

March 17, 2020

## **Attention: Families and Support Persons of Residents of Long-Term Care Facilities**

The first presumptive positive confirmed cases of COVID-19 have now been identified in Manitoba. Public Health Officials, health system leaders, facilities, providers and staff are taking all necessary steps to decrease the risk of spread of the virus.

Across Manitoba, strict infection prevention and control precautions are now in place in all health care settings, including long term care facilities.

For the safety of your loved ones, and upon the recommendation of public health officials, **we are immediately suspending visitor access to long-term care facilities** across Manitoba.

Exceptions for compassionate reasons or end of life will be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of individual facility managers.

We appreciate your understanding as we implement these elevated precautions to protect our residents, many of whom have underlying medical conditions that put them at greatest risk of becoming severely ill due to COVID-19.

**In the event that you or anyone in your family receives a positive test result for COVID-19 AND has visited a long term care facility or care environment within the last 14 days, we ask that you immediately notify Misericordia's Infection Prevention and Control professional at 204-788-8282.**

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we take every measure to protect you, your loved ones and our staff.

You can stay up-to-date with the latest evolving COVID-19 information by visiting <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/>.