AgeCare Weekly Update

Friday, December 31, 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. Happy New Year from all of us at AgeCare
- 2. <u>Shout-Out</u> to our Safe Feeding and Mealtime Companion Graduates at Monashee Mews.
- 3. <u>COVID Updates</u> including the latest restrictions, <u>gathering with care</u>, getting the <u>booster dose of the</u> <u>vaccine</u>, and staff & visitor <u>Rapid Antigen Screening</u>.
- 4. Visitor Guidelines
- 5. <u>Recreation Calendars</u> Staying active, intellectually stimulated, and socially connected.
- 6. <u>We're Hiring</u> Great opportunities for caring people.

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

Happy New Year from all of us at AgeCare

As we close the chapter on a challenging year, we are filled with hope for brighter days ahead and gratitude for the privilege of making our way on this journey with you!

We've all lived long enough to know that life is full of ups and downs, and what matters most is that we keep looking up! In the year ahead, may you be blessed with good health and safekeeping; May your heart be filled with love and joy; and may your spirit be lifted by the goodness you give and receive.

From all of us, to all of you, Happy New Year!





Shout-Out to Monashee Mews

Congrats to our awesome Service Aids (left to right), Jessa Petersen, Erika Hymas, Liana Halseth, Kayla Currie, Kyne Hipe, and Branden Fisher, who recently completed the training for Safe Feeding and Mealtime Companion. We look forward to having your help in enhancing our residents' nutrition status and dining experience!



COVID Updates

To help curb the spread of the Omicron variant, the Provincial Health Officer has introduced <u>province-wide restrictions</u>.

Gathering with Care

When planning a gathering, keep the number of guests small, and yes, just like last winter, consider socializing in the great outdoors.

To help with this, we have created a handout with <u>tips on gathering as safely as</u> possible indoors.

Download our Gathering with Care guide (PDF)

Reminder to Staff to Book their Booster Dose

Since November, AgeCare staff have been encouraged to book their booster dose of the vaccine. If you are staff and you haven't yet received your Covid-19 vaccine booster, this is a friendly reminder that it is **now available to all health care workers.** Thank you for booking as soon as possible to ensure that added layer of protection for you and those around you.



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How to book:

• For booking, your will need to 'Self Identify as a Health Care Worker.' <u>Click here for the memo</u> <u>outlining the steps.</u>

Questions about eligibility or booking?

• Call: 1-833-838-2323 / Seven days a week, 7 am to 7 pm (PDT)

Rapid Antigen Testing of Staff and Visitors

As mentioned briefly in last week's update, new orders and public health measures have been issued to curb COVID-19 transmission and in direct response to the widely spreading Omicron variant. To continue doing all we can to keep our residents, families, health care workers, and staff safe, please note the following new measures:

- 1. Beginning January 1st, all staff will be Rapid Antigen Screened (RAS) twice a week.
 - All staff will be Rapid Antigen Screened twice a week. Those with a negative result will carry on with duties. However, if the result is positive, the employee will be required to return home to isolate and book a PCR test to confirm the result.
 - All existing protocols are to continue in addition to the testing, including full PPE while on-site, including during breaks. For more information, <u>refer to the December 24th memo</u>.

2. Beginning January 7th, all visitors will receive Rapid Antigen Screened (RAS) upon entry.

- All visitors ages 12 and up will be tested upon entering an AgeCare community.
- Test results take roughly 20 minutes, and only those who have a negative result will be permitted to visit.
- Full vaccination, mask compliance and other protective measures remain in effect for all visitors.

If you are visiting a loved one in one of our communities, <u>download our Visitor's Guide</u> for all of our current visitor protocols.

Visitor Guidelines

<u>Visitation guidelines</u> remain in effect requiring all eligible persons over the age of 12 to be fully vaccinated. **In addition, starting on January 7**th, all visitors over the age of 12 will receive Rapid Antigen Screened (RAS) upon entry.

Please note that communities with an exposure or on outbreak may have different visitation restrictions in effect. Contact your community or <u>sign up for</u> <u>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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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 resident wellbeing. At this time, visitors are not permitted to attend indoor recreations programming, including concerts. We appreciate your understanding.

Please note that communities with an exposure or 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:

Brandt's Creek Mews	Cariboo Place
Monashee Mews	Mount Ida Mews

We're Hiring

Did you know AgeCare is hiring? We have great opportunities for caring, dedicated people in areas ranging from health care aides and food services to recreation and administration.

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

