



The Regional  
Municipality  
of Durham

Social Services  
Department

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Dear Family Member,

Across our four long-term care homes, we have one home area in outbreak at Lakeview Manor. This outbreak involves 3 active cases and will hopefully be resolved this week. We also have one home area at Hillsdale Terraces experiencing a respiratory outbreak and we are awaiting PCR test results. For up-to-date information on the status of your home, please check the website at [www.durham.ca/lcupdates](http://www.durham.ca/lcupdates) and if you have any specific questions, do not hesitate to contact the home.

### Fully Vaccinated

Please note that the definition of fully vaccinated has been updated to reflect the latest guidance from the Ministry of Health to stay up to date with recommended COVID-19 doses. For those under 60 years of age, this includes a 3rd dose, for those 60 and over, this includes a 4th dose.

### Isolation Requirements for those not “Fully Vaccinated”

Public Health has advised that if a home area has an exposure to COVID-19, any resident who is not “fully vaccinated”, including the 4th dose of vaccination for those over aged 60, will be required to be placed into isolation. Should the resident not yet be eligible for the 4th dose, due to age or the timing of their 3rd dose, this isolation requirement is not required. We strongly encourage all residents to stay up to date with all vaccination recommendations.

### Keeping your Loved Ones Safe

Infection Prevention and Control will always play a very large role in long-term care. I wanted to share with you some of the routine activities that the homes are still doing to keep your loved ones safe.

- Completion of a Public Health Infection Prevention and Control Audit every 2 weeks
- Reviewing daily situation reports from both the Ministry of Health and Public Health
- Daily monitoring of residents for signs and symptoms of illness, including daily temperature checks

- Conducting PCR tests on residents who return from a day or overnight absence
- Screening of anyone entering the homes
- Asymptomatic testing for staff, essential caregivers, general visitors, volunteers, and contractors.
- Enforcing adherence to the masking policy while inside the LTC home
- N95 mask fit testing for all employees
- Enhanced high touch surface cleaning
- In-house vaccination program
- Isolation kits stocked and readily available for quick response
- Weekly inventory of all PPE
- Weekly reporting to the Ministry of Long-Term Care

These are just some of the activities our teams do every day to ensure the safety of all.

### Communication to Families

Throughout this pandemic we have strived to keep our family members up to date as much as possible, with updates to our websites, automated phone calls and this bi-weekly letter. At the end of this month, I will be taking a 4-month personal leave. The administrators of the homes will be rotating coverage for my position during this time. If you have any questions that you would have sent to me, please direct them to my administrative assistant, Sara Jane MacKenzie at [SaraJane.MacKenzie@durham.ca](mailto:SaraJane.MacKenzie@durham.ca) and she will ensure you get a timely response.

This will be the last issue of this bi-weekly communication. Any updates will be added to the website. Should there be any major changes, we will be sure to keep everyone informed through a letter or automated call or both.

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

I wish everyone a healthy and happy summer.

*Laura MacDermaid*