated family caregivers who have been able to spend time with their loved ones in our Homes. As we all experience this third wave of COVID, we hope all our families are staying safe.

Our top priority remains the safety and wellbeing of our residents, staff, families and others who spend time in our Homes. We haven't let up on our rigorous infection control practices and enhanced precautions, including active screening, rapid testing, physical distancing and personal protective equipment (PPE), and we continue to closely follow public health guidelines.

Vaccines have resulted in a dramatic decrease in the number of outbreaks and cases in LTC Homes, and we're thrilled that our Homes have this added layer of protection. Our teams have maximized every opportunity for onsite and community vaccination clinics for residents, staff and designated family caregivers, and we've had great early successes. As we continue on this vaccination journey, we're also asking, "what more can we do?" and working with Public Health to find ways to make it easier for residents, staff and designated family caregivers to get their shots.

As the case numbers escalate in our communities, we appreciate the pressures on our hospital partners and Public Health and are determined to support them in ensuring a smooth and timely admission process for new residents. We are also working collaboratively to look for innovative ways for us to provide ongoing vaccination in our Homes, and in our communities. Our goal is rapid onsite access to immunization for all unvaccinated new residents, new family caregivers and staff. With elevating community transmission of the COVID variants of concern (VOC), and regional differences in the vaccination rollout, we are also requiring that each new resident has the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before they move in – another way to ensure their access to a vaccine, and keep them and our Homes safe.

We are following Ministry directives and will update families when we receive more information around when our Homes will be open to general visitors again. [Designated family caregivers](#) are always welcome in our Homes and we encourage family members to connect with our team to talk about how to become their loved one's designated family caregiver.

Please stay well, and as always, feel free to reach out to the Executive Director of your specific peopleCare Home at any time with questions or concerns.