

September 14, 2021

Dear PCH Residents and Families and Housing Tenants:

Re: Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations for Health Care/ Housing Staff

The Manitoba Government has announced that all employees who work with vulnerable populations in health care or congregate living situations must **be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 by October 31**, or undergo regular testing, to protect Manitobans against a fourth COVID-19 wave.

This announcement applies to all of Bethania Group staff, including employees at our various housing locations.

Last week, we directed all staff to complete and submit an Immunization Status Form and proof of vaccination on or before Friday, September 24th.

After October 31, staff who are not vaccinated will be **required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test** perhaps as often as 3 times per week for full time employees. The details on this testing process for staff who are not vaccinated and choose not to be vaccinated for personal reasons or have a medical exemption, is currently being developed by the province and will be provided to management.

As I have noted in the past, the Delta variant poses a serious threat to our Residents, Tenants and staff, especially for those who are not vaccinated. This provincial directive is intended to reduce that threat and provide enhanced safety for all of us working or living in PCHs or elderly persons housing.

Public Health is also reviewing whether to mandate that all PCH Designated Family Caregivers must be fully vaccinated as well in order to continue in-room visits with their Resident. Again, we expect a decision in the near future and will communicate the result.

Should you have any questions on the above, for PCH families please send an email c/o Kim McMillan at Kimberly.McMillan@bethania.ca and for Housing Tenants email c/o Kevin Vovchuk at Kevin.Vovchuk@bethania.ca.

Please keep our Residents, Tenants and Staff in your prayers.

Sincerely,

Gary J. Ledoux, CEO, The Bethania Group