Friday, November 19, 2021

Dear Residents and Families,

We remain committed to providing updates to our residents, families, and staff at AgeCare. As such, we are providing weekly updates to keep you all informed on what is happening at our communities and organization-wide.

- 1. <u>Community Minded, Weekly Shout Out</u> Once again, our teams are looking outwards to support the broader communities in which they serve.
- 2. Staying Safe In the Community Reducing the transmission of COVID and Influenza.
- 3. Vaccine Record with QR code How to get your Vaccine Record.
- 4. <u>Visits, Outings & Overnight Stay Guidelines</u> Everything you need to know for a safe visit.
- 5. <u>3rd Dose for AgeCare Staff</u> Third doses of the COVID-19 vaccine are now being offered to front-line health care workers.
- 6. Recreation Calendars Staying active, intellectually stimulated, and socially connected.
- 7. We're Hiring Did you know AgeCare is hiring? Great opportunities for caring people.

We hope these weekly updates are helpful. Thank you all for your continued support.

Community Minded, Weekly Shout Out

Our AgeCare teams astound us with their capacity to care. Even during difficult and potentially stressful times, they continue to bring their joy and enthusiasm with them each and every day.

Once again, this year in Alberta, our teams are looking outwards to support the broader communities in which they serve.

In **Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Brooks**, they are once again running their Christmas to Remember campaign. A secret Santa program started by AgeCare with the hope of spreading holiday cheer to lonely or financially-challenged seniors. Partnering with London Drugs and Shoppers Drug Mart anonymous gifts delivered directly to local seniors in need sends the message that they are being remembered this Christmas.

We invite you to join the *Christmas to Remember* program by visiting <u>carethischristmas.ca</u>

In **Calgary and Strathmore**, we are once again partnering with Discovery House – a registered charity committed to ending the traumatic cycle of domestic violence for women and children – to fundraise for the Adopt-a-Family program.

Each year, <u>Discovery House</u> provides supportive transitional housing to over 600 women and their children who are fleeing family violence so that they can heal from their trauma, rebuild their lives, and break the cycle of domestic violence.

AgeCare is once again matching every donation dollar to dollar up to \$2,500. That means that for every \$10 donated, AgeCare will match that donation, turning it into \$20 towards children's holiday gifts.

Contact your community to learn more about how you can help transform the holidays for 265 children.

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Staying Safe in the Community

While COVID-19 case numbers and hospitalizations have dropped since the height of the pandemic's fourth wave, when things get colder, more and more events begin taking place inside, increasing the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission. It's also now flu season, and we expect to see an increase in respiratory symptoms and other illnesses, including seasonal influenza.

Measures like wearing masks, staying home when sick, practising good hand hygiene and limiting the number of in-person interactions will reduce the likelihood of both COVID-19 and flu transmission.

Getting your Flu Shot

Influenza immunization is a priority this year, with the unique circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and the strain it has put on the healthcare system.

All Albertans are being encouraged to protect themselves and those around them against influenza this year by getting a flu shot.

Visit immunizealberta.ca to learn more and book your flu shot.

Vaccine Record with QR code

All of our communities are now fully equipped to scan the Alberta Vaccine QR codes

How to Get your Vaccine Record

Albertans turning 12 and older can get their vaccine record with QR code at alberta.ca/CovidRecords.

- It's fast and easy no account required. Enter your personal healthcare number, birthdate, and month and year of vaccination.
- Download your card and print out, or save on your phone.
- If you were vaccinated recently, it may take up to 2 weeks for your records to be available online.

For help accessing or printing a vaccine record:

- visit a participating Registry Agent to print your record at no cost
- call 811 to have your record mailed to you
- go to alberta.ca/CovidRecordsHelp if you need technical assistance

Safe Visits, Outings and Overnight Stays

<u>Visitation guidelines</u> with continuous masking are in effect.

Communities on outbreak may have different visitation restrictions in effect. Contact your community or <u>sign up for email updates</u> to stay informed on the latest information.

Coming for a visit? Please familiarize yourself with these guidelines.

Download the Visitor Guide (PDF) -->



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Outings and Overnight Stay Guidelines

Residents are welcome to go on community walks, outings, and overnight stays as long as they follow all of the current provincial guidelines.

As cases continue to be high throughout the province, we must remain diligent and take steps to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe. **Guidelines are in effect to ensure outings and overnight stays** are as safe as possible.

The safety of our residents and staff remains our top priority.

Please download our Outings & Overnight Stays Guidelines (PDF) -->



Third Doses of the COVID-19 Vaccine for Staff

Third doses of the COVID-19 vaccine are now being offered to health care workers. **AgeCare is encouraging** all eligible staff to book their 3rd dose to help protect themselves, their family, community, and residents.

Read more at 3rd Dose for Health Care Workers and at Alberta.ca

Recreation Calendars

Our recreation team is working hard to create engaging activities that enrich the mind, body and spirit. We are continuously looking for ways to reduce the risk of transmission while having the least impact on resident well-being. View the Recreation Calendars for your AgeCare Community:

AgeCare Columbia	AgeCare Seton
AgeCare Glenmore	AgeCare Skypointe
AgeCare Midnapore	AgeCare Sunrise Gardens
AgeCare Orchard Manor	AgeCare Valleyview
AgeCare Sagewood	AgeCare Walden Heights

Please note that communities on outbreak may have different recreation restrictions in effect. Contact your community or <u>sign up for email updates</u> to stay informed on the latest information.

We're Hiring

Did you know AgeCare is hiring? Great opportunities for caring people. From health care aides to food services to recreation to administration and more, we are looking for dedicated and caring individuals.

If you or someone you know is looking for an exciting new opportunity, check out our careers page at www.agecare.ca/careers

