

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

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

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

Since last month’s newsletter, there has been one provincial change impacting Visiting (see item c) below). Here are the main points governing long term care homes during the pandemic:

1. There is no limit to the number of in-room visitors that can be designated by substitute decision makers/residents (substitute decision makers/residents are asked to designate authorized in-room visitors by contacting The Lodge);
2. A maximum of two (2) visitors at a time may make an in-room visit (to maintain social distancing requirements);
3. Visitors are not subject to on-site rapid antigen testing if “fully vaccinated” (provincial vaccine documentation must be shown to be exempt from testing), **unless they have travelled outside of Canada within 14 days of a visit (i.e., on-site testing required in this case, regardless of vaccination status**);
4. Residents may leave Lodge premises for social absences – same day absences or overnight absences (overnight absences to be discussed with The Lodge); and
5. Public Health measures, including mask wearing and social distancing, still apply, regardless of vaccination status.

Please contact The Lodge, or consult The Lodge’s webpage, with any questions regarding Visiting.

1. **Monthly Co-payment**

Please be advised that the province has deferred an increase to the monthly co-payment amount paid by all long term care home residents.

A provincial increase was due to take effect on January 1, 2022, but has been deferred by the province until October 1, 2022 (see enclosed Ministry of Long Term Care insert).

Please contact Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor, at (519) 245-2520, ext. 6246 (or, via email: acaines@middlesex.ca) with any questions regarding co-payment.

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