

## Canterbury Information Notice

To: All Residents, Family and Friends

From: Canterbury Foundation

Date: October 1, 2021

### Re: New Restrictions at Canterbury



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As you are likely aware, we made mention of some further restrictions we have been exploring to ensure the safety of our residents at Canterbury in our previous update on September 16, 2021. As part of this process, we have met with a group of residents and family members who had expressed an interest in sharing their perspective and ideas on what Canterbury was currently doing and anything that needed to be considered. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of you who participated in that discussion, it was very valuable for us to hear directly from you. To gather more input from you, and in follow-up to this discussion, we also sent out our most recent survey that looked at the question of requiring visitors to be fully vaccinated for indoor visitation, something that many of you have been asking for.

Considering the evolving challenges our healthcare system is facing and the continued increases in community spread, we are introducing the following restrictions until November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This timeline will be continually evaluated and not be in place any longer than we believe to be necessary and may also be subject to extension although it is our sincere hope that it will not be required. We are as always, trying our best to balance the safety of our Canterbury community with all the other holistic needs of our residents and particularly their social wellbeing.

#### Effective immediately:

- All visitors will continue to be required to double mask and **continuous masking** is once again **mandatory**. This applies even when the resident and visitor(s) are fully vaccinated and even when visiting privately in the resident's suite. Any request for exemption to this mandate must be directed to the Resident Experience Manager at 780-930-5819 for guidance and approval.

- When you are applying your masks at the entrance, please ensure you wash your hands before removing and reapplying a new mask; wash your hands immediately after placing your new mask on your face, AND prior to leaving the screening desk.
- A reminder that mandatory quarantine and testing has already been re-implemented for all residents moving in and returning from hospital/other healthcare facilities and for those returning from overnight visits - a risk assessment will be conducted.

### **Effective October 5, 2021**

- **All indoor visitors** will be required to provide photo identification and hard copy or electronic proof that they **are fully vaccinated** at the time of screening. Fully vaccinated means an individual has **had two (2) doses** of a COVID-19 vaccine considered valid by Alberta Health **a minimum of 14 days prior** to their visit. Proof of vaccination will have to be either government issued or a printed copy of Netcare vaccination status that is verified by a licensed healthcare provider (e.g. doctor or pharmacist). An individual who chooses not to declare their vaccination status will be considered unvaccinated.
- **Children under the age of 12**, who are unable to be vaccinated at this time are **restricted from indoor visitation** until such time that they have been fully vaccinated, or this restriction is lifted. Regretfully, we feel this is a necessary step as currently children in this age group represent the highest number of active cases and in fact is the highest number of cases to date in any age group at any time during the pandemic. Regretfully, as we are trying to mitigate areas of highest risk, this is not something that can be overlooked.
- Any report of visitors not presenting for screening and providing proof of vaccination status prior to entering the facility, will be fully investigated by Canterbury and follow-up action will be taken.

- For an unvaccinated visitor, the following pre-existing exemptions for extenuating circumstances may be applied by contacting Health Services at 789-930-3734:
  1. End of Life (last 4-6 weeks of life)
  2. Pressing circumstance (e.g., financial, or legal matters, family crisis)
  3. Significant change in health status (due to medical/social/spiritual crisis)

As always, any individual residents or family members wanting to discuss concerns or unique circumstances with us can do so by emailing [community@canterburyfoundation.com](mailto:community@canterburyfoundation.com) and we will respond to you directly. Please include in your email the best way for us to reach you.

I would also like to provide an update to advise that in addition to implementing mandatory vaccination of Canterbury Contractors on September 24<sup>th</sup>, we have also now implemented a mandatory vaccination policy for all staff.

Lastly, I want to thank each of you in advance for once again partnering with us to protect the health of our residents during this unprecedented time. We commit to continually evaluating the safety measures in place to ensure they continue to be appropriate for the evolving situation in our province as well as to stay in conversation with you over the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Wendy King  
Executive Director, Canterbury Foundation