



April 30, 2021

Dear Good Samaritan Canada families and residents,

### COVID-19 Vaccination

Since our update to you last month, there has been a continual rise of COVID-19 cases across the province and in the communities we serve. While that is concerning, it is positive news that so many of our residents have chosen to be vaccinated. Since the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine to those in our care, we've seen a significant drop in the number of outbreaks and their severity, which tells us the vaccine is making a huge difference.

For this reason, I want to strongly encourage anyone who has not already been vaccinated, but who is eligible, to please do so as soon as possible. If not to protect yourselves, then to protect your loved ones and your communities. If you need more information on the current vaccine rollout, please visit the [Government of British Columbia website](#). Resident vaccinations can continue to be organized through the care home by speaking to the site manager.

### Visitation

As we've rolled out the new visitation changes over the past month, on behalf of our employees, I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding. I also want to thank you all for ensuring that visitation is happening as safely as possible. We are truly all in this together, and the fact that we do not currently have any outbreaks in our care homes in British Columbia is a testament that everyone is doing their part.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

As a friendly reminder, we will provide visitors with the appropriate PPE necessary depending on the situation. At all times, this will include a procedure mask, but there may be instances where additional PPE (e.g. gowns, gloves, eye protection) is required. For example, if the care home is on a COVID-19 outbreak, our employees will advise essential visitors on how to put PPE on properly and to take it off safely. If you're ever not sure about how to put on the required PPE, please do not hesitate to ask an employee. We are happy to help.

### Communication

In order to ensure that everyone is kept up to date, letters such as this one are posted on our website (<https://gss.org/preparations-for-covid-19/>), and we strongly encourage residents and their primary contacts/legal health representatives to share them with other loved ones who may not receive them directly. If a care home goes on a COVID-19 outbreak, residents and primary contacts/legal health representatives will receive weekly letters to keep them updated on the situation. These letters are also posted on our [website](#) along with all active outbreaks and case numbers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please continue to reach out to your site manager or email [goodsaminfo@gss.org](mailto:goodsaminfo@gss.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edythe Andison".

Edythe Andison  
Director of Quality and Clinical Supports  
Good Samaritan Emergency Operations Centre Incident Commander