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SOCIAL AND ESSENTIAL VISITATION UPDATE:

The Ministry of Health, in consultation with the Public Health Officer, has determined a further easing of visitation practices in Long-Term Care. To support everyone through this transition, the following visitation plan has been updated for the safety of our Elders, visitors, and staff with the intent to communicate these protocols effectively to those who are participating in visitation.

Starting July 19th, 2021, the following will be in effect:

- Visiting hours will remain the same, which are daily from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.
- All visitors must undergo active screening for signs and symptoms of illness, including COVID-19, prior to entry at every visit.
- Visitors with signs and/or symptoms of illness, as well as those in self-isolation or quarantine in accordance with public health directives, shall not be permitted to visit.
- Visitors must clean hands before and after visiting.
- When visiting an Elder requiring additional precautions (e.g., droplet and contact precautions), all visitors shall be instructed on how to put on and remove any required personal protective equipment (PPE). Visitors will also be asked to limit circulation/movement throughout the care home while visiting.
- Visitors must continue to adhere to social distancing.
- If the visitor is unable to adhere to appropriate precautions, the visitor shall be excluded from visiting.
- Social visits will not be permitted during an active COVID-19 outbreak or period of enhanced monitoring.
- ***NEW*** Visitors are no longer required to schedule or book visits in advance. However, the online booking tool <https://kinsmenlodgevisitation.as.me/schedule.php> will remain active. As a courtesy, pre-bookings are appreciated as it will allow proper preparation for the increase to site capacity.
- ***NEW*** Contact information along with **COVID-19 immunization status** will be collected for contact tracing.
- ***NEW*** All visitors must provide proof of full COVID-19 immunization (two doses).
- ***NEW*** Visitors who do not provide proof of full immunization need to wear a medical mask at all times, including when in direct contact with the person they are visiting.
- ***NEW*** Visitors who are fully immunized need to wear a medical mask in hallways and common areas, but not when in direct contact with the person they are visiting.
- ***NEW*** There is no longer a limit on the number of visitors. However, if high volumes are observed, boundaries may be enacted in order to support Elder needs and wellbeing.

Guidelines for Essential Visitors remain unchanged at this time. See details below:

Essential visits are necessarily linked with an **essential need** that cannot be met in the absence of the essential visit. Management staff will determine if a visit is deemed essential.

An essential visit is defined as:

- Visits for compassionate care, including critical illness (e.g., life-threatening condition or health change event), palliative care (e.g., Palliative Performance Scale 30% or lower, totally bed bound), hospice care, end-of-life care, and medical assistance in dying;
- Visits paramount to the Elder's physical care and mental well-being (e.g., assistance with feeding, mobility, personal care or communication, assistance by designated representatives for persons with disabilities);
- Visits for supported decision-making;
- Existing registered volunteers providing the services described above;
- Visits required to move belongings in/out of an Elder's room; and
- Police, correctional officers and peace officers accompanying an Elder for security reasons.

Essential visits shall be limited to one visitor per Elder within the care home at a time (except in the case of palliative/end-of-life care). An essential visit is not considered a social visit. During an active COVID-19 outbreak or period of enhanced monitoring, essential visits can be permitted in the care home, but only under the guidance and direction from the local medical health officer.

Social Leaves:

- Offsite social leaves/outings (including overnight) are still to be pre-booked/scheduled in advance and arranged via the neighbourhood Nurse to facilitate any special needs, including any medication requirements.
- For social leaves/outings, Elder pick up/return will be via the front door/reception.
- For social leaves/outings, Elder pick up/return must occur during the same hours as visitation - from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

* Please note that visitation plan conditions are subject to review and revision by the Kinsmen Lodge Leadership Team at any time.