

Date: June 29, 2022
To: All Volunteers
Re: Ongoing Management of COVID-19 in Continuing Care

Earlier this month Alberta's Minister of Health announced that effective June 30 at 12 a.m., the last of the Chief Medical Officer of Health COVID-19 orders will be lifted in continuing care.

At Bethany, we will continue prioritizing resident safety and quality of life by following Alberta Health Services (AHS) guided routine safety and infection control management. COVID-19 data will also be monitored and publicly reported weekly by Alberta Health.

Measures to be maintained:

- **Hand hygiene** and **continuous masking for all visitors, staff, and volunteers** at sites with Designated Supportive Living (DSL) and Long-Term Care (LTC) programs.
- Outbreak procedures following Alberta Health Services Outbreak Management Protocols (i.e., isolation/quarantine, testing, screening, cleaning, etc.).
- Staff or volunteer absence from work if symptomatic or have a confirmed respiratory illness (please refer to our *Outbreak Management for Respiratory Illness* policy).

Measures being removed:

- Entry screening for staff, volunteers, and visitors (Note: this will remain in place at the Sundre Seniors Supportive Living site only until the current outbreak is declared over).
- Bethany's Enhanced Visitation Program which required visitors and volunteers to provide proof of full vaccination and/or a negative Rapid Antigen Swab (RAS) for entry to the sites.
- Continuous masking in Licensed Supportive Living (i.e., SL1&2) for staff, volunteers, and visitors only in sites with distinct separation from DSL and LTC residents. This includes Bethany CollegeSide Gardens and Mount View Lodge (Olds).

In addition, we are making changes to our COVID-19 reporting. If an outbreak occurs, an email will be sent out to all volunteers by the Volunteer Coordinator, and another email will be sent once it has ended. Updates will also be provided during an outbreak as required.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to the health and safety of our residents and tenants. More detailed information regarding policy updates and outbreak protocols will be communicated to our care staff via Practice Change Alerts.

If you have questions, please speak with your site Volunteer Coordinator.