

Dear Family/Support Person,

The holiday season is finally upon us and we know that you've been looking forward to sharing this festive time of year with your loved ones.

Unfortunately, many of our traditional gathering opportunities and/or plans are not available to us this year as a result of the risks posed by such activities.

COVID-19 is most quickly, and effectively, spread in intimate, indoor gatherings and to help to reduce the spread of this virus, Public Health requires that Manitobans celebrate the 2020 holiday season with members of their immediate household, or their designated social contact, ONLY.

For this reason, we strongly discourage you from bringing your loved one home this holiday season for social visits.

Essential and required leaves from the facility will continue without interruption for medical treatments and services.

If you choose to withdraw your loved one from the facility this holiday season please contact Shannon Croft, Clinical Manager 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floors or Amy Anis, Clinical Manager 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Floors a minimum of 2 business days before the planned leave to make arrangements and be aware that those leaves are granted for a maximum of two hours and the individual must:

- be in a "green" zone of care (with no suspected or confirmed positive cases of COVID on their unit),
- be able to safely, and properly wear a procedural mask (which the facility will supply) for the duration of their leave from the facility except when eating or drinking,
- be able to maintain physical distancing for the duration of their leave except when in transit in a private vehicle,

If you are looking for other ways to celebrate with your loved one this season please contact the site directly to discuss options to connect using technology, and about activities the site has planned for residents.

We appreciate your understanding and patience during this difficult time and remember, we make these sacrifices and celebrate separately this year to ensure that we can gather again safely for many years to come.

Sincerely,

*Kayla Gilmour* RN BN GNC(C)

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