



Long -Term Care & Services for Seniors Division

Fairview Lodge Newsletter

Issue 2, June 2021



Supported by

Ontario

Central East Local Health
Integration Network

Mission

Strong People...Caring Communities...Our Future!

Vision

Provide a community that embraces excellence in person-centred care

We Value

Innovation, Collaboration, Accountability, Respect, Excellence

LTC and Services for Seniors Division news

Director's message

As I write this message, optimism abounds as we look toward the relaxation of some of the COVID restrictions in both the community and our homes. I am hopeful that the COVID-19 case numbers will continue to trend in the right direction and that we can move closer to "normal." Our long-term care homes continue to work hard to keep the residents safe through this third wave.

In April, two significant reports were released; one from the [Office of the Auditor General](#) and one from [Ontario's Independent LTC COVID-19 Commission](#). Both reports noted the devastating impact COVID-19 had on seniors living in Ontario's long-term care homes, as well as the staff who care for them, and that change must happen to ensure this never happens again. Residents living in long-term care or other congregate settings deserve to feel safe and well-cared for, and their families need to trust that their loved ones are protected and receiving the best care possible. This is truly a watershed moment for long-term care. Our Division is currently reviewing the recommendations and assessing the potential impact on our operations.

At the beginning of May, we took the opportunity to recognize and appreciate all the hard-working staff in our long-term care homes, recognizing not only Nurses' Week and PSW Appreciation Day, but all the other disciplines as well. Each member of the team is important and contributes to the quality of life and safety in the home, and I appreciate everyone for their contribution.

If you are new to our homes, I welcome you and hope that your first weeks or months have been positive. I want to thank everyone for your understanding during this difficult time. I encourage you to reach out to a member of our management team if you have any questions or concerns about any policies, decisions, or actions that we are taking in responding to COVID-19 in our homes.

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



Accommodation rate increases

The Ministry of Long-Term Care had suspended the long-term care (LTC) home accommodation rate changes for the 2020 to 2021 rate cycle to help support residents and families who may be experiencing financial challenges due to the pandemic. As such, the rate increase that was scheduled to be applied on January 1, 2021, did not take place. Rate increases are now scheduled to resume January 1, 2022. The homes will have information about the rate increases and will share those with residents and families upon receipt from the ministry.



Quality



Accreditation

In May of 2022, our Long-Term Care Homes and Adult Day Programs will be surveyed from Accreditation Canada. Accreditation is a process where we review our processes and compare them to national standards in leadership, long-term care, community support services, infection control and medication management. This helps us to identify areas where we are doing well and areas where improvement is needed. In the next year, we will be working with staffing groups, Resident and Family Councils, and community partners to review and provide feedback.

In May, we began administering the Accreditation Canada surveys, Worklife Pulse and Patient Safety Culture, to all staff in Long-Term Care and the Adult Day Program. Along with our annual resident/family satisfaction survey, this provides valuable feedback to our leadership team. Each home will have an accreditation board and we will be sending out more communication in the upcoming months.

Future State of Nursing Project

We would like to inform you that the Region of Durham's Long-Term Care is developing the Future State of Nursing Project, which will enhance the nursing operating model at Fairview Lodge, Lakeview Manor, Hillsdale Estates, and Hillsdale Terraces. The Future State of Nursing will standardize nursing roles and responsibilities, clinical practice expectations, and build capacity. The goal is to engage and empower our nursing team, improve clinical outcomes, and increase resident, family, and staff satisfaction at all levels of the organization.

This project will be developed and implemented strategically in four phases over the next two-and-a-half-years: Discovery and Research, Input, Planning, and Implementation. We are currently in phase one of this project, the Discovery and Research phase, which started in October 2020. The project team is developing the future state nursing model and will share project updates to keep you informed.



Infection Prevention and Control

COVID-19 Variants of Concern (VOC)

All viruses have the potential to mutate into new variants of the original virus. The SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19, has mutated with new strains named after the location where they were first found. Three different Variants of Concern (UK, Brazil, and South Africa) have been isolated in Ontario. Hundreds of cases have been found in the Greater Toronto Area alone. These VOCs spread easier and can cause more serious infections. Universal masking, protecting your eyes, performing hand hygiene, maintaining two meters of physical distance, going out only for essential reasons (such as work, medical appointments, grocery shopping, etc.), as well as getting vaccinated, are critical.

