



**St. Michael's  
Vegreville Manor**



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Member of  
St. Michael's Health Group



Dear Families,

*\*Please read this in its entirety and share with your family members.*

With warmer weather on the horizon and Easter just over a week away, we are happy to inform you outdoor visits will soon be possible again!

We are all tired of this battle with COVID-19 and we know you miss in-person interactions with your loved ones so we hope that this is the first step in reuniting our residents with those they care about.

The progress with vaccinations gives us hope, but the rise of the more contagious variants of COVID-19 is concerning. Most our residents have already received their second dose of the vaccine and we are making good progress on immunizing our staff. But we must continue to be cautious until most Albertans are protected by the COVID-19 vaccine.

For this reason, outdoor visits (for now) will be limited to Designated Support Persons (DSP's) only. Window visits (if the resident suite allows for it) for all visitors can continue.

**Below is a summary of the updated visitation/outing/supply guidelines:**

**Indoor Visits**

- Indoor visits still limited to DSP's only.
- Visits still need to be scheduled 24-hrs in advance.  
For Sat-Sun-Mon-Holiday visits, site needs to be notified by 3pm on Fridays.
- Visitors should not to visit if they aren't well.
- Visitors still need to contact staff upon arrival and be screened.
- Visitors still need to wear masks and face shields (provided by site).
- Indoor visits still need to occur in residents' suites.
- Any area DSP's have touched in the suites during a visit must be cleaned/sanitized before leaving
- During an indoor visit, DSP may take resident (masked) out for a walk around the property if desired. Resident must still sign out if leaving to go for this walk.

**Outdoor Visits – will resume Monday, March 29, 2021**

- Outdoor visits can only occur in designated outdoor area (in courtyard).
- Only resident and 2 DSP's allowed at outdoor courtyard visits at this time.
- Outdoor visits in courtyard area must be scheduled (you cannot spontaneously choose to go outside into the courtyard during a scheduled indoor visit).
- A combination indoor/outdoor visit can be scheduled.
- For outdoor visits, DSPs must still contact staff upon arrival, go through the screening process, and wear mask and face shield during entire outdoor visit. Resident must also wear a mask during outdoor visit.
- At the end of the outdoor visit, the DSP will disinfect the outdoor chair/tables that were used during the visit. Supplies and instructions will be provided.
- Following the completion of an outdoor visit, DSP's must return to building vestibule to sign out.

### **Closed Window Visits**

- A closed window visit is one where the resident window remains completely closed (**not** open to the screen layer).
- Visiting through a closed window is allowed, if access to resident window exists (without entering the facility).
- Closed window visits are open to anyone (not just DSP's).
- Visitors coming for closed window visits do not have to schedule their visits nor do they have to be screened.
- Residents do not have to wear a mask during closed window visits.
- Visitors doing a closed window visit in the courtyard area must be masked (if there are any other people in the courtyard).
- Visitors doing a closed window visit in the courtyard area may not interact with any other residents or other visitors who happen to be in the courtyard and must keep 6 feet apart from any other individuals in the courtyard.

### **Open Window Visits**

- An open window visit is one where the resident window is open to the screen layer and visitors/residents can hear one another.
- Visiting through an open window is allowed, if access to resident window exists (without entering the facility).
- Open window visits are open to anyone (not just DSP's).
- Visitors coming for open window visits do not have to schedule their visits nor do they have to be screened.
- All visitors coming for an open window visit must wear a mask (bring their own).
- Residents participating in open window visits must wear a mask during the visit.
- Visitors doing an open window visit in the courtyard area may not interact with any other residents or other visitors who happen to be in the courtyard and must keep 6 feet apart from any other individuals in the courtyard.

### **Resident Outings**

- It is still not recommended that residents go out (leave the facility) unless they have an essential medical appointment. If they do go out, a risk assessment is done upon their return and measures (such as masking in common areas or even isolation) may be put in place.

### **Supplies**

- We will continue to accept supplies for residents. If possible, bring them with you during a visit. If not, please avoid dropping items off during mealtime windows as staff are not available to receive them during these times.

We realize these are a lot of rules to have to follow and we thank you for your patience and understanding. We hope that when we enter Stage 3 of the Government of Alberta's re-opening plan, we will be able to welcome back more visitors.

Wishing you and your family a warm and Happy Easter!

Regards,

Emily Gulevich, Manager