

March 20, 2021

Dear Residents, Family Members & Friends,

Today we are sad to announce that due to a community transmission with an agency staff person who last worked in SVO LTC (first floor) on March 13<sup>th</sup>, Public Health has indicated that we are once again classified as in “outbreak”.

I want to make it clear that as of Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm, there are no positive cases of COVID-19 among our residents, or among our Shalom Village active, and onsite agency staff. To the best of our knowledge, the individual remains asymptomatic and was tested off-site due to close contact with an individual who also tested positive for COVID-19. Unfortunately, because this is within the 7-day window, Public Health is requiring us to take preventative Outbreak measures.

As of today, Public Health is mandating the following measures:

- Contact tracing for all residents and staff who may have come into contact with this individual on or before March 13<sup>th</sup>. (Family members have been contacted if their loved one had contact with the staff person in question.)
- Internal Recreation activities are cancelled until further notice.
- Use of the fitness club is cancelled until further notice.
- All Essential Caregiver visits are cancelled until further notice.

Currently, this situation is regarded as low-risk. The individual observed appropriate PPE and infection protocols while on-site, and our entire team has been extraordinarily vigilant in all of the required and suggested infection prevention protocols.

Important information for residents, loved-one’s and Essential Caregivers:

- Congregate Dining will continue unless otherwise indicated.
- *All Essential Caregivers must have their weekly COVID test done off-site, to ensure you are able to return to Shalom Village when Public Health declares the Outbreak is over.*
  - Assuming that we have no additional positive cases, we will be able to resume Essential Caregiver visits on March 27<sup>th</sup>. To avoid visitation disruptions, please do not delay your testing regime.
- Residents may still go outside for a walk, but they must observe proper PPE, and social distancing protocols. At this time, external visitors are not permitted to join them.
- **Our weekly Townhall will be moved up to Monday afternoon at 3pm**, to answer any questions for residents, family members and stakeholders.

I would like to remind everyone to be exceedingly vigilant about their activities outside of their home. It is possible that these restrictions will be instituted again if a staff member or Essential Visitor tests positive within 7 days of being on-site at Shalom Village.

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The best way to ensure we can continue to allow Essential Caregiver visits, and resident activities, is by maintaining the Public Health guidelines, and restricting your contact with people outside of your home.

I realize this is disheartening for you, for our residents and for our staff, who are working so hard to try to ease the struggles that you are enduring. However, we are hopeful this current outbreak status will be short-lived.

With the recent positive vaccination news, we are all optimistic that once the greater public is vaccinated, we can return to the happy, busy, active lives that we all wish for our seniors and for each of you.

We have all been vigilant – and we will continue to do so with the 3<sup>rd</sup> COVID Wave upon us. I know we can count on your support as we work through what we hope are the final weeks of COVID-19.

Respectfully,

Ken Callaghan  
CEO, Shalom Village

***P.S. To join us for the online Townhall on Monday at 3pm, please use the login information below (we will record the townhall for those who are unable to attend):***

CEO Outbreak Townhall

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://www.gotomeet.me/SVCEOTownhall>

**You can also dial in using your phone.**

Canada (Toll Free): [1 888 455 1389](tel:18884551389)

Canada: [+1 \(647\) 497-9391](tel:+16474979391)

**Access Code:** 339-660-845

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