

# FAMILY INFORMATION UPDATE

*FEBRUARY 04, 2022*

- Visiting returns to the Veterans Centre – February 8, 2022
- Virtual Programs in the Veterans Centre

## Visiting Returns to the Veterans Centre

We are thrilled to announce that effective February 8, 2022, Essential Care Partner (ECP) visits will return to the Veterans units. Please share your ECP names by contacting the resident care unit directly by telephone, or sending an email to [veterans.experience@sunnybrook.ca](mailto:veterans.experience@sunnybrook.ca), with your telephone number and email address. When you present for your visit at the L wing entrance, your name will be on the list for a visit and you will continue to be screened upon admission for symptoms. As usual, only healthy, symptom free individuals are permitted in the facility. We thank you for sharing your ECP visitor contacts in advance of restarting visits.

Each Veteran may enjoy the visit of one (1) ECP per day for up to two (2) hours.

**Upon arrival to the care unit, all visitors must complete a Rapid Antigen test (RAT) prior to a visit with their family member.** We ask that you kindly test prior to entering the room of your family member and we will be happy to assist you.

Visits will take place on the care unit. Visitors must visit only with their family member and may not access public spaces or Sunny's at this time. We thank you for wearing your mask at all times.

Unfortunately, any units that are experiencing an outbreak are not open to visitors for the duration of the outbreak. If you are uncertain, please contact the unit prior to your visit. Currently, LFSW is the only unit experiencing an outbreak.

We want to thank everyone for getting the third dose of the vaccine; the third dose is mandated for visitors as of March 14, 2022.

***Guidelines for ECP visits in the attachments \*\****

Virtual visits remain an option. Contact your Recreation Therapist if you would like a virtual visit with your family member.

End-of-life visits remain in place for a maximum of two family members (they do not need to be identified as ECP's at this time). All visitors to the Veterans Centre will conduct a Rapid Antigen test on the care unit upon arrival. Family members may attend to the unit to pack up belongings following the passing of their family member. We are requesting 1 (one) family member if able.

## Virtual Programs in the Veterans Centre

Please find attached the calendar of events for the month of February. We are excited to share that you may join in on the Toronto Public Library book club reading via Zoom, which may be attended by your family member as well; a great opportunity to share in the delight of reading. If you do join, please indicate your first name and the care unit of your family member. Contact the Recreation Therapist on your unit if you have any questions.

## Questions & Answers

### ***Why is visiting one ECP per day?***

We want to begin to open up visiting again for ECPs; at the same time, we are just emerging from a number of COVID outbreaks across our units. We need to ensure that we can open safely to protect our community residents from infection and reduce the risk of new outbreaks. This means limiting the number of people in the building for now to maintain physical distancing and ventilation. We will continue to align our approach to visiting with Provincial guidance and our Infection Prevention and Control expert advice. The Provincial direction to pause general visiting is still in effect.

### ***What if my Rapid Antigen Test is Positive?***

If your test is positive, you will be asked to leave the building; you will need to self isolate at home for 5 days (if vaccinated) and cannot come to the Veterans Centre again for 10 days.

<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-what-you-should-do/covid-19-what-to-do-if-you-have-covid-19/>

### ***How do I Self Isolate?***

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate.pdf?la=en>

### ***If I have symptoms, am I eligible to get a PCR test in the community?***

[https://covid-19.ontario.ca/exposed?utm\\_source=mobile-app-organic&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=covid-alert-mobile-app-](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/exposed?utm_source=mobile-app-organic&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=covid-alert-mobile-app-)