

Dear Families of Residents at Orchard Villa,

What's New:

Update to Screening during Family Visits

We are pleased to be able to provide families with opportunities to safely visit their loved ones at the home. There is a new update to the screening process when you arrive for your family visit. To ensure the safety of visitors and residents, the province of Ontario requires anyone visiting a long-term care home resident to have been checked and cleared for COVID-19 in the previous two weeks.



At this time, you will no longer have to show proof of this test. Instead, all visitors will need to provide an “attestation.” This means that when you arrive to visit your loved one, you will sign a document to acknowledge that you have tested negative for COVID-19 in the two weeks prior to your visit.

To schedule an in-person, virtual or window visit (for rooms facing the courtyard) please call 905-831-2522, extension 3400. If you leave a message on the weekend, we will return your call on the Monday.

Mandatory Masking in all Commercial Establishments in Durham Region



Starting Friday, July 10, Durham Region’s Medical Officer of Health has made non-medical masks or face coverings mandatory in all commercial establishments. This means everyone will be required to wear non-medical masks or face coverings while the provincial emergency medical orders remain in place.

Other areas of Ontario also have mandatory mask requirements. For many of you, using a non-medical or cloth mask has become regular and routine practice. But for others, wearing a mask while grocery shopping, going into a mall or riding public transit will be an adjustment. For more information about the masking requirements in Durham Region, visit our *Masking – What you Need to Know* resource [here](#).

Helping your Loved Ones keep Cool during the Summer

Ensuring the safety and comfort of residents is our top priority.

During these hot summer days, there have been a number of questions about the use of fans in the home. We carefully reviewed the options in terms of infection and control. The safest and recommended option is to use portable fans that blow in one direction. “Oscillating” fans (fans that move back-and-forth) and overhead or ceiling fans tend to increase the spread of airborne/droplet contaminants more than fans that only blow in one direction.

There are a few window air conditioning units available for rent. **Please connect directly with Jason Gay if you are interested.** There are a number of other ways we are helping to increase the comfort of your loved ones, including:

- Encouraging the use of window coverings to block out direct sunlight;
- Increasing time in the Cooling Areas;
- Providing extra fluids and popsicles to residents.

Update on Leadership

Tanya Adams is leaving her role as Senior Executive Director of Orchard Villa this week. We thank her for her leadership during the initial COVID-19 outbreak. We wish her well as she returns to her hometown of Goderich.

Keeping Families Connected and Informed

Please do not hesitate to contact our **Patient Experience Specialists** with your questions and concerns. Someone from Orchard Villa will respond promptly. Please call:

Phone: 905-576-8711 ext. 32489

Email: OrchardVilla-PatientExp@lh.ca

Please visit and bookmark the special Orchard Villa COVID-19 Update section on Lakeridge Health’s [website](#).