

Family update #114

September 17, 2021

Dear family and friends,

We are very grateful for your support in following all public health protocols during your visits to ensure your loved ones are well protected, safe, and content. We have updates for you regarding our protocols in Wing Kei in light of this week's government announcement.

Public Health Emergency Declared

With the continual high number of new COVID cases in recent weeks, the Alberta government declared a state of public health emergency on September 15, 2021. Health measures to help slow transmission of COVID-19 are being implemented province-wide including new restrictions on restaurants, gatherings, workplaces, and more. Mandatory masking and physical distancing is mandatory in all indoor public spaces beginning September 16, 2021. Detailed information on the new restrictions, including their impact for those who are vaccinated and those who aren't are on the province's website at alberta.ca

Wing Kei Preventative Measures

To protect residents and prevent the spread of the virus to and within our centres, we are implementing the following measures at both Crescent Heights and Greenview effective immediately:

- **Masking is mandatory at all times** in the facility, including in resident rooms. You must use a new mask each time you enter the centre. Additional PPE such as face shields and gowns may be suggested to you by our staff. Please listen to their advice and wear what is required.
- **Proper hand hygiene** must be practiced which means cleaning your hands frequently by washing in soap and water or using hand sanitizer. Proper cleaning includes washing the front and back of your hands, in between your fingers, and the tips of your fingers. Please wash your hands for a minimum of thirty seconds. A trick we use at Wing Kei is to wash your hands for as long as it takes to sing a verse of a song.
- A **weekly rapid antigen test** is recommended for families and friends who visit their loved one daily. For visitors who come less frequently, such as once a week, we recommend you do a rapid test every two weeks.
- **Proof of vaccination** will be requested by our screening staff prior to the visit. To access your vaccination record, you may log into Alberta [MyHealth Records](#) and print out a copy. If you do not have internet access to MyHealth Records, you can request a hard copy from the clinic or pharmacy where you received your vaccination. If you received the vaccination through an AHS vaccination centre you can call HealthLink at 811 to request that a copy of your immunization record be mailed to you.
- If you are either **partially or non-vaccinated**, please have a rapid test prior to each visit and wear additional PPE including a face shield and gowns.

Being fully immunized continues to be the best prevention against severe outcomes. From the statistics shared by Alberta Health and the Chief Medical Officer of Health, it is primarily those who are not vaccinated who are having the most severe outcomes. The vast majority of intensive care beds in the province are filled with people who have not taken the vaccine. Our hospitals are well beyond capacity. Please consider taking the vaccine if you have not already done so. It will protect you, your family, your colleagues, and all the people around you.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

*I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
~ Psalms 121:1-2*

With sincere gratitude,

Kathy Tam
Chief Executive Officer