



November 20, 2020

Dear Staff, Residents and Family Members,

As you know, in order to continue to limit the spread of COVID-19 across the province, the government has now introduced a new colour-coded Response Framework. The Framework requires that each health region be assessed as to how well it is performing in managing the spread of the virus. A colour code is then assigned that corresponds with appropriate restrictions to help manage the spread for each region. You can review a full explanation of the response framework [here](#). Thrive Group programs are spread geographically over a number of different health regions. On Monday November 16th, Hamilton, Halton and Peel Region all entered the Red “Control” level of restrictions.

Previously we had shared with you the updates to our visiting restrictions, which limited essential care givers to one designated care giver per resident/client and in the same update informed you that absences from the home would be limited to medically necessary absences only. However, yesterday we received further direction that surveillance testing for COVID-19 requirements will be changing once again for our long-term care and congregate sites.

Effective Monday November 23rd , 2020, in addition to the information previously shared with you, **we will now be requiring all essential caregivers to be tested for COVID-19 weekly. As of Monday we also require all Essential caregivers to show proof of their negative COVID-19 test when they arrive for each visit.** Proof of a negative test can be provided either by sharing a print-out from the website or by showing, on a mobile device, the essential caregiver’s name, date of the test and the negative result.

Updated December 1st: All long-term care staff will be tested weekly for COVID-19 going forward. Regular surveillance testing will be supported by local public health units for our community congregate sites.

At this time, both Idlewyld Manor and St. Peter’s Residence remain in outbreak. As you know, the well-being, health and safety of our clients, residents, staff and loved ones remains our top priority. We are working with Public Health and St. Joseph’s Hospital Infection Prevention and Control teams to ensure that we have the best practices in place. We are grateful for the guidance provided to us by our local Public Health and hospital partners during these challenging time.

All of our other congregate community sites are not in outbreak at this time.

Thank you, as always, for your patience, understanding and support as we once again as we introduce these new directives. Please be assured that we are continuing to make decisions in the best interests of our clients, residents and staff to make sure that their health and safety remain our highest priority.

Stay healthy and safe.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Sherrer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Sherrer
CEO