

February 4, 2021

REOPENING OF IN ROOM VISITS BETHANIA MPCH

Dear Residents and Families:

As noted in my January 25th update, our Residents will be receiving their second dose of the Pfizer COVID -19 vaccine on February 12th. Seven days following the immunizations, should provide up to 95% efficacy to prevent a COVID infection.

With this milestone reached, the fact that we will be able to declare our outbreak over as of February 5th and with the lower levels of community based COVID transmissions, we are so very pleased to announce we can reopen Bethania MPCH for in room visits by the two Designated Family Caregivers.

VISITATION DETAILS

- In Room visits will begin on **Monday, February 22nd**. Both of the two currently listed Designated Family Caregivers can visit at the same time or separately. Your proxy cards will be reactivated for that date. We will allow changes to this list on a one time basis **on or before Friday, February 19th**. Please email Kimberly.McMillan@bethania.ca if you wish to make a change.
- You do not need to make an appointment for these visits.
- Visitors are welcome anytime from **10:00 am until 6:00 pm Monday to Friday** and can stay for as long as they wish (but must depart by 6:00 pm).
- Other family members and general visitors are encouraged to stay connected by booking indoor visit appointments using our website calendar.
- The days and times for visits are subject to change due to availability of staff resources, in the event of a COVID or influenza outbreak, or at the direction of the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer.

VISITATION GUIDELINES

While the risk of infection from visitors is very low for our Residents, there are higher potential risks for our staff who have yet to be vaccinated and for other visiting families. To protect these persons, we must ensure essential infection

prevention & control guidelines are followed. Failure to comply with these conditions will result in visitors being asked to leave and could affect future visiting privileges.

1. Visitors will be screened before entry and will not be allowed in if they appear ill or answer “yes” to any of the COVID-19 screening questions. If you are ill and/or have the following symptoms such as sore throat, recent fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose in addition to muscle aches, extreme fatigue, headache, diarrhea and vomiting or exposure to positive COVID persons, please do not enter the PCH.
2. Visitors will sign in and out and sanitize their hands before entry and after leaving a resident’s room.
3. Visitors will be given a medical mask, which must be worn during the entire visit. If you take your mask off during your visit you will be asked to leave.
4. Visitors will also have their temperature taken.
5. After screening, visitors are required to go directly to their Residents room and are not allowed to roam around or linger in any common areas, hallways, dining areas, kitchens, other Residents rooms or around the Nursing Stations. Please avoid touching any surfaces on your way to the room. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet from staff and other residents must be maintained. After a visit, we ask that you go directly to the exit without stopping and sign out before you leave.
6. If your loved one is not in their room, please pull the Nurse Call bell in the residents’ room to get assistance to bring the resident to their room. You may be asked at times to vacate the room and stand in the hallway when care is being provided for your resident in the room.
7. We fully understand the need for a hug or holding hands when visiting. Please use hand disinfectant before and after contact with your resident for better protection.
8. If a designated family caregiver normally helped in assisting a resident to eat lunch or dinner, they can continue to assist in the residents’ room.
9. You can bring food and drinks for the resident during your visit. However, we ask that you do not eat and keep your mask on.
10. Visitors can use their Resident’s washrooms if not shared with another resident or the Visitors washrooms if there is a shared bathroom.



THE BETHANIA GROUP

“Bethania, a Mennonite Organization, provides compassionate, outstanding long term care and affordable housing for seniors.”

We suggest you distribute copies of this memo to all your designated family caregivers for future reference, and stay updated by checking our website on a regular basis www.bethania.ca.

We look forward to welcoming you back to enhance the care and quality of life of our residents during these difficult times.

Should you have any questions on the above, please email general.inquiries@bethania.ca or contact Doris Furtado, Director of Care at doris.furtado@bethania.ca

With best regards,

Gary J. Ledoux, CEO,
The Bethania Group

