

Hi everyone,

We have been having some issues with our emails in the last 24 hours so I apologize if you did not receive an update yesterday and/or if you received it more than once! Hopefully it's all working now and you all receive today's message. Remember that if you miss any they can be found on our website.

There is one (1) resident on precautions today.

Manitoba health officials advise four (4) new cases of COVID-19 as of Thursday April 16, 2020. The total probable and confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus is two hundred fifty (250).

We had a good day today in the lodge. Cathy and Mike are creating their own routine in recreation now that Carolyn is gone. They spent time with residents on facetime calls. They also had one to one with residents from the 1st and 2nd floors.

Thank you for all the positive comments about the window art. The residents absolutely love it. It has brought so much joy to everyone in the facility.

It's been an interesting time with our staff. We (me, Elise & Alison) are staying diligent with staff on social distancing during breaks and lunches as well as policing the PPE ensuring everyone is adhering. As you can imagine, wearing eye shields, masks, gloves everyday performing your job can get difficult. We give constant reminders to keep them on at all times. When staff go on breaks they need to remain at least 6' apart during their breaks. We will continue to "police" these measures to ensure that staff are following. We are currently in a good position with our supplies and are able to provide staff with everything they require to keep both resident and employee safe.

We had a big glitch with our payroll and our regular payroll deposit did not transpire during the early morning hours today! I was told something by a wise mentor many years ago...never screw up the three "P's" with an employee, pay, parking and personal space! Needless to say everyone is getting paid, but wow spent a little time this morning sweating on the phone with the bank getting everything sorted out!

Like many of you at home...at the lodge we are all together all the time with no external contact (except when we go home to our isolated life). Much like a family, we can certainly get on each other's nerves! But, like a family we work hard and respectfully talking through our differences! We are used to having all of you to come in and talk to us, be with the residents and socialize! It is a social aspect of our daily life in the lodge that we miss.

We received good news from government yesterday regarding front line staff and Covid 19 testing and isolation. Up till yesterday if one of our staff had symptoms and had to be off until test results were received the employee could use sick time, vacation or leave with no pay and apply for EI. Brian Pallister advised that effective March 1, 2020, frontline healthcare workers qualify for administrative leave. This means that it will not impact their sick or vacation time banks. This is much needed relief as we don't want to be in a position with staff that do not want to say they are sick because they are scared they will not get paid if they have no sick or vacation time.

WRHA Long Term Care has advised that under no circumstances are we allowed to force an employee to choose one employer or another if they happen to work at multiple healthcare facilities. As all of you know, GLL has taken a firm stand on this advising staff that they need to choose. We have been told that we have no right to do this. This puts us in a tough situation. Several of our staff have chosen on their own to work at only one location so we have not had to ask them to choose. We still have staff that work at multiple locations. We know what staff work at multiple locations, and will ensure that our screening is very thorough. I know many of you will be very alarmed by this news! Please know that we will do everything we can to ensure we are on top of this.

I also wanted to address another concern that some of you have emailed about. Admissions to our facility continue. Again, WRHA Long Term Care has advised that we must continue with admissions of new residents. We have committed as a facility to ensure that when we receive a new admission the resident will be in isolation for a period of fourteen (14) days.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact me or Alison at 204-257-9947.

We hope that you are all keeping well, practicing social distancing and staying close to home. We thank you for your continued support, positive comments and prayers~

Please visit the website below for updates:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/>

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"Because when you stop and look around this life is pretty amazing" - author unknown

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