

OUR COMMITMENT . . . TO PROVIDE CHRIST-CENTRED CARE EMBRACING THE VALUES OF COMPASSION, DIGNITY, EXCELLENCE AND FAITH

May 4, 2023

Dear Staff,

We received information that on May 10, 2023, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements will be lifted in most areas and the Manitoba health system will return to PPE use according to Routine Practices and Additional Precautions (RPAP).

This means that masks and physical distancing for staff will <u>no longer be required</u> at Salem Home starting on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

There will be some **exceptions** as follows:

- If an area is in an outbreak, the appropriate PPE will be required for the type of outbreak.
- Residents or loved ones can request that staff wear a mask when providing care. All staff are expected to comply with these requests.
- Medical masks will remain available upon entry, at the Nurses Stations and in the Heritage Room, if you choose to wear one.

With the removal of the masks we ask that you continue to check your symptoms before coming to work. If you are **experiencing ANY cold symptoms, please stay home** until you are feeling well enough to work again.

Please be mindful and respectful towards those that choose to continue wearing a mask. Let's not judge, but be understanding.

We understand that for some, this is a time for celebration and for others, this is a time of anxiety and uncertainty. Both experiences are valid. We've come through 3 years of mask wearing and a time of unprecedented stress, pressure and change in both our work and personal lives. Some of you have never worked in health care without wearing a mask, so this change may feel unsettling. Please reach out to your direct supervisor or our Social Worker, Stephanie Thiessen, if you need support through this transition.

**Director of Resident Care Services** 

Sincerely,

Marge Berft

Director of Support Services

Carla Olusola

Tony Fehr

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Interfaith Health Care Association of Manitoba

**Director of Plant Operations** 

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