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The ongoing journey, as we navigate covid-19, has not been an easy one. We are grateful for your understanding, support and consideration of our communities throughout the spring and the summer. As we move into the fall and winter season, the second wave is upon us. This is frightening to many as the number of covid cases escalates in the community, and once again, congregate living settings are affected.

Fairview Parkwood Communities continues to work with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Long-Term Care, Public Health, Retirement Home Regulatory Authority and other agencies to ensure our leadership teams have accurate and timely information about covid-19 and infection prevention and control measures.

Over the past week, the Executive Directors have communicated protocol changes. The new protocols are based on recommendations from Region of Waterloo Public Health and are implemented to protect the residents and staff in our communities. I would like to take this opportunity to summarize these changes for you.

Visiting

- All indoor visits, by “general visitors” have been discontinued
- Indoor visits are limited to essential caregivers (one caregiver can visit at a time)

Designate an Essential Caregiver

- Long-Term Care and Retirement residents are encouraged to designate an essential caregiver who may visit with the resident in their suite
- An essential caregiver must:
 - have a negative covid test result within the past two weeks and has not tested positive thereafter
 - pass active screening
 - follow Public Health guidelines in the Home and in the outside community (wear a mask, practice hand hygiene, avoid gatherings and maintains social distancing)

Leaving the Community

- Short stay and temporary absences have been discontinued
- Residents are permitted outside, given they remain on the property and maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from any other person; this will help avoid community contact
- Residents may leave to attend medical appointments; if accompanied by another person, the accompanying person follow the Public Health infection prevention and control methods:
 - have a negative covid-19 test result within the past two weeks and has not tested positive thereafter
 - pass active screening
 - both the resident and accompanying person must wear a mask for the duration of the outing (including travel time in the car)
 - practice hand hygiene often

If you have any questions about the information above, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Executive Director or myself.

With Kindness,
Elaine Shantz, CEO