

August 27, 2021

A message for our families

On August 17, the government announced that Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and health experts have recommended the province begin offering third doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to those at highest risk, providing them with an extra layer of protection against the Delta variant. This recommendation comes in light of evidence showing the immune response in long-term care (LTC) home residents wanes several months after receiving two COVID-19 vaccine doses.

This means our residents will be eligible to receive their third dose at least five months after their second dose. While mRNA vaccines (e.g. Pfizer and Moderna) are interchangeable, if readily available, Public Health will ensure the booster shot is the same product as second doses.

Our Public Health partners have asked us to begin collecting informed consent for booster immunizations for all eligible residents, in preparation for receiving the booster doses in the coming weeks. Our registered staff will start calling the families/substitute decisionmakers (SDM) of eligible residents to discuss boosters, answer any questions and share how to provide consent.

Thank you for working through this process with us. In the meantime, we will continue to work with Public Health to plan the COVID booster immunization clinic for eligible residents and keep you updated on timing.

Please do not hesitate to give the Executive Director of your specific peopleCare Home a call if you have any questions.