



# THE BETHANIA GROUP

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

Dear Residents and Family:

In addition to the many preventative measures we already have in place, we are pleased to announce that our persistent requests to have asymptomatic COVID surveillance testing (so-called Rapid Testing) of staff available at Bethania and Pembina Place, has finally been granted by Shared Health. We will begin testing on March 1, 2021.

We will use the Abbot Panbio COVID-19 rapid antigen test on staff that are asymptomatic (i.e. show no symptoms of COVID-19) and have no known exposure to the virus. Participation is voluntary but we are strongly encouraging all eligible staff to be tested once a week. With the full immunization of our Residents, there remains a medium risk of COVID transmission from staff to staff, most of whom have not yet been able to access vaccinations from Public Health.

Staff presenting at screening with symptoms of, or exposure to COVID-19 will continue to be required to self-isolate, go for the regular test and to be off work until they have been cleared by public health to return.

In the event of a positive rapid test result, that staff member is considered a “probable positive” and we will give them a second conventional swab and send it to the Cadham Labs for confirmation of the positive rapid test. They will also be directed to isolate at home until the results are confirmed by the laboratory test. Public Health contact tracing will also begin immediately.

If the test is confirmed positive, the staff member will self-isolate at home and continue to follow public and occupational health directions until they are cleared to return to work.

Please read the Shared Health Frequently Asked Questions about the rapid test on our website [www.bethania.ca](http://www.bethania.ca) in the COVID 19 section. Should you have questions about rapid testing, please email us at [general.inquiries@bethania.ca](mailto:general.inquiries@bethania.ca)

Sincerely,

Gary J. Ledoux  
CEO, Bethania Group

