



COVID-19 UPDATE

March 27, 2020

Durham Christian Homes is closely following the spread of COVID-19 in Ontario. As always, the safety of our patients, residents, clients and staff is our top priority. For province-wide updates, visit [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus).

This is a quickly-evolving situation. We have made a number of operational changes in our long-term-care and independent living homes.

As we continue to face uncertainty in the coming weeks, we are grateful for all of our employees, from our dedicated front line health care workers to our dedicated support staff, in all our homes, who continue to care for our residents.

Long Term Care

Glen Hill Strathaven and Glen Hill Marnwood continue to screen all staff and are only **allowing essential visitors**.

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 and will be required to follow our infection control practices.

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 are proceeding with the abundance of caution and restricting outside visitors. At this time, we are requesting that **only CRITICAL visitors enter the building**. Restricting outside visitors is essential to keeping our residents safe.

NEW: CRITICAL VISITORS and CARE PROVIDERS must sign in and self-screen for symptoms in the vestibules prior to entering the building or having contact with our residents.

Any persons that have cold symptoms or are feeling unwell are not permitted to enter the building.

We have set up drop off zones in the vestibules and ask that visitors that are dropping off supplies for our residents, minimize contact by adhering to the posted procedure and not enter the building.

The office has been fielding many calls from concerned family. Please know that your families and children are concerned for your welfare. If you have not done so, we encourage you to speak to your loved ones and make decisions together. Please keep the lines of communication open and make sure that you practice social distancing.



Residents are encouraged to stay in contact with their neighbours by telephone and asked to not visit in person and in suite.

Outside visitation will additionally be restricted in the following manner:

- All lounge and auditorium rentals have been postponed or cancelled.
- The hairdressing salon is closed until further notice.
- All guest suite rentals have been cancelled.
- Tours have been postponed until further notice.

It is imperative that visitors or residents that have travelled outside of Canada continue to self-isolate for a 14 day period and not congregate or visit our Whitby sites.

Please note that private care providers and home care providers will be permitted to provide services to residents but are now required to sign in at the table at the front entrance.

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.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ruth McFarlane, C.E.O.