

GES Bulletin

17 December 2021

Atmospheric rivers, Omicron, and an earthquake this morning; we continue to live in uncertain and incredible times. There is a great deal to concern us but also so much to be grateful for. The Omicron variant has once again changed the trajectory of the Pandemic and we need to brace for another wave. As Dr. Mike Benusic, Island Health Medical Officer, stated on a zoom call this morning, we have tried, tested, and trusted processes in place and layers of protection to support us. I am very appreciative of the support from Island Health and very grateful for the dedication, ongoing commitment, and skills of our team members in continuing to be vigilant with adhering to the protocols and doing all they can to safeguard the health and wellness of the Residents.

We are also very grateful that booster shots were made available to all of our Residents in October. If you are eligible to receive a booster, I encourage you to access this third dose as soon as possible. Click here for eligibility and to register so you will be contacted as soon as you are eligible: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/booster#get-ready>

At this stage, none of our formal protocols or visiting guidelines are changing. All visitors to Braehaven and Greenwoods must be fully vaccinated, and masks are to be worn in common areas. Although, the guidelines still permit visitors to take off their masks when in a Resident's room, you may want to consider keeping that layer of protection on, especially if you have been in a community such as Victoria, where COVID numbers are surging. Of utmost importance is to stay home if you are feeling at all unwell.



Seasonal Festivities

The team has a number of activities scheduled to bring the festive spirit to Braehaven and Greenwoods. Many thanks to support services team member and talented artist Jeannie Paynter for the beautiful window art.

A number of Residents have plans to attend celebrations at family and friends' places this year. For the safety of all, please be mindful to keep the gatherings as small as possible and encourage mask use and physical distancing where possible. Virtual visits are also still an option. Please let the Resident Ambassadors know if you'd like to schedule a call to have the Resident zoom into the gathering.

Hallway Refurbishment

The hallway refurbishment has started! The first phase is to paint the sprinkler pipes which is already making a significant difference to freshen up the space. Early in the new year, we will proceed with the handrails replacement. Stay tuned for more information regarding proposed design details and an invitation for input.

Greenwoods Foundation Annual Appeal

We are very grateful for the generous funding received from the Greenwoods Foundation to support the hallway refurbishment. The Foundation's annual appeal is currently underway. It is through donations that the Foundation is able to enhance the lives of Residents and support the delivery of quality care and services.

For information about donating to the Foundation, please visit the website at <https://greenwoodsfoundation.ca/annual-appeal/>.

On behalf of the team at Greenwoods and Braehaven I wish you all a safe and festive holiday season and I hope that 2022 will bring an opportunity to gather again in person to celebrate the privilege it is to care and serve the Residents and the pleasure it is to get to know them, their families and friends.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Warmest regards
Aletha

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