



R.K. MacDONALD
NURSING HOME CORP.
64 Pleasant Street Antigonish N.S.
863-2578 B2G 1W7

July 22, 2020

Family and Friends of The RK

Re: Visits to R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home

As you are likely aware, the Nova Scotia Government announced on July 17, 2020 that long-term care facilities in the Province will be reopening to visitors. Premier McNeil highlighted that safety remains the priority during this reopening process.

The RK has allowed socially distanced outdoor visits on our grounds for several weeks. For the foreseeable future, we are keeping the outdoor visitation policy in place. As of right now, this visitation format is how we can best protect residents and staff while still allowing you to see and talk to your loved ones.

Effective Monday, July 27, 2020 the following changes to the outdoor visitation policy will be implemented:

- Continuation of scheduled outdoor visits that do not include touch.
- Visitors are required to wear a nonmedical mask when on the grounds of the RK. The masks may be removed during your scheduled visit as long as the mandatory 6 feet distance is maintained.
- The maximum number of visitors per resident at one time is now five people.
- Visitors must remain six feet from your loved one as well as the staff member supporting the visits- this will be strictly enforced.
- Visiting options include outside gazebo visits, fence visits, drive thru visits and virtual visits and all must be scheduled in advance.
- As per the Public Health guidelines, all visitors must be screened, have their contact information collected, and visits must be supervised by a staff member.

Until we are able to develop further protocols and address additional issues, we are unable to further reduce the restrictions on these visits. We know you miss your family and we thank you for your ongoing support as we all work together to navigate these challenging circumstances. Safety has and will remain our top priority and we need to ensure proper procedures can be confidently put in place before we are able to open our doors to visitors.

We understand this may not be the news you were looking to receive. However, this is an incredibly difficult time for everyone involved, and we need to take steps to ensure the safety of our residents and the well-being of our staff and the organization.

If you have any questions regarding visits, please contact the Recreation Department at kim.macdonald@rkmacdonald.ca.

There is more information posted on our website. We have also posted the guidelines for "Resident Visitation, Hair Salons and Social Activities in LTC" as issued by Public Health and Department of Health and Wellness July 17, 2020. If you have any additional questions on policies and procedures currently in place, please contact: Cathy Brouwer at 902-863-2578 ext 233 and she will redirect your call to the appropriate person.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Thompson".

Michelle Thompson
CEO