



January 22, 2021

**To: residents, companions, family members and staff of Samaritan Place**

The Covid-19 vaccine rollout is happening in Long Term Care across Saskatchewan but it is important that we continue to be very careful with our daily safety habits as:

- no vaccine can give us instant protection;
- our body needs time to build up its defenses after we receive two doses of the vaccine.

Update from our home:

- Our residents and companions vaccination rate is 94% for first dose.
- Staff are in the process of vaccination. Names of all staff that work at Samaritan Place including Sodexo staff have been submitted for vaccination.

**Many of you are wondering if after you have received the vaccine, and your loved one at Samaritan Place has as well – are you able to have regular, in-person visits, like you used to prior to the pandemic.**

**The answer is:**

- Open family presence and regular in-person visits will require a change in the Public Health Order. At this point in time, there has been no change to the Public Health Order which has restrictions to family presence and visitation in Long Term Care. The Public Health Order is determined by the Ministry of Health.
- **We are still able to support living room visits; however, there has been clarification provided to us that under the current public health order the visits are to be restricted to the two designated visitors only.**
  - We understand this is a change from messaging received last week and does restrict some family access at this time.
  - Visitation in the Living Room is one designate at a time.
  - Previously booked Living Room visitation schedule will continue as is through to Sunday, Jan 24.
  - Call Jenn, Tammy or Sharon if you need clarification.
- Essential family/support people will continue to follow screening and PPE processes in place to enable safe family presence.
- At this time, vaccine is an added pharmaceutical measure we can take in addition to non-pharmaceutical measures like physical distancing, mask use, and hand hygiene, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- The Family Presence During COVID-19 Expert Panel is working with other groups and individuals to develop a post-vaccine family presence strategy.

The two designates for Living Room visits for each resident will need to rescreen with a director prior to their first Living Room visit.

Jenn, Director of Care: 306-986-1463

Tammy, Director, Life Enhancement: 306-986-1462

Sharon, Director, Spiritual Care & Mission: 306-986-1460 ext 1410

Sincerely,

Samaritan Place Director Team