



April 24, 2020

To: All Pioneer Manor Residents, Families and Substitute Decision Makers

Re: COVID-19 Update #3

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge how we all work and live, and we are grateful for the ongoing encouragement and support from residents, families, and community members. As we work together to protect the health and safety of our residents and staff, your support means the world to everyone at Pioneer Manor.

A number of proactive measures are in place, including active screening for those entering the home, visitor and essential deliveries restrictions, enhanced infection prevention, control program and cleaning as well as keeping residents and families informed.

On April 15, 2020, the Ontario Ministry of Health released the “*COVID-19 Action Plan for Protecting Long-Term Care Homes*,” which outlined actions the government is taking to protect residents and staff in long-term care homes. One of the new measures included in the plan relates to aggressive testing, screening, and surveillance for all LTC Homes.

In order to be proactive, all residents and staff at Pioneer Manor are being tested for COVID-19. This measure is also being taken in response to a declared outbreak at St. Joseph’s Villa with which we share our Medical Director. Effective April 21, our Medical Director, Dr. Moe St. Martin will be working solely at St. Joseph’s Villa. Dr. St. Martin has not been at Pioneer Manor since April 17. All consultation/resident assessments will be done virtually or by Dr. Monique St. Martin.

Working closely with Public Health officials, we are pleased to confirm that all residents were tested on Thursday, April 23, 2020. In addition, approximately 80% of staff members have been tested. COVID-19 testing will continue throughout the weekend with the goal being to have all staff tested by the end of day Monday. Further communication will be issued pending results.

We want to reassure everyone, Pioneer Manor continues to have **no** COVID-19 positive cases. This is certainly a testament to the efforts of our dedicated staff members and our strict infection control protocols. The residents’ and staff members’ health and safety remains our utmost priority

An additional precautionary measure has been implemented as per the “*COVID-19 LTCH Outbreak Guidance for Long-Term Care Homes (LTCH)*.” Modifications to the dining experience are recommended in order to maintain physical distancing (2 meters) in the dining room to reduce potential exposure to COVID-19. While the meal service is often the highlight of the residents’ day and provides an opportunity for socialization, it also creates difficulties with maintaining adequate physical distancing. For these reasons, changes will be implemented regarding how residents receive meal service. These changes will be rolled out over the next two weeks, and residents in the Home were notified of this change.

Residents who are independent will be provided with meal trays in their rooms and residents who require feeding assistance or supervision will continue to have their meals in the dining room. In order to maintain physical distancing in the dining rooms, there will be a maximum of two (2) residents per table with a two (2) meter distance between them. This change will not occur on the First Floor Lodge, and physical distancing will be accomplished on the Second Floor Lodge by utilizing the Great Room as a second dining room.

As a further safety measure, residents exhibiting any respiratory symptoms are being placed on isolation (contact and droplet precautions) and will receive tray service in their room. In the event that there is a positive COVID-19 result in the Home, all residents in the specific Home Area(s) would be converted to tray service.

We understand the above measures are difficult; however, by improving physical distancing, we can protect and ensure the health and well-being of residents and staff. We will continue to review all possible courses of action to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19 while providing positive social interactions with residents to brighten up their day.

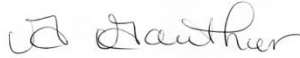
We will continue to post updates on our website at <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/pioneermanor>. Please do not hesitate to contact us at pmcommunications@greatersudbury.ca or by calling 705-566-4270, ext. 3201 should you have any questions.

Once again, our gratitude for the efforts of the staff at Pioneer Manor and the support of loved ones cannot be overstated – we thank you all!

Sincerely,



Aaron Archibald
Director



Glenda Gauthier
Manager of Resident Care



Dr. Maurice St. Martin
Medical Director, Pioneer Manor

c.c.: Councillor René Lapierre, Chair, Community Services Committee
Ed Archer, Chief Administrative Officer
Steve Jacques, General Manager, Community Development
Dianna Foster and Terry Martyn – Family Council
Patricia Martyn – Resident Council