

August 31, 2020

To: All Pioneer Manor residents, families and substitute decision makers

Re: COVID-19 Update #20

We thank everyone for their ongoing support and would like to share the following updates:

### **Update to Directive #3 for Long-Term Care Homes**

On August 28, 2020, the Chief Medical Officer of Health released an update to COVID-19 Directive #3 for Long-Term Care Homes under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 (Directive #3). Effective immediately, residents may leave the home's property for a short stay or temporary absence for health care, social, or other reasons.

The following outlines the direction regarding absences from the Home and some important information to consider:

#### Short Stay Absence:

Residents may leave the Home for short periods of time for social visits with family/friends, medical appointments, etc. A short stay absence does not include an overnight stay (with the exception of single-night emergency room visits). Upon return to the Home, residents must be actively screened, but are not required to be tested for COVID-19 or self-isolate.

Residents will be provided with a medical mask which is to be worn at all times when they are outside of the Home and will be reminded about the importance of public health measures including physical distancing.

#### Temporary Absence:

Residents may leave the Home for one or more nights for personal reasons with approval from the Home. Upon returning to the Home, residents must self-isolate for 14 days.

Requests for temporary absences will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and will include consideration of:

- Pioneer Manor's ability to support self-isolation for 14 days upon the resident's return
- Local disease transmission and activity
- Risks associated with the planned activities that will be undertaken by the resident while out of the Home
- Resident's ability to comply with local and provincial policies/bylaws
- Any further direction as provided by the Ministry of Long-Term Care

Please note that the following conditions must be met for **all** absences:

- The Home must NOT be in outbreak (if the Home goes into outbreak, all absences must end)
- Residents must pass active screening every time they re-enter the Home and attest to not experiencing any of the typical or atypical symptoms of COVID-19 (if active screening is not passed, infection control protocols will be initiated and resident may be placed on 14-day isolation under contact and droplet precautions)
- Residents must wear a surgical mask while outside of the Home

We understand how important it is to be able to connect with loved ones and also are aware of the significant increase in risk this presents. Pioneer Manor is doing everything we can to support this directive.

We kindly ask that you:

- Communicate plans - inform a staff member of your plans, to ensure we are aware and can be prepared.
- Sign out - use the sign-out sheet to communicate time you have left and anticipated time of return (please leave a contact number).
- Wear a surgical mask - we will provide you with one (the mask should cover your nose and mouth and fit snug to your face.)
- Wash your hands often - proper hand hygiene is the best defence.
- Maintain physical distancing - continue to stay two (2) metres from others when possible.
- Be safe and enjoy yourself - it is your responsibility to ensure you not only protect yourself, but others in the Home.
- Screen in - when you return to Pioneer Manor, you are required to complete active screening at the entrance.

Pioneer Manor understands there is added risk when out in the community and urges families and residents who wish to leave the Home for absences to continue to be diligent with following infection control practices. As a reminder, one positive test may put Pioneer Manor in outbreak, suspend all short absences and visits, and place residents back into isolation.

## Visiting with Loved Ones

The province also announced it will update guidelines for visits to long-term care homes this week. Further communication from the Home will be sent once details are released.

In line with current Ministry directives, all visits must be prescheduled by emailing [pmcommunications@greatersudbury.ca](mailto:pmcommunications@greatersudbury.ca) or by contacting the Home at 705-566-4282, extension 3225. Up to two (2) people can visit at a time, providing the Home is not in an outbreak.

All visitors must pass active screening, maintain social distancing of two (2) metres, practise proper hand hygiene regularly and wear a face covering. Visitors are to go directly to the resident's room/assigned table and remain there during the entire visit.

#### Outdoor visits

- Scheduled between 9:30 – 12 p.m. and 1 - 4:30 p.m. in the Winter Park Courtyard

#### Indoor visits

- Scheduled between 10 - 11:30 a.m., 2 - 4:30 p.m., and 6:30 - 8 p.m.
- Visitor(s) must have tested negative for COVID-19 within the previous two (2) weeks and subsequently not tested positive (Pioneer Manor is not responsible for providing the testing.)

All visitors must adhere to the directives issued by the Ministry of Health in order to continue to be permitted to visit the resident. Failure to do so may result in discontinuation of visits.

As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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