

To Family and Caregivers of our Fairview Residents

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Hopeful 2021 will see a return to normalcy in our home for residents, staff and caregivers. With the introduction of Vaccines for COVID 19 to Canada we are hoping this will be a reality soon. Thank you all so much for patience and understanding as we managed the challenges of COVID 19 and the broader safety of our residents.

I would like to inform you that we will soon have COVID-19 vaccinations available to all our residents and would like to ask if you wish to have your loved one's vaccinated. We expect to receive our first our supply of the Moderna vaccine, a m-RNA vaccine, at Fairview in the coming weeks. We began vaccinating the staff and many Essential Care-givers, through the program at Grand River Hospital, in late December.

Through vaccination of all our staff and residents we aim to help protect individuals from becoming unwell with or dying from COVID-19 disease. It will also help reduce the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks occurring in the home. Information about COVID-19 vaccines is available at: COVID-19 vaccines for Ontario | COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Ontario and www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines/moderna

These vaccines have been shown to be effective in preventing serious illness up to 86 % effective in the elderly population. Indications are that some vaccine recipients may experience a painful heavy arm where they had the injection and may feel tired, muscle/joint aches or have a mild fever for a couple of days. These are common side effects following vaccination and our staff will be mindful of these and do all they can to help keep residents as comfortable as possible following their vaccination. Residents will be monitored careful post vaccination to monitor for more serious reaction like anaphylaxis which can occur with any immunization.

Some residents should not have the vaccine due to allergy to vaccine component or certain underlying disease conditions. Immunization may be delayed due to fever or acute infection.

During the vaccination delivery we will maintain the range of measures we have in place to keep our **staff** and residents safe from COVID-19. Staff giving the vaccine will be wearing personal protective equipment and will abide by all our cleaning and disinfection requirements.

By consenting you will be playing your part in protecting all residents and staff from catching and spreading COVID-19. If you are one of the Essential Care-givers who participated through our program, thank-you for taking this very important step.

We all look forward to the time when it will be safe to visit and interact with our residents without the fear of COVID-19.

Best wishes.

Elaine Parker M.D.