



## ***Information Update for Families and Caregivers***

***June 3, 2021***

**Luther Home is pleased to announce the addition of Outdoor Visits to the range of visit types available to Residents and Families. Beginning June 8, 2021 Outdoor Visits will be an option along with Pod and Virtual Visits. Both Outdoor and Pod Visits will be available on a weekly basis from Tuesday to Saturday.**

**With the current high rate of community spread related to COVID-19 Variants of Concern, and knowing that the vaccine is not 100% effective, safe visitation practices must continue to be employed to reduce the risk to our Residents and Staff. The protocols for Outdoor Visits will follow Public Health guidelines and include:**

- 1. Two visitors per Outdoor Visit.**
- 2. Outdoor visits will be a maximum of 30 minutes.**
- 3. School Aged Children will not be allowed to visit at this time.**
- 4. Health screening of all visitors prior to every visit.**
- 5. Hand Hygiene.**
- 6. PPE use including a clean medical face mask and eye protection to be worn by visitors throughout the visit (both to be provided by Luther Home).**
- 7. Physical Distancing must be maintained. Family will be allowed a brief physical encounter with their loved ones (hug or holding hands) while saying hello and goodbye. PPE must be on during this brief encounter.**

- 8. No food or drink allowed during outdoor visits. Care packages for Residents will be accepted and distributed as per current practice.**
- 9. Outdoor Visits will be replaced with a Pod Visit during periods of inclement weather. In this case, the number of visitors will be reduced to one.**

**Pod Visits will continue during this time and will also be weather dependent as the Pod may become too warm to host visits. Public Health guidelines will continue during Pod Visits and will include:**

- 1. One visitor per visit.**
- 2. Health screening of all visitors prior to every visit.**
- 3. Hand Hygiene.**
- 4. PPE use including a clean medical face mask and eye protection (both to be provided by Luther Home).**
- 5. Physical Distancing.**
- 6. No food or drink allowed during visits or in the pod. Care packages for Residents will be accepted and distributed as per current practice.**

**Outdoor and Pod Visits require a scheduled appointment and can only be booked by phone or text at **(431) 336 1882** during regular office hours (Mon-Fri 9am-4pm). Please do not call the main Luther Home telephone number to book a Pod Visit. Parking instructions and the location of the Outdoor Visits can be obtained when booking a visit.**

**There will be no bathrooms available for any type of visit. Please make the appropriate accommodations prior to the visit.**



**Virtual Visits will continue at Luther Home as these visits have become a preference for some Residents and their families. Please book your Virtual Visit by contacting Eddie Marion-Gerula via email [emarion-gerula@lutherhome.mb.ca](mailto:emarion-gerula@lutherhome.mb.ca) or by phone (204) 336 5380.**

**One other change to current practice at Luther Home includes the discontinuation of the “Click and Collect” program for Resident sundry needs. Resident’s families and friends will now pick up store bought items and deliver them to Luther Home for safe distribution to the Residents.**

**As the “Third Wave” of COVID-19 will optimistically come to an end in the near future, plans are now being developed to once again safely welcome doubly vaccinated family, friends and volunteers back into Luther Home. We understand the toll that isolation from family and loved ones has taken on everyone involved. Our team at Luther Home has been successful in keeping all of our Residents and Staff safe for the past fifteen months. Thank you for trusting us in caring for those most precious to you. Please bear with us for a little while longer as we work through these unprecedented times. We will open our doors in a measured and calculated manner as soon as it is safe to do so.**

**Thank you for your understanding and patience!**

**Keith Bytheway  
Chief Executive Officer**