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8 June 2020

To: Resident and/or Immediate Family/Contact of MSJ Home Residents/Elders

From: Brian B. Martin

Re: Expanded Visitations and Keeping Safe Together at Mont St. Joseph.

It is important to share the following information with your Elder's loved ones and/or encourage them to go to our Facebook page.

The health-care system is expanding its criteria as it relates to the current visitation restrictions for our Province's special care homes. Referring to their guidelines and continuing to maintain a safe environment for our Residents, **the following procedures shall be implemented at Mont St. Joseph Home commencing Wednesday, June 10:**

1. **Two individuals from a Resident's family can be designated to visit if the Resident is receiving compassionate and/or palliative care. Only one designated person can visit at a time. The Resident and/or immediate contact shall advise our staff who the two designated family members are.** She/he will be screened as per current protocols at the front entrance of the Home. They will be provided and **must wear** the required **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** at all times during these visits.
2. **For patio visits, every Resident may have a planned 30 minute visit once every two weeks.** Before calling to reserve your family's time, please note the following:
 - 1) These visits can be scheduled for a **Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday** with start times at 1:00 p.m., 1:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:15 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. OR
 - 2) **On Saturdays**, with visiting times at 1:00 p.m., 1:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.
 - 3) To arrange for your family visit, **please call in advance to the Unit where your loved one lives:**
 - (i) Unit 1 – Terrace Rose & Northern Shores: **953-4506 (Recreation);** or 953-4512 (LPN);
 - (ii) Unit 2 – Telemiracle & Spruce Meadows: **953-4526 (Recreation);** or 953-4515 (LPN);
 - (iii) Unit 3 – Heritage Lane & Country Gardens: **953-4527 (Recreation);** or 953-4519 (LPN).

- 4) **DO NOT VISIT IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL** or if you have been in contact with someone else who is unwell.
- 5) **When you arrive for your scheduled visit, please note:**
 - (i) There can only be 4 family members per visit;
 - (ii) Staff will conduct a verbal screening;
 - (iii) Individuals must maintain 2 or more meters physical distance from one another and from the Resident;
 - (iv) Visits will be supervised;
 - (v) There can be no touching, holding hands or exchanging gifts with the Resident;
 - (vi) Bring a chair if you wish to sit during your visit. Please remove it when you leave;
 - (vii) In the event the weather is in-climate and/or you cannot attend your scheduled patio visit, you may make alternate arrangements to visit by telephone and/or social media.
- 6) **In the event that social distancing is not respected or gifts are exchanged, it will be necessary for the Resident to remain in their rooms and monitored for 7 consecutive days.**
3. Because Unit 3 is on the second floor, **the ‘new’ deck by our front entrance will be designated for the Residents of Heritage Lane and Country Gardens.** Residents will remain inside the decked areas. Visitors will be on the outside of the gated patios and/or decks. **Residents in Unit 1 (Terrace Rose & Northern Shores) and Unit 2 (Spruce Meadows and Telemiracle) will use their respective Unit’s patio area.**
4. **Items and/or gifts for the Residents that may be delivered to the front entrance of the Home** include flowers, paper cards, new books and art. In addition, food from a licensed food establishment can be delivered. Each of these items will then be taken by staff to the Resident’s room. **Please consult with our staff to make arrangements for these deliveries and to confirm that you are following infection prevention and control guidelines.** Food produced in a RESIDENTIAL setting is not permitted.
5. **Please recognize that protocols and safety measures are developed by our Province’s health-care and infection control experts. Our staff follow those protocols. It is important that we treat one another with respect at all times.**
6. **At all times, consider the potential impact on the safety and health of ALL our Residents if these guidelines are not followed.**
7. As the Province continues its “Re-opening” process, more changes will occur. The Residents and our staff miss the families, volunteers and guests who contribute so much to our Elders and to MSJ Home. **We will continue to keep you posted through our website, Facebook and/or Canada Post mail-outs.** Our hope is more opportunities to visit and support Residents will occur in the days ahead; these changes and decisions will be guided by the need to protect our Residents – your loved one – during COVID-19.
8. If an outbreak is declared at MSJ Home, changes may be required to the patio/outdoor visits.
9. We encourage every citizen to following safety protocols and, most importantly, **wash your hands.**
10. On behalf of every person who lives and works at MSJ Home, I wish to thank you for your on-going **support of the collective efforts to keep Elders/Residents, you and our staff safe!**

Brian