

January 12, 2022

Gradual Elimination of Public Health Measures

Dear Residents, Family Members, and Staff:

After two positive cases of COVID-19 were identified in Royal Gardens staff, I am pleased to share that testing indicates that there has not been spread of the virus to our resident population. We have now completed multiple rounds of lab-based, PCR testing of residents, still with no cases identified.

Assuming that nothing changes, Royal Gardens is not scheduled to come out of “outbreak” until January 19th. However, at the direction of Public Health, we are embarking on a return to “quasi-normal” operations. This includes iterative steps to prioritise resident care, while observing Public Health protocols and timelines. Isolation precautions will end as follows:

- Enriched Care residents: January 12th
- Independent Retirement residents: January 15th
- Garden Home residents: January 16th

By ending isolation, we are pleased that the use of the Home’s facilities will be made available so that residents may stretch their legs, interact with one another and feel less confined. It is important however, to keep in mind that *everyone must continue to observe the Outbreak Control Measures*. This will require all residents and staff to physically distance (minimum 6 feet apart) and wear a medical mask. Resident absences are not permitted at this time.

Until January 19th all meals will continue to be delivered to residents in their suites via tray service (except for those residents in Enriched Care, where the dining room will re-open tomorrow). Further, only Essential Caregiver Visitors will be permitted to visit, subject to screening and Rapid Antigen Testing. *General visits are still not allowed*. It is vital that we all follow the public health measures to keep one another safe during this omicron surge.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our residents and their family members for their understanding over the past week. Together, we have worked diligently to prevent the spread of the virus.

Jade Harper
Executive Director