



April 27, 2020

I hope that everyone enjoyed a bit of the sunshine over the weekend. It is so odd to go for a walk, bike ride or even look outside on a beautiful day and not think of times when we freely traveled places, visited with friends and family and went about our own business with no restrictions. It is certainly a challenging time for everyone, but we are making it through by doing things differently, continuing to adhere to social distancing and isolating ourselves when appropriate. Some of us are becoming experts in technology, Zoom, Facetime, playing euchre on-line with family, watching Netflix, obsessively cleaning and re-organizing what we organized a few weeks ago – we are all finding different activities to keep us busy. Just as many of us are trying to stay at home as much as possible and adjust to our new ways of living, there are also those who are keeping essential services available.

We continue to hear of the many outbreaks throughout the community and in long-term care homes across Ontario and Canada. These are very troubling stories that have developed as a result of how quickly the virus can spread throughout these homes. I am pleased to report that all our long-term care, supportive living and congregate living sites remain COVID-19 free. I am also relieved to be able to inform you that our respiratory (not COVID-19) outbreak at our Idlewyld Manor site, which I informed you about early last week, has been declared over. This is a testament to the diligent work of all our teams in managing infection control across all Thrive Group locations.

You may have heard over the weekend that the Ontario government has unveiled Pandemic Pay for front line staff working in long-term care homes, congregate living environments and in supportive housing. We are grateful to the government for acknowledging the commitment of these incredible individuals who continue to come to work each day to care for the most vulnerable in our communities. We are proud of our staff, and their dedication to our residents and clients. Their compassionate approach is second to none. We will continue to work closely with AdvantAge Ontario and the Ontario Community Support Association to advocate for our staff and the additional supports required to truly transform the healthcare system moving forward.

As always, thank you for your support and understanding. I will continue to provide you with information as it becomes available through our Thrive Group website at www.thrivegroup.ca

Please continue to take care and be well!

Steve Sherrer
CEO