



May 6, 2022

To: All Residents, Families, and Staff

Outbreak Update

Unfortunately, the COVID outbreak at Centennial Place continues. In fact, we have experienced a rather large surge in cases in two of our home areas. The good news continues to be that no resident is significantly sick, showing only minor cold-like symptoms. We have high vaccination rates to thank for that, including that all of our eligible staff are up to date with their vaccinations.

We continue to collaborate with Public Health to ensure that all available resources have been explored and utilized. We take our direction from them, looking at each staff and/or resident case individually, to help understand how to prevent the spread of the virus. A big challenge has been the inability of residents with dementia to follow IPAC protocols (physical distancing, hand hygiene, masking, etc.). Of course, the biggest challenge is the dramatic increase in community-spread, which impacts our Home and others. For example, last week almost a third of LTC Homes in Ontario were experiencing an outbreak, not long after many COVID prevention rules were relaxed.

For staff, when they have either tested positive for COVID or they have a “close contact”, they must be off work for 10 days. As a result, we have been experiencing some staff shortages, as many health care providers have been recently. This has been the case despite currently having the highest staff levels that Centennial Place has ever had. I want to thank all of our staff who have been working hard under challenging conditions.

As a result, we have had to prioritize certain tasks to ensure resident needs are being met. For example, we will call you if your loved one has tested positive, has been placed into isolation, or has had a significant health decline. Lower priority communication will be less frequent and coordinated with other tasks. We hope you will understand.

We also want to thank our Designated Essential Caregivers who have been providing extra assistance to compensate for staff absences. This has helped immensely. This role can play an essential part of a resident’s care, so please let us know if you wish to contribute.

Our residents’ health and safety continues to be our highest priority. Thanks for your patience and understanding as we work through this latest surge. I will provide updates as circumstances change.

Sincerely,

Debbie Look

Debbie Look, Administrator