



April 19th, 2022

Dear Family Member,

**The Regional
Municipality
of Durham**

Social Services
Department

Laura MacDermaid
Director
Long-Term Care &
Services for Seniors
Division

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I hope this past weekend was a time of joy with friends and families for those who celebrate this time of year.

As we move through spring, Ontario continues to experience a surge of new COVID-19 infections. We recognize this new wave continues to challenge us in our desire and efforts to resume normal operations. Several homes are experiencing outbreaks of various size, including Hillsdale Estates, Lakeview Manor and Fairview Lodge. For up-to-date information on the status of your home, please check the website at www.durham.ca/ltcupdates and if you have any specific questions, do not hesitate to contact the home.

[COVID19 Antiviral Treatment Now Available](#)

Paxlovid is an oral antiviral medication that can reduce the risk of hospitalizations or death in people at high risk of serious illness due to COVID-19. Paxlovid must be administered within five days of symptom onset to be effective. Our physicians and nurse practitioners now can arrange for residents to receive the drug should the resident be deemed high risk for a severe outcome. Further information will be provided to you if this is something being considered so that informed consent can be obtained.

[Changes to Requirements for Absences](#)

There is no longer a requirement for a resident to quarantine when returning from either a day or overnight absence. Upon return, residents are to be actively screened and must undergo a PCR test on day 5 following the absence.

[Mask Wearing](#)

Reminder to all family members and visitors that masks must always remain on when visiting inside the home, including when visiting in the resident room. Eating and drinking with the resident is still not permitted under the Ontario Guidelines. We ask everyone to please ensure to keep our residents, staff, and visitors as safe as possible, and respect the requirement.

I want to thank everyone for your continued support and for remaining vigilant with public health measures, such as screening, testing, masking, and using appropriate personal protective equipment.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything in this letter or otherwise, please contact the home or me.

Laura MacDermaid