

COVID-19 Update - March 29, 2020

Dear Residents, Clients, Families and Friends,

As the COVID-19 pandemic further evolves with an increasing presence in Ontario including our local communities, we continue to make every effort to protect our highest priority; our long-term care residents and the seniors we serve in our housing and community services.

I have included a link to Public Messaging that we are broadcasting far and wide to keep our communities informed and reassure everyone that we are working hard to protect them.

Please review this at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJA5I8kHMD0>

Below I have included several updates from our last communication on March 20 for long-term care homes and seniors services.

New* COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION – PHYSICAL DISTANCING

March 27, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) advised of evidence of community transmission of COVID-19 in our region not linked to travel or a previously known case. They have also learned this virus is not just affecting elderly, most of our cases are between ages 35-64 years.

IMPORTANT:

The best things you can do to protect yourself & others, is stay home, maintain 2 meters distance from others, and wash your hands frequently.

** Keep an eye out for new Federal government mailing with Tips to help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19*

New* DROP-OFF RESTRICTIONS

We recognize that as family members you want to ensure your loved ones have everything they need. Though your gestures to drop off items for our long-term care residents, or those living in at Georgian Residences & Simcoe Village are well-intentioned, this introduces another mode for spread of infection.

We ask that you not bring items to our facilities unless they are essential for the well-being of our residents and clients. Please absolutely no food products under any condition.

IMPORTANT:

If you do need to drop off an essential item for your loved one, we will require that you double bag the items using plastic bags and drop it off in the space inside the first entrance doorway. Please call ahead to advise our staff so that they can get the item after you have dropped it off.

Our new procedure eliminates the need for any person to person contact and puts in place additional disinfectant procedures to eliminate spread of infection. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

New*ADMISSION RESTRICTIONS

All new resident admissions into our long-term care homes, Georgian Residences and Simcoe Village will be placed in isolation for a 14-day period. They will be asked to remain in their rooms during this period and will be closely monitored for COVID-19 symptoms during this timeframe.



New* STAFFING PRECAUTIONS

On March 19, the Ministry of Health asked all Health Care Employers to identify staff that work in multiple locations. In high-risk settings, they recommended employers consider asking staff to only work in one location. As we are taking **every precaution** to protect our residents, we are enforcing this recommendation with staff in all our long-term care and seniors locations.

IMPORTANT:

Staff working in multiple locations have been asked to “temporarily” work in only one location. Part-time staff choosing to temporarily work only at County homes/seniors programs are being offered full-time hours to support these staff and to ensure continued care in our facilities.

New* AGENCY STAFF

Due to ongoing shortages of health care workers, we utilize agency health care staff to fill in when we are unable to cover shifts with our own staff. We are applying the same restrictions to these individuals and will require that if they work for us, they cannot work elsewhere.

New* PRIVATE CARE GIVER PRECAUTIONS

We recognize that some of our families employ “private care givers” to provide additional support to their loved ones. To stop any potential spread of COVID-19, we are requesting the same provisions for these individuals.

IMPORTANT:

Private caregivers working in multiple sites are asked to “temporarily” work in only one location. Caregivers will be asked to sign a disclosure form to advise of their choice. We will also need to know where else they work as we are closely monitoring COVID-19 cases in the community. If you have a private caregiver in place for your loved one, please advise a member of our management team as soon as possible to ensure we can review these new requirements.

New* COVID-19 COMMUNICATION UPDATES

We know this is a challenging time for our Residents, their families and friends due to the many precautions and changing nature of this Pandemic. More than ever, it’s important that we keep you informed about this situation and respond to your questions in a timely manner.

IMPORTANT:

COVID-19 Newsletter New weekly updates will be issued to all families to keep you informed.

Virtual Townhall A “virtual” Townhall is being planned for our families to bring you the latest information and respond to your questions and concerns. Stay tuned for more details...



New* GROCERIES & ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES

Further to our last communication urging our seniors to stay home and have your groceries, medications and other essentials delivered to you, 2-1-1 has taken on a lead role to help our communities. Please see the attached 2-1-1 poster with further details.

RESIDENT & CLIENT ACTIVITIES

In our last bulletin, I advised you that we needed to stop any group programs and activities however would be continuing to provide activities on an individual basis. We so appreciate your understanding. Please click on the attached link to see some of the wonderful gestures of support we are seeing from our families: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ir6CrC6OsRg>

Please know your loved ones are in good hands... Here's a few examples of some of the fun things we are doing to keep smiles on the faces of those we serve... Enjoy!

On behalf of our entire County of Simcoe Team *Jane Sinclair, General Manager*





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Special thank you to the OPP officer and his family who dropped off handmade cards of encouragement for staff and residents at Trillium Manor in the City of Orillia last week. We are grateful for the love and support shown to our Long-Term Care homes and amazing staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#strongertogether
#simcoecountystrongertogether
#longtermcare #seniors
#countyofsimcoe #mysimcoecounty
#simcoecountystrong #simcoecounty
#thankyou #opp
#ontarioprovincialpolice #trilliummanor
#orillia #covid19 #pandemic
#allinthistgether #staywell #home

Liked by penetanguishene and 47 others
5 DAYS AGO

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It is not surprising that our communities continue to come up with new & ingenious ways to entertain & educate. Visit a Facebook community page in your area for the next themed walk.

#strongertogether #windowwalk
#community #simcoecounty
#countyofsimcoe #mysimcoecounty
#longtermcare #seniors
#agingwithgrace #ispy
#socialdistancing #trilliummanor
#simcoemanor #sunsetmanor
#georgianmanor #orillia #collingwood
#newtecumseth #beeton

3d

amber.martin.91 ❤️❤️❤️
2d Reply

Liked by collinmatanowitsch and 60 others
3 DAYS AGO

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