



December 18, 2020

Dear Good Samaritan families and individuals,

As we get closer to the Christmas season, I wanted to take a moment to thank each of you for your continued support and understanding with all of the changes that have had to be implemented over the past nine months.

With case numbers rising, I must remind you that the provincial government has currently restricted social gatherings, and everyone is not supposed to mingle with others outside their immediate household. Technically, that means individuals should not be visiting with anyone that is not one of their two designated family or support visitors. As well, if a designated family or support person does not live alone, individuals should not be visiting their household per the public health orders currently in place. We are encouraging individuals not to leave the home unless for essential reasons at this time. If they do leave the home, we are advising them on the importance of wearing a mask, remaining physically distanced from others, and performing hand hygiene.

If an individual or their designated family or support person chooses to have the individual leave the home, regardless of their time away, the individual will be required to undergo a screening protocol upon return, including a risk assessment. The risk assessment will determine if there are additional protocols that will need to be put in place in order to keep all of our individuals and employees safe (e.g. isolation).

At this time, we are only allowing designated family or support visitors to visit inside the home, and those visitors are kindly asked to call the home to schedule their time in advance. Designated visitors will also be provided with a mask when they visit and will be required to wear it for the duration of their visit. Please keep in mind that for any of our homes currently on investigative or confirmed outbreak status, there may be additional requirements in place for visitors, including increase personal protective equipment that must be worn.

We are also requesting that should any visitors learn they are COVID positive or they become symptomatic within 48 hours of visiting the home, that they notify management right away.

We know how important Christmas is to those we care for and their loved ones. If you are a designated family or support visitor, we ask that you arrange with the home in advance what your plans are to visit at Christmas. I would also like to encourage for you to continue to reach out to the home to arrange virtual visits or go to our website (www.gss.org/well-wishes) to send messages and photos to anyone in our care.

I know that this Christmas is going to look very different for all of us, but together we can ensure that you, those we care for, and our employees are kept as safe as possible. If you have any questions, please reach out to your team coordinator, or feel free to email goodsaminfo@gss.org.

I want to wish you a very happy holiday season, and hope for a better year in 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Fielding', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Fielding
Vice President of Operations, Quality, and Clinical Supports