

Greenwoods Eldercare Society Bulletin

4 December 2020

All continues to be well at both Greenwoods and Braehaven. Although the increasing COVID numbers and the confirmed presence of cases in our own community are concerning, the protocols and precautions we have in place are holding strong. We're continuously reviewing the best practices and mask use, frequent hand washing, and other measures are now second nature. One of our visitors this week compared wearing a mask to using a seatbelt. At first it felt awkward and now we don't think twice about putting on a mask when interacting with others. I shared this analogy with one of the Care Aides and aged myself, as she marveled that there was a time when we didn't use seatbelts.

We'll always use seatbelts, but at some point we will be able to remove the masks. That point is a ways away and it's encouraging to see such widespread use of masks in the community.

At this stage, there are no significant changes to the pandemic response protocols, with the exception of mask use at Braehaven. The common areas at Braehaven are considered indoor public spaces and, as such, it is mandatory that masks are worn by everyone including residents. If a Resident cannot tolerate a mask, we are requesting that they accept tray service in their rooms for meals at this time.

Visiting

The essential and social visits are continuing as per previous protocols. Thank you to everyone, Residents and visitors, for your understanding and acceptance of the procedures.

With the exception of essential visits at Braehaven where separate plans have been put in place, please ensure you call or email ahead of time to schedule the visit. This will ensure that we have a team member available to greet you and perform the essential COVID screening and to schedule enhanced cleaning afterwards.

Virtual visits are also continuing. As in person visits are still restricted to one designated visitor, please let family members and friends know that we can always set up virtual visits. Although it's not the same as being able to come in to visit, the virtual visits can still be very meaningful and joyous, especially as we near the holidays.

For all visiting enquiries:

for Braehaven please contact:

Trish Staicesku

braehaven@greenwoodseldercare.org

250 537 5520

for Greenwoods please contact:

Erica Innes

erica.innes@greenwoodseldercare.org

250 537 5561 ext 230

Health Care Aide Education – Program and Funding

We are very grateful to the 100+ Women Who Care who chose Greenwoods as the recipient of their most recent gift of \$16,100. The GES Board Chair, Dorrie Ferster, spoke of challenges we face recruiting care aides and the success we've had with the on-island program offered in the by Camosun in the past. Many thanks to Dorrie for the heartfelt presentation.

The donation is also very timely as we've been working with the School District and Camosun College to organise a program on Salt Spring in the Spring of 2021. A survey will be opened next week for people to register if they're interested in the program. Information will be on the Salt Spring Exchange and in the Driftwood.

Greenwoods Foundation Annual Appeal

Education is also a focus of the Greenwoods Foundation's Annual Appeal. The Foundation is currently supporting two of our Support Services team members who are presently enrolled in the Camosun HCA program and our hope is to be able to provide support to other team members. The second focus of the annual appeal is the Environmental Improvement Fund to support projects that address high priority needs related to improving facilities, quality care, and care enhancements.

For more information about the annual appeal and to donate please click here: [Greenwoods Foundation Annual Appeal](#)

The support from the Foundation and from the community is very much appreciated as the gifts contribute so directly to the care and services provided to our Residents.

Stay safe and, as always, let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards
Aletha Humphreys
Executive Director