



June 2023

COVID-19 Safety Measures Guidance from the Ministry of Long Term Care have been revised in recognition of the reduction in severity of COVID infections, reduction in frequency of COVID infections, the higher vaccination rate amongst both long-term care residents and healthcare workers, and the availability of antiviral medications.

“This represents a return to normal for our residents and the ability for those with cognitive impairment to see the faces of their caregivers,” commented Dr. Rhonda Collins, President of OLTCC.

All residents are invited to*:

- Spend time with visitors and caregivers without wearing masks.
- Enjoy the company of visitors, indoors or outdoors, consistent with your home’s visitor and/or vaccination policies.
- Participate in group social activities, including games, clubs and exercises. Have meals in the dining room, including buffet and family-style meals together with their caregivers and visitors.
- Leave the home for all types of absences, including social day and overnight absences, and not have to be actively screened, tested or isolated upon return to the home.
- Request that a staff member wear a mask when providing care, and LTC homes are recommended to accommodate this request.

*Unless otherwise directed by the local public health unit, during outbreaks in the home or when isolating

Also, the Government announced \$16.5 million to train up to 600 new personal support workers across the province to help meet the commitment to provide long-term care residents with an average of four hours of hands-on direct care each day by 2025. The Learn and Earn Accelerated Program for Personal Support Workers in Long-Term Care (LEAP LTC) is an online program in partnership with Humber College that accelerates the training of existing long-term care staff, such as resident attendants and dietary aides, to become personal support workers.

The Legislature has risen for the summer and will return to regular sittings in late September.