

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – May ‘22**

Dear Strathmere Lodge residents, family members, friends/responsible parties:

1. **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Update**



Here are the main points currently governing Visiting during the pandemic (subject to ongoing change):

1. Visitors are to be vaccinated (2 or more doses);
2. Where there are COVID cases at The Lodge such that an Outbreak is declared (through and with the local Health Unit), the number of visitors per resident will be limited to two (i.e., the same two) on affected resident home areas (for unaffected resident home areas, 4 visitors can visit at a time, and there is no limit to the number of different visitors who can visit, subject to the vaccination requirement noted above);
3. Visitors can be five (5) years old or older;
4. Mask wearing remains mandatory at all times, including in resident rooms;
5. Those entering The Lodge are subject to on-site rapid antigen testing, currently being conducted daily;
6. Residents may leave Lodge premises during the day for social absences (if not in a home area affected by outbreak); and
7. Overnight resident absences are permissible (if resident not in a home area affected by outbreak).

Subject to the local health unit, Outbreak situations are not resolved for 10 days from last new COVID case. Outbreaks will generally grow in size first before new cases subside.

The importance of not visiting when you feel unwell cannot be stressed enough.

Please contact The Lodge with any questions regarding Visiting during the pandemic.

1. **Influenza (Flu)**



Besides COVID, there are our viruses circulating in the community, and unfortunately, in addition to COVID, we are now (as at the time of this newsletter writing) impacted by a Flu Outbreak in our Hickory Woods resident home area.

The 2-visitor rule noted above applies to Hickory Woods until this outbreak is declared over.

In addition to the COVID vaccine, visitors are strongly encouraged to get their annual flu shot.

1. **Automated Messaging System (“OneCallNow”)**



Many of you are aware that we use “OneCallNow” software to send out messages to both staff and family members regarding the pandemic and other matters of general importance.

Generally, we send out messages via both text (requiring cell phone) and email. Some of you receive our messages via one format or both.

Please advise us of any changes to your cell phone number or email address. If we do not have your cell phone number and/or email address, and you want to receive our OneCallNow messages, please let us know (contact Brent Kerwin, Administrator, 519-245-2520, ext. 6222, or via email: bkerwin@middlesex.ca).

1. **Labelling of Residents’ Clothing**



This is a reminder that new clothing needs to be labelled with the resident’s name before a resident begins to wear it (this also includes items such as shoes/slippers and personal blankets/throws). Please ensure that you use the Clothing Bin near the main entrance to deposit clothing requiring labelling, after inventorying the clothing items on the form provided at the bin (further instructions are provided at the clothing bin).

For inquiries regarding missing clothing and the like, please contact John Fournier, Environmental Services Manager, at (519) 245-2520, ext. 6244 (or, via email: jfournier@middlesex.ca).

1. **In Conclusion ….**



Please let me know if you would like to see certain issues addressed in future newsletter editions (contact Brent Kerwin, Administrator, 519-245-2520, ext. 6222, or via

email at: bkerwin@middlesex.ca).

Please share a copy of this newsletter with other family members and friends, or direct them to our [web page](http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care): <http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care>.

Hardcopies of our newsletter are also maintained at our Public Information Board near Reception. Copies of older newsletter editions are compiled in binders at both our Reception desk and the staff lounge, and are available for your review.

**Brent Kerwin,**

Administrator

Distribution: Responsible Parties, Auxiliary, Lodge Public Information Board, Resident Home Areas (5), Webpage, County Council, Staff, Other Stakeholders