

## **GES Bulletin**

### **7 January 2022**

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#### **Visiting Protocols**

Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding as we implement the evolving visiting protocols. Clarification was received this week that the essential and social visitor protocols and the rapid antigen testing of visitors only applies to Long Term Care.

We continue to encourage Residents and visitors to Braehaven Assisted Living to consider limiting social contacts and apply all of the levels of protection possible including wearing a mask, limiting outings to essential activities only, and ensuring vaccinations are as up to date as possible.

#### **Visiting at Greenwoods**

Effective today, all visitors to Greenwoods must have a rapid antigen test performed and a negative result confirmed before proceeding with the visit. Although we are looking forward to welcoming back designated social visitors, we will be continuing with essential visits only until we receive a sufficient supply of rapid tests to support more visits.

The process for essential visitors is as follows:

- Essential visits do not need to be scheduled but it would be helpful to let the Resident Ambassadors know when you are planning to visit to assist with the screening and testing procedures.
- When you arrive at Greenwoods, please proceed as usual with washing your hands, donning a fresh mask, and undergoing the screening and temperature check with the Resident Ambassador.
- Once past the screening, the Resident Ambassador will lead you through the rapid antigen test. The test involves swabbing both nostrils with a Q-tip type swab and placing it in a testing vile. The Resident Ambassador will then complete the test. Results are known within 15 minutes.
- While waiting for the test result, you are welcome to wait in the Greenwoods lobby (space permitting) or in your car.
- Once a negative result is confirmed, the visit can proceed.
- In the event of a positive result to the rapid test, you will be directed to return home, self-isolate and follow the directions of public health.

- Anyone receiving a positive result is encouraged to report via the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) reporting portal. The Resident Ambassador can assist with this reporting if requested.

Please click on the following links for comprehensive information on the BC Centre for Disease website:

- For information on the [Rapid COVID-19 Point-of-Care Testing Program](#)
- For information on the [Rapid Antigen Tests](#)
- For information on [What to Do in The Event of a Positive Rapid Antigen Test](#)

The screening and testing protocols will be the same for social visitors; however, social visits will need to be scheduled. More information will be sent next week regarding the process for registering as a social visitor and scheduling the visits.

### **Masks and Sharing of Meals**

Visitors are now required to keep their mask on for the duration of the visit even when in the privacy of the Resident's room. Regrettably, the revised mask use means we are unable to provide guest meals for visitors to share with the Resident.

### **Snow!**

The snow has certainly provided stunning scenery and some winter fun but I'm sure I share others' perspective that we've had enough. I do want to express such gratitude and appreciation to the staff who persevered to make it to work despite the difficult conditions. Some team members simply could not make it out safely, but others came in on their days off, extended shifts, drove out of their way to pick up team members and drive them home. Yesterday was one of the more challenging days and everyone pitched in to ensure all care and services were provided. Personally, it was a pleasure to work with the dietary services team and observe the great care that goes into the preparation of the meals and enjoy the interaction in the dining room while serving and assisting the Residents.

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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