



Corona Virus Information

March 14, 2020

The safety of our residents, staff and visitors is paramount. We have implemented new preventative measures at our sites to help keep the vulnerable people we serve and our health care workers safe.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a dynamic environment and direction from the Ministry of Health is evolving on an hourly basis. Rest assured, as of March 14, 2020, we **have not** had any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 at any of our sites.

Long Term Care

On March 14, the Ministry of Health gave the directive that, **effective immediately, Glen Hill Strathaven and Glen Hill Marnwood should only allow essential visitors.**

"In order to ensure a safe and secure environment for residents, we strongly recommend that these settings only allow essential visitors until further notice. We will reevaluate this measure in the coming weeks," said Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams in a memo sent to Ontario long-term care homes and hospices.

The Ministry identifies essential visitors as those who have a resident who is dying or very ill. These visitors must continue to be actively screened.

We recognize this may be very sudden and abrupt. The change was made out of an abundance of caution to protect you, your loved one and our staff from a COVID-19 outbreak. Our staff is working around the clock to keep everyone safe – we ask that you remain calm and respectful in this difficult time.

Independent Living

At **Providence Place** and **Tekoa Manor** we have been educating residents on the virus and how to prevent transmission. We have enhanced environmental cleaning. We met with the Resident Council Executive this week and, using the risk mitigation strategies provided by the Government of Canada, worked with them to minimize group events.

Current information suggests that older people and those with underlying health conditions are at increased risk of severe outcomes. We ask our family members and other visitors for their cooperation and support with the work we are doing to protect and keep our residents safe.

We are requesting that any visitors or residents that have travelled outside of Canada self-isolate for a 14 day period and not congregate or visit in our Whitby sites.

We will provide you with more information as it becomes available and thank you in advance for your cooperation. For the most up-to-date information, please speak to your Home Administrators or visit ontario.ca/coronavirus.

Ruth McFarlane, C.E.D.