



Victoria Manor Connection

Issued September 3, 2020

A Message from our Executive Director

Dear Families and Friends,

With the labour day long weekend upon us, September brings a sense of renewal as we head into the fall season and back to school for students. While many Ontarians have taken the latter part of the summer to relax and enjoy all that summer has to offer, at Sienna we have been diligently planning for a potential second wave of COVID-19. We are working across a number of critical areas of care and program delivery to ensure our residents remain safe, healthy and protected.

In addition, we have been working collaboratively with local Ontario Health Region and other community stakeholders to complete in depth assessments of their preparedness for a potential Wave 2, based on a framework provided by the Ministry of Long Term Care. The framework addresses specific needs in various areas including Human Resources, Infection Prevention & Control, and Partnerships & Sustained Operations, and is aimed at aligning regional and provincial support systems in the event of future outbreaks.

For more information, you may want to check <https://www.kawarthalakes.ca/en/victoria-manor-long-term-care.aspx> for general updates.

Short Stay and Temporary Absences

We are pleased to inform you that the Ontario Government announced that long-term care residents can once again leave their residences for short-stay and temporary absences.

The new directive allows residents to spend time away from their long-term care homes for day trips or overnight absences. Outings are categorized in two ways:

Short-Stay Absences

These include visits to see family or run errands, as well as outpatient medical visits or emergency room visits that extend over a single night, but where the person is not admitted as an in-patient. For these types of outings, we will provide residents with a medical mask to be worn at all times when outside of the home, if tolerated. Residents will also be reminded of the importance of following all public health measures, including physical distancing, handwashing and group sizes according to community. When they return, residents must be actively screened but are not required to be tested or to self-isolate.

Temporary Absences

Residents may also leave for 'temporary' absences of one or more nights. Temporary absences will be our discretion and decided on a case-by-case basis based on safety factors like the risk associated with the absence (e.g., for a family weekend vs. a large gathering) and the ability of the home to help residents self-isolate upon return. For the protection of their neighbours, residents who leave on a temporary absence will be required to self-isolate for 14 days when they return to the care community. If we make the decision to deny a temporary absence request, we will communicate our rationale in writing.

While we are pleased that this announcement allows for more flexibility of our residents and increased socialization with family and friends, our main priority remains on the health and safety of our residents and team members.

We also ask all family members to support these efforts by following all public health measures, including physical distancing, handwashing and adhering to group sizes according to your community.

To arrange a short stay or temporary absence we ask that you give us 24 hours notice. Please you call 705-324-3558 extension 1400 to schedule and coordinate. This will ensure that residents are available and ready to spend time with you at their scheduled time.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Following are links to further details published by the Ministry of Long-Term Care:

- [Directive #3 for Long-Term Care Homes under the LongTerm Care Homes Act, 2007](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Respiratory Etiquette & How To Wash Your Hands

We ask that you take a few moments to review the “Respiratory Etiquette & How to Wash Your Hands” documents attached. Thank you for your support as we work together to safeguard residents and team members.



Respiratory
etiquette.pdf



How to wash your
hands.pdf

Family Virtual Town Hall Held – August 26th

It was wonderful to have so many families participate in our first ever zoom virtual town hall. This forum provided us with the opportunity to keep you informed on our planning efforts and all other operational updates that affect you and your loved one at Victoria Manor.

We hope you can take the time to connect with us at our next Town Hall in September. If you need further information about our upcoming virtual Town Hall meeting on September 23, 2020 at 6:30 pm, please reach out to us at 705-324-3558 extension 1400 or vmcovid19questions@kawarthalakes.ca. We will continue to host meetings to listen to your feedback.

Sincerely,

Pamela Kulas, Executive Director