

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Announcement: COVID-19 Outbreak Declared Over!**

Shalom Village is delighted to announce that as of 6pm, on February 5, 2021, Hamilton Public Health Services has declared the COVID-19 Outbreak over.

Shalom Village is grateful for the outstanding efforts of its staff teams, as well as its partners at St. Joseph's Healthcare, and Public Health.

Shalom Village CEO Ken Callaghan states: "The past two months have been a challenging time for the residents, staff, volunteers and family members who depend on Shalom Village. We are thrilled to begin preparations to welcome Essential Caregivers back to Shalom Village and looking forward to seeing our residents engaging in pandemic-appropriate activities. When restrictions allow, we know our residents will be excited to resume approved activities and visits from all loved ones. Our teams are working together on planning to ensure a safe transition, and we ask our stakeholders to be patient for a little longer, as we work on transition plan details. Additional information will be forthcoming in the next few business days."

We recognize the joy this will bring to many of our community members, but we also wish to acknowledge the tragic loss of the Shalom Village family members who are no longer with us to enjoy this moment. This has truly been a difficult time for everyone at Shalom, and we all feel the loss of our family members.

As we plan to re-open our doors within the established protocols for COVID safety, we are also working to host a brief memorial (online) to recognize the loss of our residents, community members, and staff family members. Further announcements will be made available as plans are solidified.

The Voluntary Management Agreement with St. Joseph's Healthcare will remain in place as we continue to work through new processes and protocols relating to the resumption of "normal" activities. Shalom has also been fortunate to have been part of the Hamilton COVID vaccination process for residents and staff which will help to protect us in future.

We wish to thank the many stakeholders who have held us accountable, and provided us with support and the much needed resources to overcome this COVID-19 outbreak.