

Coronavirus Update March 30, 2020

Dear Resident,

We continue to be guided by the Provincial and Island Health authorities in our practical response to this virus. The next two weeks, we are told, are critical.

Staff are working extra hours in sanitizing anything and everything that does not move. So, be careful not to stay still for too long or you too may be sanitized!

We have made physical changes in the dining room and the BWR. The purpose is to create as much distance, wherever possible, 2 meters, between tables with no more than two people at a table. Everything that we do is to enable us to continue serving you meals in the dining room rather than tray service in your apartment. That day may come if the virus gets into the building but for now, providing that we all, staff, CHWs and residents do our very best to protect ourselves and each other, we can continue.

These arrangements may be in place for sometime. With only two people per table conversations may need to be refreshed. I would invite you to consider a change in table to get a different perspective and spend time with someone new. PLEASE, before you make a move, speak with Barb or Gina.

If you are not comfortable with the dining room arrangements, please consider staying in your apartment and ordering tray service.

You will also have seen the visual reminders of what a 2-meter distance looks like taped to the floors and carpets on the ground floor. Thank you Julia for so quickly putting these in place. I know I need the reminders!

As you know, entry to the building is restricted to essential personnel only. While I cannot mandate it, I would encourage each of you to stay home. Do not venture out unless it is absolutely essential. Should you need blood work done, speak with your doctor, it may be possible to have it done at home, some already do. If you need shopping, we have people who have offered their volunteer services to do shopping for anyone who needs it. If you need to get out, walk our property, maintaining physical distance, of course.

I want to let you know that we are short-staffed in most departments. I am grateful to our on-call staff who have responded to our need and all staff are taking on extra workload to assist across departments. We are doing our very best but there will be some days when we overlook something, forget a request, get something wrong or, are just not at our best. Please be patient with us. Like you, we are dealing with our own fears, concerns and, at times, exhaustion. We are in this together. To quote Alexandre Dumas and the Three Musketeers – “All for one and one for all!”

Karen Hope, Executive Director