
To: Staff (including Agency Staff) of Copernicus Lodge Long Term Care Home
From: Copernicus Lodge & Unity Health Toronto Leadership
Subject: Staff Update – Mar. 2, 2021

Mar. 2, 2021

Hello staff of Copernicus Lodge,

As shared on Friday, the COVID-19 outbreak declared on Dec. 16, 2020 is officially over. Today we are reaching out about:

1. Updates and reminders
2. Staff Town Hall this Friday

Updates and reminders

COVID-19 vaccine clinic appointments now open for March 1 to 5

- The St. Joseph's and St. Michael's COVID-19 vaccination clinics are now available for booking first dose appointments from March 1 to 5.
 - St. Joseph's Vaccine Clinic hours:
Monday, March 1 to Saturday, March 6, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunnyside Gymnasium, Sunnyside Building, 1st floor
Please be advised that the City of Toronto and TTC are currently doing construction work around St. Joseph's. Plan extra time to arrive for your appointment. For more information on the impact, visit this webpage: www.toronto.ca/kqqr
 - St. Michael's Vaccine Clinic hours:
Monday, March 1 to Saturday, March 6, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Peter Gilgan Patient Care Tower, 36 Queen Street East
- Second doses will be scheduled at the exact same time, 35 days after your first dose. Please ensure you are available for both appointments when booking your first dose.
- To book an appointment, please contact Mitzi Yu at 416-536-7122 ext. 252 or mitziy@copernicuslodge.com. Copernicus Lodge/Agency ID and a second form of Identification (Health Card, Driver's Licence, Passport, Out of Province Health Card) are required at appointments: Everyone will be asked to present a badge or employee ID number and OHIP card or alternate identification (as above) at their appointment to validate their employment at a partnered LTC/retirement home.
- Staff, physicians and essential caregivers can now cancel their own first dose appointments, if needed. There will be a button/link to cancel in your confirmation message. Please note that if you do cancel your appointment, please let Mitzi know so that we can update our tracking tool.

- Please wear outdoor clothing to both the St. Joseph's and St. Michael's clinics in case you are required to wait outside for a period of time.

"I got my COVID-19 vaccine" draw extended

- A reminder that the "I Got My COVID-19 Vaccine" draw, where you have a chance to win a big-screen TV, has been extended. The deadline is now March 31, 2021.
- To enter, please provide proof (receipt slip from the Ministry) that you received either the PfizerBioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to Michelle Miziolek by [emailing her](#) or bringing the receipt to reception. Your name will be entered into a draw for a big-screen TV and additional prizes!

Vaccine confidence campaign

- We are launching a vaccine confidence campaign to help encourage all staff, residents and essential care givers to get vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Right now, 23% of our staff and physicians have been vaccinated. Let's try and boost these numbers together!
- We want to hear about why you decided to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Volunteer to be a vaccine champion by emailing communications@copernicuslodge.com.
- Being a vaccine champion means we will highlight your story to the Copernicus Lodge community to help encourage your peers to make this important decision to protect the spread of this deadly virus.

Swabbing dates

- We are moving back into weekly swabbing for staff. We will be doing testing every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. In order for an accurate point prevalence, it is essential that all staff are tested on these 3 days each week.
- The next COVID-19 Swabbing Clinic will be held just outside of the Multipurpose Room:
 - Monday, Mar. 8 – 8:30am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm
 - Tuesday, Mar. 9 – 8:30am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm
 - Wednesday, Mar. 10 – 6am to 9am, 10am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm
 - Staff working the night shift on Monday March 8th and Tuesday March 9th can be tested on the 3rd floor by the night Charge Nurse
- If you are unable to complete your required Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday test at Copernicus, you must book a test elsewhere on the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday.
- If you choose to be tested externally, you must provide evidence to your manager that you have been swabbed and on what date. You will also then be responsible for providing a copy of your result to your manager as well.
- Staff who do not provide proof of being tested on the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, will be removed from the schedule effective Thursday and placed on an unpaid leave of absence pending receipt of proof of a negative test result to your manager.

- Please note, that many external testing clinics and pharmacy testing centers may have longer turnaround times for results, so we encourage you to get tested at Copernicus.

Infection Prevention and Control and Housekeeping Optimization

- We have done a significant amount of work around the home to standardize processes and ensure that Copernicus Lodge remains clean and safe for our residents, staff and essential caregivers.
- Some of the infection prevention and control improvement initiatives completed over this time include: implementation of twice daily COVID-19 screening, the identification and implementation of one isolation room per resident care area, IPAC huddles on the floors, implementation of IPAC audits across the home, training in NP Swab training for registered staff, re-designing the surveillance testing process and IPAC Champion training for 18 multidisciplinary staff (PSW, Nursing, Housekeeping, Dietary) from multiple departments. In addition, we have started twice daily training on all floors related to Routine Practices and Additional Precautions, along with the Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA). Thanks to our IPAC extenders from Ontario Health for their support!
- Now that we are out of outbreak, we will be drafting a plan for terminal cleaning (a method used in healthcare environments to control the spread of infections) of the building. The plan is to complete terminal cleaning by the end of March. In addition, Unity Health's environmental services supervisor is now on-site conducting a review of the EVS and housekeeping procedures; and a Unity Health Dietary/Food Services Manager will conduct a review of current service and processes

