

## Information Bulletin #7 – May 1, 2020 About Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

### For all Residents, Families, and Friends of Homeland Housing

The Chief Medical Officer of Health announced changes for outdoor visits to continuing care centres. While these changes are encouraging, and we are beginning to see a 'flattening of the curve' in North and Edmonton Zones, it does not mean we should be relaxing our vigilance in fighting COVID-19.

**We need to continue working together to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our communities and seniors' homes.** COVID-19 has proven to be deadly for seniors and those living with chronic health conditions. Based on directives from the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH 12-2020), Homeland Housing is **fully** implementing the following changes at our Lodge and Supportive Living sites **effective May 4, 2020.**

**OUTDOOR VISITS:** are permitted between the **resident, designated essential visitor, and one other person.** The one other person may include a child.

To facilitate this directive, Homeland Housing has created **designated outdoor visiting areas** at its supportive living sites. These areas will have **temporary fencing, seating and tables** installed by late Monday. We respectfully ask that you postpone outdoor visits starting Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> to allow us time to get these areas safe and ready.

**Please note the following infection prevention and control (IPC) controls apply for outdoor visits:**

- Outdoor visiting hours are from 9:00 am and ending at 5:00 pm daily.
  - The visit **must be scheduled** by the resident or the designated essential visitor by calling the lodge during regular business hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm) daily.
  - The receptionist will book your preferred visit time whenever possible. Visits are scheduled for up to one-hour time blocks.
  - To allow others opportunity for outdoor visits, we ask that you only visit **once each day and book your visit at least 24 hours in advance** whenever possible. We discourage 'drop in' visits, as visiting space may not be available.
  - All visitors and the resident are **required to wear a medical procedure mask** during the visit. These masks are provided by Homeland Housing and given to the resident when they leave the building for their outdoor visit. Please wear the mask during your entire visit, and discard in the designated waste containers when finished.
  - The **front doors to our sites will remain locked.** Residents returning from an outdoor visit may use their key fob or intercom to gain access.
  - The **"No Visitor" directive** from past bulletins remain in place. This means **no visitors may enter our sites** unless they are the **designated essential visitor** providing care related activities or end of life care and approved to do so by the site manager.
  - Residents on isolation precautions are not permitted to attend outdoor visits.
  - In the event of **a suspected, probable, or confirmed case of COVID-19**, outdoor visits are immediately discontinued.
- **Homeland Housing continues to discourage residents from visiting in the community and going shopping as it creates the potential of becoming infected with COVID-19 then bringing it back to the lodge and infecting other residents and staff.**

I would like to thank our residents, families, and staff for their understanding and coming together in this fight against COVID-19. Your choices and behaviours over the past six weeks have made a positive difference to countless people that may have otherwise become infected with COVID-19.

**[For the latest information about COVID-19, please visit:](#)**

Government of Alberta [www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx)

Alberta Health Services [www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx](http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx)

Government of Canada [www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html)