COVID-19 vaccination

Vaccination is important

How do vaccines protect against COVID-19?

- Viral vector-based vaccines work by presenting our body with something that looks like the infection but is non-infectious. Viral vector vaccines use a modified version of a different virus (the vector) to deliver important instructions to our cells. The benefit of viral vector vaccines, like all vaccines, is that those vaccinated gain protection without ever having to risk the serious consequences of getting sick with COVID-19.
- Our immune system responds by producing antibodies, natural protection, to fight a real infection.
- These antibodies will remain in our system to prevent illness should we be exposed to the COVID-19 virus in the future.

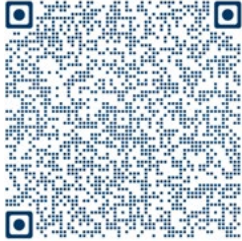
Learn more about the vaccine: durham.ca/COVIDvaccines

Visit bit.ly/3fylQJp or scan to watch Dr. Dan Ricciuto's COVID-19



Vaccine videos:

Visit bit.ly/2QOGSJk or scan to read COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet:



Infection Prevention and Control continued

COVID-19 vaccine update

We are pleased to report the percentage of residents who have received both doses of the Pfizer vaccine.

Hillsdale Terraces, 93 per cent; Fairview Lodge, 93 per cent; Hillsdale Estates, 93 per cent; Lakeview Manor, 93.5 per cent.

Staff and essential caregiver vaccinations are ongoing. To learn more, read the [Durham Region Health Department COVID-19 Vaccine Fact Sheet](#).



Fairview news

Administration

It is so nice to see the warmer weather, and residents and their essential caregivers (EC's) outside visiting. We are now 15 months into the global pandemic and Fairview Lodge continues to keep COVID-19 out of the building. Over the past 15 months, we have had extraordinary changes to the Ministry Directive and, through it all, residents, families, staff, and external partners have adapted to these changes. It is now time for our Home to see what long-term care will look like in the future.

Fairview staff continue to remain strong and are working hard to ensure your family member gets the best care possible through these difficult times. We want you as family members/POAs to know we are not only here for the residents, but for you as well, and we will work with you to ensure you understand the ever-changing Ministry Directives. We hope that all families remain safe and encourage you to get your vaccination. If we work together, we will reach the point where we can open back up to everyone and celebrate together. Thank you for your continued support and compliance.

~John Rankin

Family Council

We are pleased with the progress being made with recruitment for Family Council; we have a family member who has agreed to be President and there is some interest in the position of Secretary. We are building this Family Council from scratch and look forward to providing them with leadership for their planning to provide family members with meaningful educational sessions and opportunities for sharing concerns with one another.

Residents' Council

Residents' Council met in March and April. Meetings are being held in the dining room on Ashburn Way to allow for social distancing.

A generous donation of \$500 was made by the TD Canada Trust Bank, 3843 Whitby Main. Pictured below is Grace Jess, Residents' Council President, receiving the cheque presented by John Rankin, Administrator of Fairview Lodge, on behalf of the TD Canada Trust Bank.



Residents are encouraged to speak to Grace Jess, President, or Janet Phillips, Vice-President, if they are unable to attend but have a concern they want brought forward. Department updates will continue to be provided at the meetings and minutes will be posted in each resident home area.

Recreation and Therapy

The recreation staff have been working hard to providing various activities for the residents to participate in, and a few have been highlighted below.

Residents and staff having fun on Heritage Harbour



Paint Night on Yorkshire Place

Every other Tuesday night, some of the residents participate in Paint Night! It has been an ongoing activity for months that the residents really enjoy.



Hatching Chicks

For the last few weeks, staff and residents at Fairview Lodge have been nursing the eggs in preparation for hatching! We were successful in hatching 11 out of the 12 eggs. The little chicks visited each RHA. This brought many smiles and joy to the residents and the staff. Next month, watch for our butterfly hatching program.



Pub Night



Community art project on Whitby Junction

During the month of March, a Whitby Junction community art project was created. Pictured here is Rita painting the canvas that later revealed a message. The completed project is hung proudly in the activity room.

