

Friday, January 28, 2022

Dear Residents and Families,

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

1. [Shout Out to our Schedulers](#)
2. [Health Canada has approved Pfizer's oral antiviral treatment](#)
3. [Let's all get Boosted!](#)
4. [Visitor Guide](#)
5. [Outings & Overnight Stays](#)
6. [Recreation Calendars](#)
7. [Great Opportunities for Caring People](#)

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





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A Shout-Out to our Schedulers

Their title isn't fancy, but their skills are off the charts!

By definition the job of an AgeCare Scheduler is to manage the daily staffing flow, but let's be real here, especially during the challenges amplified by Omicron, they are scheduling ninjas ... making sure shifts get filled, and there are staff to care and serve our residents.

"The Scheduler is the staff members' support – they are their go-to when they need help with shift swaps, vacations, and picking up of additional days. They build relationships, and I have always witnessed that Schedulers go above and beyond to help make things work best for the staff," Naazneen Pirbhai, Office Manager at SkyPointe.

Schedulers are responsible for everything from fielding sick calls and finding staff to fill floor shortages; to supporting payroll with timecard monitoring. They have strong relationships with all our staff and agencies that top up our replacement staff. In some sites, they even orient new staff and arrange buddy shifts.

In short, Schedulers are master jugglers and dynamite communicators, and we couldn't possibly do what we do without them!

Great News in the Fight Against COVID-19!

Health Canada has approved Pfizer's oral antiviral treatment for use in those who are 18 years and older! **This is not a replacement for the vaccine, but an added line of defence against serious illness.** [Read the January 25 news story.](#)

Here's a quick summary of the new drug called Paxlovid:

- It helps reduce symptoms of COVID-19.
- It's pill form, available only by prescription.
- It's important to begin taking as soon as infection is detected.
- Dose is heavy - 30 pills over five days.
- Pfizer's clinical trials indicated that when taken within five days of infection, Paxlovid reduced risk of hospitalization by 85%.
- Canada presently has a limited quantity but more will be available in the coming months.



As this drug becomes more available, we look forward to hearing more from [Health Canada](#) about its application and efficacy.



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Let's all get Boosted!

Vaccine effectiveness against infection may decline over time – especially with the highly transmissible Omicron variant – but they remain the best way to prevent severe illness and death. Additional doses can boost immunity to improve protection and limit spread.

Who can book?

- Anyone over the age of 18, five months after your second dose.

How to book:

- [Book online or by phone here](#) or call 811.



Visit bookvaccine.alberta.ca or call 811 to book your 3rd dose.

Visitor Guide

Our [visitor guidelines](#) with continuous masking remain in place for both Designated Family/Support Persons (DFSP) and Social Visitors.

Remember! Help us limit potential exposure to COVID by only visiting with your loved one – not in group settings.

Coming for a visit?

Please familiarize yourself with these guidelines.

[Download the Visitor Guide \(PDF\) -->](#)



Outings & Overnight Stays

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

If a resident is absent from the community for more than 24 hours, they are required to:

- be Rapid Antigen Screened (RAS) at point of entry,
- be actively screened daily for COVID-19 symptoms,
- wear a medical mask when outside of their room for 14 days post-return, and
- be swabbed for COVID-19 on Day 3 and Day 7.

All other [outings and overnight stay guidelines](#) remain in effect.



For the safety of residents and staff, please download and follow our

[Outings & Overnight Stays Guidelines \(PDF\) -->](#)



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Recreation Calendars

Our recreation team works 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 our residents' well-being.

Please note that communities on outbreak may have different recreation restrictions in effect. Contact your community or [sign up for email updates](#) to stay informed on the latest information.

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

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



WE'RE HIRING!
Great Opportunities for Caring People