

March 17, 2022

A message for our families

Following the recent Ministry of Long-Term Care announcement further lifting enhanced measures in long-term care (LTC) Homes, peopleCare has been carefully reviewing these changes and making thoughtful decisions on how we will move forward as an organization. Please see below for more information.

Immunization Policy

As LTC is considered a high-risk setting, peopleCare will maintain our immunization policy and continue to require all staff, students, volunteers, support workers and designated family caregivers be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Fully vaccinated means 14 days after two or more doses.

We are also continuing to require that general visitors be fully vaccinated against COVID at this time, as we keep an eye on how things progress within the community as provincial restrictions are lifted. Please see our [visiting at a glance](#) chart for more information.

Visits and Absences

Based on the Ministry's recent guidance that aims to support resident quality of life, the following changes are effective:

- Max of four indoor visitors per resident at a time (including family caregivers)
- No limit on the number of visitors per resident at a time for outdoor visits (where permitted)
- All residents may go on social overnight absences regardless of vaccination status
- Residents can participate in social activities without having to cohort, except for dining
- Social group activities can be increased in size (i.e., more than 10)

Rapid Testing

We will adjust our testing frequency for staff, students, volunteers and designated family caregivers to the current government requirement of a minimum of two times per week. Indoor general visitors and support workers must continue to complete a rapid test at each visit or provide proof of a negative antigen test result from the same day or previous day, and wait for results before visiting the resident.

We're grateful to have rapid testing to provide our Homes with an extra layer of protection. We may increase our testing frequency at any time if numbers start to rise within the community or in the event of an outbreak.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work hard to protect everyone who lives, works and spends time in our Homes. Please see our at a glance charts, available on our [Family Caregiver Programs](#) page at peoplecare.ca, for more information on visiting, absence and testing guidelines.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to connect with the Executive Director of your specific peopleCare Home directly.