

Greenwoods Eldercare Society Bulletin

18 March 2020

Essential Visitors

In line with the advice issued in the joint statement from Adrian Dix, Minister of Health and Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC Provincial Health Officer, Greenwoods Long Term Care and Braehaven Assisted Living are closing to all but essential visits. This change came into effect at Greenwoods on 17 March and will be implemented at Braehaven today, 18th March.

Essential visits include compassionate visits for end-of-life care and visits that support care plans for residents based on resident and family needs, for example, families who routinely visit to provide assistance with meals or mobility or for reassurance for those with dementia.

Essential visitors supporting a resident's care will be required to register with our team. Registering will ensure that a discussion occurs to determine if the visit is essential, and confirm that the visitor understands the necessary infection control practices such as good handwashing and visiting in the resident's private room. In order to restrict the number of people entering the facility, families are encouraged to identify one essential visitor for their loved one.

Paid companions are also considered essential visitors and will need to register.

Many families and contacts of our Long Term Care Residents were registered today by speaking with our team at the Greenwoods reception.

An Island Health Community Health Services Case Manager will be speaking with the Braehaven Residents and their contacts tomorrow.

Adult Day Program and Community Bathing

Given the need to increase our Covid-19 precautions, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel our Adult Day Program and Community Bathing effective tomorrow. We feel this is in the best interest of the ADP/CB clients and our Braehaven and Greenwoods Residents.

Meals on Wheels

The Meals on Wheels program is continuing. Clients have been contacted and asked to set out a cooler in which the meals can be delivered to avoid the contact with the volunteer driver. We are very grateful to our volunteers who are supporting us in keeping this program running.

Connections

As we cancel programs, limit visits to our Residents, and encourage our independent Residents to practice social distancing; we are very aware of the importance of maintaining connections during these challenging times. We will keep sending regular updates and are putting plans in place to support our Residents and families to connect via phone calls, FaceTime and Skype.

I've greatly appreciated the connection I've had from our Residents & Clients and their families and friends. I have passed the expressions of gratitude on to the Team.

With the concerning news around us, and with our local businesses and restaurants closing or reducing services, it's difficult not to feel the strain. What I observed at Greenwoods yesterday was the Team's amazing focus on the Residents and the normalcy of day with St. Patrick's day celebrations, laughter and ease.

Please take care of yourselves with good hand washing, social distancing and following the public health guidance.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us:

For general enquires	Aletha Humphreys Executive Director	250 537 5561 ext. 222
For Greenwoods Resident queries	Barb Williams Director of Care (Mondays to Fridays) The Nursing Station (Saturday & Sunday)	250 537 5561 ext. 234 250 537 5561 ext. 224
For Braehaven Resident queries	Community Health Services	250 538 4887
For Adult Day Program and Community Bathing	Brandy Borley	250 537 5561 ext. 223

Kind regards

Aletha Humphreys
Executive Director