Removing isolation precautions on floors

- We are thrilled to announce that we have removed universal droplet-contact precautions throughout the home with the end of our outbreak. Staff and essential caregivers must continue to read and follow infection precaution signs that are on specific resident rooms, as these signs indicate there is a communicable disease that requires precautions. In addition, everyone should be following routine practices and using your PCRA to determine when and what PPE is required for residents not on precautions
- While this will mean a significant reduction in time and work related to donning and doffing of PPE, it's important to remember that there are universal IPAC control measures that remain in place and we continue to remain in Grey Level Lockdown in the provincial framework.
- All staff and essential caregivers entering resident care areas must continue to wear a mask and face shield at all times on the floors.
- We must all continue to follow the physical distancing requirements and diligence around hand hygiene. We are slowly removing restrictions so that staff can be appropriately informed around safe practices and not overwhelmed with a significant number of changes all at once.
- As of today, residents who are not on isolation precautions are no longer restricted to their rooms. However, all residents who leave their rooms must wear a mask. Any resident who is

unable to wear a mask will require staff escort to ensure the safety of other residents and to ensure cleaning of surfaces they are in contact with

- Residents must still remain on their unit and they are not permitted to enter another resident's room. There are no off-unit or outdoor passes at this time.
- Key areas of focus for the next several days include re-instituting showers and baths for all, returning to regular dinnerware, developing a plan for return to congregate dining and a review of furniture replacement needs

Entrance screening

- Beginning Thursday March 4th, you will see a revised process for entrance and exit screening at the entrance.
- We will begin training of screeners tomorrow and continue training over the next week to ensure all are familiar with the new process.
- The goal of the change is to streamline the process, reduce the amount of paper and touch-points for all being screened in preparation for the transition to Pan-Bio Rapid Testing on March 15th. In addition, this change will also reduce the amount of PPE used by the screeners
- We will continue with a contactless infra-red thermometer for temperature checks, but the screener will be the only person documenting the required information. They will continue to ask all staff and essential caregivers the COVID-19 screening questions
- Essential caregivers will continue to provide proof of a negative test in the past 7 days.

Staff updates

- We are pleased to share that we are in the process of signing a contract with an external vendor named FeetNique for **Advanced Foot Care** services at Copernicus Lodge. Iverolyn Bonner, RPN, CFCN, BA Owner and operator of FeetNique, started her nursing career in 2013 as an RPN and has spent her entire nursing career working with seniors in various settings. She has an Advanced Nursing Foot Care Certificate and is a member of the Canadian Association of Foot Care Nurses. She is also in good standing with the College of Nurses of Ontario. She is a certified Foot Care Nurse (CFCN) with training in Diabetic Foot Care. Iverolyn will commence her services on March 15, 2021.
- We are also pleased to announce the appointment of Margaret Dudek to the **Social Worker and Placement Coordinator** position at Copernicus Lodge. Margaret has been employed with Copernicus Lodge since September 2018 in our Adult Day Program and more recently in the Support Services Department as a Support Services Assistant. She holds a Bachelor of Social Work and a Certificate in Aging and Gerontology from Ryerson University. She is a Registered Social Worker with Ontario College of Social Workers and Social Service Workers. Margaret speaks English and Polish. In her role, she will be accountable for processing applications to the home; admissions and discharges; as well as providing social services counselling to residents and families. She is also the staff liaison to Family Council. Margaret will commence her new role on March 8, 2021.
- Unfortunately, nurse practitioner **Bobbi Middleton's** contract with Copernicus Lodge has come to an end. We are so grateful for Bobbi and her contributions to the home. We wanted to share a note Bobbi sent to her colleagues:

"I hope you all know how important your work is. Everything you do directly impacts the residents here in a positive way. Without all your hard work and dedication each day, so many would suffer and so many more lives would be lost to the pandemic. I have had the chance to speak to multiple family members and residents during my time at Copernicus, and I have received so many "thank you for the hard work of all the staff at Copernicus" messages. You are all very appreciated and your work is clearly not going unnoticed."

Staff Town Hall this Friday

We will be hosting another 30 minute Town Hall for all staff on **Friday, Mar. 5 at 1:45pm** on Zoom. You can pre-submit any questions to communications@copernicolodge.com before Wednesday at 5pm.

Staff are encouraged to use the Copernicus Lodge unit iPads to log in to the meeting. The meeting will be recorded and a link to the recording will be shared with any staff who are unable to attend. Please also join in from your home if you aren't at work on that date. You can also access this session by phone if you don't have access to a computer by dialing 647 374 4685 and entering the meeting ID: 965 8305 7880 and passcode: 612937.

<https://zoom.us/j/96583057880?pwd=OExZLzJqV2xRZ09JWDIvWWdwSWRzUT09>

Meeting ID: 965 8305 7880

Passcode: 612937

One tap mobile

+16473744685,,96583057880# Canada

+16475580588,,96583057880# Canada

Dial by your location

+1 647 374 4685 Canada

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 965 8305 7880

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/aHOPUdNOR>

Passcode: 612937