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December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Words cannot express my gratitude to each of you – given the duration of the pandemic and the significant impact on your everyday life, your continued vigilance and consideration have kept our communities safe. Thank you.

As we approach the holiday season the number of covid-19 cases is rising across Ontario, with the proportion of omicron cases increasing. Public Health Ontario has noted the risk of severe disease, reinfection and breakthrough infection related to omicron in Ontario is moderate with a high degree of uncertainty. The landscape of the pandemic is changing rapidly, as new evidence emerges.

As you are aware, the Ministry of Health introduced enhanced measures to reduce the risk of covid-19 in long-term care and retirement homes. You have received one-calls advising you of updates. These will continue throughout the holiday season.

Fairview Parkwood Communities continues to exercise an abundance of caution to keep our residents, families and team members safe. I am writing to you to highlight some of the heightened precautions moving forward:

#### Surveillance Testing

- Starting Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, everyone will be rapid tested upon entering the community. All caregivers and visitors are being asked to wait for a negative result in a designated area prior to visiting their loved one.

#### Visitor Policy

- A resident may have up to two visitors (caregivers and visitors) at a time for indoor visits
- Please only visit with your loved one; refrain from visiting other residents in the home
- If you would like to arrange a virtual visit, please contact the home to make arrangements

#### Absences

- Consider the impact of taking your loved one out for a day absence; we understand that this is difficult especially given the holiday season, however, please consider the risk when making your decision
- Overnight absences for social purposes are suspended, regardless of vaccination status

#### Vaccinations

- Vaccines remain our best defence against covid-19 and omicron; the province has adjusted the eligibility to receive the booster dose to three months after a second dose
- Fairview Parkwood Communities is planning to host a vaccination clinic the week of December 20<sup>th</sup> for eligible caregivers and regular visitors; details will be provided as they become available.

With the omicron variant poised to become Ontario's dominant covid-19 strain, we are taking action to protect our community and prevent the spread of the virus. Potential spread is concerning for high-risk residents. As we continue to learn more about the omicron variant, we will continue to implement additional measures to protect the health and safety of our communities.

We have come so far in the past 20 months and we appreciate your support as we continue this journey together.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or a member of the leadership team.

With Kindness,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ES' followed by a stylized flourish.

Elaine Shantz, CEO