

December 31, 2020

Hello everyone,

### **COVID-19 outbreak declared over!**

Yesterday our Misericordia Place COVID-19 outbreak was officially declared over.

I must say it feels like a lifetime ago that I received word that two residents' tests came back positive. In many ways we were prepared, and for that I am very thankful. We also learned many lessons which will be used in our day-to-day activities now and will inform decision making into the future.

Our staff and management teams are resilient. Our family and residents are strong and brave. We all experienced dark days in these last 11 weeks and we also had moments of triumph. We certainly are living in history and I think the story will continue for some time yet.

### **Next steps**

Housekeeping has begun a terminal clean of the entire building. Every resident room and all shared spaces will be deep cleaned. We expect this to take several days. Following this, we can start to slowly change routines on MP1 and MP3 units. MP2 will largely stay the same.

Although it is exciting that we have reached this moment, Winnipeg remains in Level Red of Pandemic Response so we are most certainly not back to "normal."

Dining room access will be limited to one person/table, while others will continue to eat in their rooms. Residents will be able to access the shared spaces like the TV rooms, however we will have a room capacity and two metres of physical distancing will need to be maintained. One-to-one recreation activities, rather than group activities, will continue. Spiritual Health activities will also continue as one to one and virtual church services will remain on offer.

Staff will be continued to be screened actively at the beginning of their shifts. We also will continue to monitor the residents twice every 24 hours for symptoms and temperature.

### **Visits remain status quo**

The Designated Family Caregiver process will remain the same. Remember to call 204-788-8440 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday to Friday to make an appointment. Access is limited to those who follow this process.



We continue to watch the COVID-19 numbers and test positivity rates in the city. There is a prediction that following the holiday season there will be an increase in the number of cases. We will continue to change processes as required.

### **Thank you all**

Thank-you to all our staff: I have witnessed untold effort, professionalism, compassion and commitment throughout the outbreak.

And thank-you, family members and friends, for all the support that you have given to your loved ones and our staff during these difficult times. It is much appreciated by all.

Happy New Year and here's to a safe and healthy 2021,



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