



# Elgin County Long-Term Care Homes

## MEMO

**TO:** All Bobier Villa, Elgin Manor and Terrace Lodge Residents and Families

**DATE:** December 15, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Enhanced Measures for LTC Homes – COVID-19 Pandemic

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Dear Residents and Families,

On December 14, 2021, the Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC) sent out updated direction for “Enhanced Measures for LTC Homes” related to current local and provincial COVID-19 activity, in particular the Omicron variant activity.

Attached you will find two (2) documents outlining the MLTC directive changes, some of which are effective today, December 15, 2021 (i.e. general visitors that are not fully vaccinated), and the majority of which are effective December 17, 2021. Please review the attached documents in full for details regarding vaccination requirements and timelines, visitor changes, rapid antigen testing, resident absences, activities, etc. and please speak to a member of the Homes management team if you have any questions:

- [Summary of Enhanced Measures](#)
- [Key Messages to Support Residents and Families](#)

Additional information, not included in the above documents, includes the following:

- As an additional precautionary measure against the highly transmissible Omicron variant, protective eyewear is **required**, effective Thursday, December 16, 2021 by all staff, visitors, support workers, and volunteers who enter the Home.
- Booster doses are available to essential caregiver visitors, provided that it has been a period of six (6) months since your second dose. A booster dose is strongly recommended for protection against the Omicron variant and can be booked online through your local public health.
- All programs and activities will be held by resident home area (cohort) with a maximum of 10 persons (including staff/visitor/entertainer) in attendance. Please consider allowing the maximum number of residents to participate in these planned activities.
- Visitors are required to wear their mask and eyewear at all times, and, as such will not be permitted to eat or drink while in the Home. Essential caregiver visitors may attend the designated area to provide meal time support to their loved one.
- Effective immediately General Visitors who are not fully vaccinated are restricted from entering the Long-Term Care Home; scheduled outdoor visits are still permitted following screening and testing requirements.

- Essential caregiver visitors have specific timelines to achieve full vaccination – as such, until the essential caregiver is fully vaccinated, within the attached timelines, visits will be restricted to the resident's room for these visits.

We know the timing of these changes, so close to the holiday season, is difficult news for residents and families. Homes staff will do their best to reassure and provide support to residents and families as we work to implement these temporary required measures to support resident, visitor and staff safety and well-being. We encourage you to visit within the updated guidelines and, if you have any questions, please speak to a registered staff member or manager!

Thank you!

Michele Harris, Director of Homes and Seniors Services  
Terri Benwell, Administrator, Bobier Villa & Elgin Manor  
Christine Leonard, Administrator, Terrace Lodge