



30 June 2021

COVID-19 Update

Dear Family and Friends,

Yesterday, the Province announced that they were further [easing restrictions](#) to long-term care homes in line with the move to **Step Two** of the government's [Roadmap to Reopen](#).

This is a significant step forward and wonderful news for both our residents and their loved ones that is only possible thanks to the outstanding vaccination rates, both in our programs, and those across the province.

As of **Wednesday, July 7, 2021**:

- Residents can have outdoor visits of up to 10 people
- All residents may have up to two (2) General Visitors and two (2) Essential Caregivers for an indoor visit
- Cohorting of residents can be relaxed during outdoor activities
- Limits on the number of people who can be designated as Essential Caregivers per resident, are no longer required

These changes are just the beginning, as the Province has also shared that a further easing of restrictions is planned to align with the timing of **Step Three** of the Roadmap to Reopen. This is exciting news to share for our residents. Please note the following conditions remain in effect:

- Children under the age of two (2) do not count towards the visitor maximum
- General Visitors are not permitted if a resident:
 - is symptomatic;
 - is isolating under droplet and contact precautions; and
 - lives in an area of the home that is in an outbreak
- All visitors and residents are required to follow all infection prevention and control measures as well as any other specific home policies during their visit
- Local public health units may provide further direction on the types and numbers of visitors to the homes to ensure the health and safety of all residents, staff and visitors

The Ministry has prepared a [Long-Term Care Visitor, Absences and Social Gatherings snapshot](#) that clearly shows visitor requirements for fully immunized and partially/unimmunized parties and is attached for your reference.

To support the continued wellbeing of your loved ones, we are carefully reviewing these changes and will be enhancing our processes to ensure a seamless and safe transition for everyone. We look forward to communicating further details on these new guidelines next week prior to July 7th.

Sincerely,

Jane

Jane Sinclair
General Manager, Health and Emergency Services
County of Simcoe