



Interoffice Memorandum

TO: Residents and Family Members of Durham Region
Long-Term Care Homes

FROM: Laura MacDermaid, Director
Long-Term Care and Services for Seniors

DATE: October 13, 2020

RE: Short Stay Absences and Indoor Visits to the Long-Term Care Home

The Regional
Municipality
of Durham

Social Services
Department

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Laura MacDermaid, Director,
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for Seniors

Recently, we have seen an increase across the province in community infections and outbreaks in long-term care homes. There are a number of long-term care homes across the province that are experiencing significant outbreaks similar to those we saw in the spring. In response, we are seeing the re-introduction of certain restrictions across the province in an effort to once again, flatten the curve.

We are asking you for your continued support and collaboration in helping us to ensure the continued safety of the residents and staff in our Homes.

Effective November 2, indoor visitors and essential caregivers will be **required to provide proof** of a negative COVID test within the previous 14 days. COVID testing is being done at the local Assessment Centre by appointment. There are currently no pharmacies in Durham Region offering the testing. For information on testing locations, visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/assessment-centre-locations>.

For resident that wish to leave the Home for a “day trip” or “outing” (for example, as social gathering, a family gathering, a meal out or a shopping trip) **we urge you to reconsider at this time**. We do not recommend leaving the Home.

Effective immediately, if a resident or their substitute decision maker choose to leave the property for a day trip or outing, we require:

- **That the resident and anyone accompanying the resident complete active screening at the screening desk prior to the resident going out**
- That both the resident and anyone in contact with the resident follow Public Health guidelines (maintain physical distance, wear a mask, use proper hand hygiene, etc.) for the duration of the visit.

Thank you for your continued commitment to safety precautions. Our first priority is to help protect the resident and staff of the Home and we need your support.



Laura MacDermaid