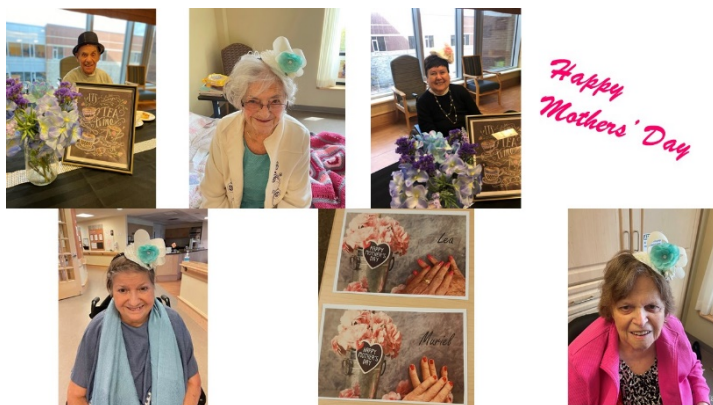


Gardening Group – Whitby Junction

We started a gardening group this month! Every Tuesday we meet to plant seeds, transplant, water our plants, or chat. Here is Betty getting ready to plant some peas.



Mother's Day celebrations



St. Vincent and the Grenadines Volcano Relief

The staff and families have been very busy collecting items to donate. Thank you to Issan (RPN) and Marcia (RCA) for organizing such worthy cause.

Thank you everyone for your generous support!



Nursing

COVID-19 Vaccinations

As of May 4, essential caregivers (ECs) who are fully vaccinated (two doses plus 14 days) are no longer required to remain in resident rooms for their visits. Visits may take place outdoors, but physical distancing from other residents and families must be maintained. ECs and residents who are **both** fully vaccinated will be able to interact physically (i.e. hugs, handshakes, hold hands, etc.). ECs who have only received their first dose must continue to visit in the resident's room, however they are able to visit outdoors if physical distance is maintained from other residents and families. Masks and eye protection must be worn in both instances.

We ask that essential caregivers inform the home when they have received their second dose to receive an updated EC badge.

As of May 22nd, LTC homes once again are permitted to offer outdoor visits for general visitors. This change is an important improvement in resident and family quality of life and wellbeing.

- Maximum of two general visitors at a time per resident in addition to essential caregiver(s). Children under the age of two years do not count towards the general visitor maximum.
- General visitors younger than 14 years of age must be accompanied by an adult and must follow all applicable Public Health measures that are in place.
- General visitors need to be actively screened upon arrival and should not proceed beyond entry points / areas in homes.
- General visitors do not need to undergo a rapid antigen test as their visit will be outdoors.
- General visitors need to maintain physical distancing and wear masks and every effort should be made to ensure different groups of visitors are also physically distanced.
- General visits can only occur with residents who are not self-isolation or symptomatic or the home is not in confirmed or suspected outbreak.

Visiting protocols are in place at all our homes and details have been provided directly to you. If you have any questions or require clarification, don't hesitate to contact the home directly.

Environmental Services

The first grass cut of the season is now under our belt!

The Home has opened the patio doors from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and the furniture has been put in place for enjoying the grounds.

We have been busy staining and preparing the gardens when weather permits. There is a dedicated vegetable garden area this spring that will provide fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, peppers, and garlic for residents to enjoy.



The Environmental Services department has started many of the annual safety audits to ensure Fairview maintains the highest standards in resident safety. The team tests and inspects all operating equipment in the facility.

The picture below shows staff doing the annual bed safety inspection, preventative maintenance and a deep clean. Flooring, furniture, lighting, electrical, call bells, grab bars, and lifts are other examples of equipment that is tested and inspected.



The Environmental Services department continues to focus on preventative infection control processes to keep COVID-19 out of the building. Our cleaning focus is from the front door to the resident's room and everything in-between.

Food Services

Our new summer/fall menu will be launched on July 6. Some of the popular items will remain on the menu, such as the homemade grilled cheese sandwiches, homemade macaroni and cheese, homemade meatloaf and, of course, our homemade soups.

Some new items that will be featured are fish tacos, classic Waldorf salad, poached salmon, roasted red pepper penne, grilled cheese and tomato sandwiches. Those residents waiting for roast lamb to return to our menu will be pleased to see it is back.

Our nutritional management software was upgraded on May 17. We look forward to more detailed reports, easy-to-read information and streamlined service.

The Regional Municipality of Durham
Social Services Department
Long-Term Care and Services for Seniors Division

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If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact Jan Bright at 905-668-5851 Ext. 5933.