



March 28, 2021

Re: COVID-19 Update

Dear Residents,

After a bit of a delay our second vaccination clinic is almost here! And no, it is not an April fool's joke! The clinics *will* be happening the morning of April 1.

The clinic will be happening in much the same way as the first clinic did with the actual immunization taking place in the Atrium with the Café as the waiting area. If you have not signed up already, please do on the sign-up sheets outside my office.

As a reminder, here is what you need to know:

- To avoid too many people in the area, please do not come to the Café more than 10 minutes before your scheduled time slot. Staff will again be directing the flow of people so you may be asked to wait in the main hallway prior to being directed into the Café.
- Please bring along your Alberta Health Card along with your immunization form from the first dose if you have it. If you don't have it or forget to bring it, don't worry, as we have copies and will make those available to AHS.
- Unless you are medically unable, all Residents will be required to wear a mask while in the waiting area and in the clinic.

So, What's Next?

With our second immunization and most of our Residents vaccinated, I wish I could say that we will be able to resume life and activities as before or at least begin to ease up on restrictions. And although the immunizations are a big step toward this, I want to encourage us all to continue to 'stay the course'.

For those of you watching the news, you will have seen that cases are on the rise again, projected to be largely due to COVID-19 variants. Until a larger portion of

the population is vaccinated, many people are still at risk. Because of the rise in cases, the provincial government has not yet eased up restrictions, including those around social gatherings, and even with the immunizations, continuing to follow Alberta Health and provincial requirements is essential for as long as the requirements are in place. And although most of our Residents are vaccinated, our staff are not yet immunized (although hopefully soon!) nor are many of our designated support and other visitors. So please continuing to practice the disciplines of masking and sanitizing. We want to continue in our efforts to keep Shalem COVID free!

But there are things that we can and will do. We will continue to offer activities focused on physical and mental well-being increasing the number of activities as have the capacity to do so. We will continue to keep the dining room open. We will continue to allow access to designated support people and other visitors Residents require as support in their lives. As the weather gets warmer, we will also explore more outdoor activities. And know that the staff are already planning for post-COVID life when we can once again engage and facilitate more social and other activities again.

I know that this has been a long road – and a long year. But we are almost there...really! Thank you for continuing to make wise choices as we persevere together!

Blessings to you all!



Dorothy de Vuyst
Executive Director

‘The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.’

Lamentations 3:22-24