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December 11, 2020

Hi Everyone:

We had a lengthy skype meeting with the Medical Health Officer for the Fraser Health Authority, the Infection Control Officer, our Public Health nurse, our Outbreak Response Lead and a few others today.

The MHO expressed the importance of everyone being included in the PPT swabbing tomorrow, as that is the only way that we are going to be taken off of the outbreak list. Currently, our last positive case was found on December 5th. The MHO has said that the earliest date that we can be taken off of the outbreak list would be December 19th, 14 days from the last positive case. However, due to the Provincial Health Officer's order that extends to January 8th, being taken off of the outbreak list will not really change our lives too much at this time. What will change will be that we will be able to reopen the dining room and begin to re-instate some activities to keep everyone active and healthy. However, the previous ideas that had been discussed surrounding possible Christmas visits with family are off of the table. The MHO said today that the Provincial Health Officer's order takes precedence and is notwithstanding any other local orders or protocols. That means that legally, no one can go to a family member's home for Christmas. The MHO said that residents are not considered to "live alone", as Harrison Pointe is considered to be one home and that this is your "core bubble".

Here are excerpts from the PHO's order that extends to January 8th, 2021. This is the PHO's order of December 9th that was on the News last night.

Social gatherings

No social gatherings of **any size** at your residence with anyone other than your household or core bubble. For example:

- Do not invite friends or extended family to your household
- Do not host gathering outdoors
- Do not gather in your backyard
- Do not have playdates for children





Core bubble

For most people, their core bubble is their immediate household. An immediate household is a group of people who live in the same dwelling. For example:

- If you have a rental suite in your home, the suite is a separate household
- If you live in an apartment or house with roommates, you are all members of the same household

For others, including people who live alone, their core bubble may also contain a partner, relative, friend or co-parent who lives in a different household. This should be a maximum of two people outside of those living in your immediate household.

Christmas and holiday celebrations

All December celebrations will look different this year. Celebrate with your immediate household or core bubble. Single people may host their core bubble in their home or go to the homes of people in their core bubble.

- You must not host gatherings with people outside of your core bubble or household
- Do not look for loopholes or excuses to gather
- Consider hosting virtual parties and religious services
- Unwrap gifts over Zoom or Skype
- Grandparents who provide regular childcare for their grandchildren can spend time together over the holidays

A family member pointed out to me that I may be giving false hope in my newsletter of December 9th and it turns out that they are correct. My apologies, as the discussions that we had been having (up until the December 9th provincial health order), were about how to safely control and monitor returning residents from a visit with family over the holidays.

If we look at this on a positive note, we will hopefully be off of the outbreak list by December 19th. If that is the case, we will be able to have a Christmas dinner at Harrison Pointe in our Dining Room. The family visits – for all of us – can take place after January 8th. Afterall, December 25th is just a date. We can celebrate good will and family any day of the year!





The MHO also stated today that the December 9th order again takes precedent over his approval to return to visits with loved ones in the hangar. Therefore, all visits, whether already booked or not, are a contravention of this new December 9th order and must be temporarily postponed until after January 8th.

There has been some discussion that other assisted and independent living homes under outbreak are not abiding by these same rules. I brought this up with the MHO today and he assured us that all facilities are abiding my the same set of rules.

So we will test tomorrow, ship out all of the swabs, and wait for the results for Monday and Tuesday.

Sincerely,

Glenn



Looking for the humour in all this isn't always that easy!

