

Information Bulletin #5 - April 9, 2020 About Coronavirus (COVID-19)



For friends and family of GEF Seniors Housing tenants and residents

*Put yourself on a media diet. It's important to stay informed, but only check the news and social media intermittently, rather than continuously.
(Text4Hope)*

If you haven't already done so, you can sign up to receive daily text messages of encouragement and inspiration by **texting COVID19HOPE to 393939**.

Please refer to the previous information bulletins you have received for other important information, or [visit the GEF Seniors Housing website](#).

What's new

- Effective immediately as per [Order 08-2020](#) and [Order 09-2020](#) of the Alberta Chief Medical Officer of Health, no visitors are allowed at GEF Seniors Housing lodges. The no-visitor rule also applies to the combined sites of Kiwanis Place, Pleasantview Place and Sakaw Terrace.
- The only exception to this rule is in cases where the resident's essential care needs cannot be met without the assistance of an Essential Visitor. Such needs include meals and baths.
- While the "No Visitors" rule does not apply at GEF self-contained apartments, tenants at these sites are encouraged to practice social distancing and limit visitors wherever possible.
- Residents and tenants in the combined sites are required to disclose to GEF if they may have been exposed to COVID-19, or if they are feeling unwell or have been told by AHS to self-isolate.
- The new requirement to disclose also applies to all GEF staff.

If a resident needs care or support with meals and/or baths, just one single Essential Visitor will be allowed into the building between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. seven days a week.

All such visitors to GEF lodges and combined sites will be required to fill out the AHS Visitor Screening Questionnaire and attest that they are well. **No visitor or staff member who is unwell will be allowed in.**

Any visitor who is not coming to a GEF lodge or combined site as an Essential Visitor will not be permitted to enter the building and visit. However, if they are bringing groceries, prescriptions and other necessities to a resident or applicable apartment tenant, they can drop off these items at the front desk, and GEF staff will ensure the resident or tenant receives the items.

GEF is also required to do a non-invasive temperature check of each person who comes into the building, whether an allowed essential visitor or staff member. We will begin conducting the temperature checks as soon as we have received the thermometers ordered a few weeks ago.

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Each Essential Visitor will be required to wear a surgical mask for the full duration of their visit in the building, and they are not permitted to visit anyone else in the building. Each applicable site is required to have a supply of masks at their reception desk, so that they can give each visitor a mask after they complete the AHS screening and are determined to be well.

Social distancing and good hand hygiene, including frequent handwashing, remain the best ways to protect yourself from COVID-19. Keep current with news from these websites:

Alberta Health Services: www.albertahealthservices.ca

Government of Alberta: www.alberta.ca/COVID19

Government of Canada: www.canada.ca/en

If you have any questions, please contact your site office.