AgeCare Weekly Update

### Friday, May 27, 2022

### Dear Residents and Families,

We remain committed to providing updates to our residents, families, and staff at AgeCare. We are providing weekly updates to keep you all informed on what is happening at our communities and organization-wide.

- 1. <u>ABBY Interactive Pal for Residents</u>
- 2. COVID Update and Frequently Asked Questions
- 3. Visitor Guidelines
- 4. Recreation Calendars
- 5. Great Opportunities for Caring People

We hope these weekly updates are helpful. Thank you all for your continued support.



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# ABBY<sup>™</sup> – Interactive Pal for Residents

Residents at four BC AgeCare communities are delighted to engage with their new friend, ABBY<sup>™</sup>; an interactive board designed to provide meaningful stimulation, as well as fun and games, for those who choose to engage.

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"ABBY<sup>™</sup> is a wonderful tool that is fun and easy for residents to interact with," said John Nocon, Executive Director at AgeCare Mount Ida Mews. "It is kind of like an old familiar friend. It brings nostalgic and familiar memories back to our residents, allowing them to re-live experiences they found pleasant and enjoyable."

ABBY<sup>™</sup> can play pre-selected personal and familiar pictures, videos, and songs. Residents can engage independently when they choose, or with the guidance of staff and family members.

"They can do things like recall pet memories by patting a cat, engaging with mechanical programs, or listen to old radio stations by turning knobs," said John. "ABBY™ keeps participants calm, focused and entertained. You can see they are enjoying themselves."

Tracy Spence-Whitford, recreation coordinator at AgeCare Cariboo Place says the interactive board is a big hit in their community and is especially popular with a resident who misses driving.

"Karl loves the program that lets him drive on an old country road - starting up that engine on a cool rainy morning is a great feeling for him," said Tracy. "One day he drove using the ABBY™ board for over two hours with a huge grin from ear to ear. It was awesome to witness his joy."

The best thing about ABBY<sup>™</sup> - it never gets sick, or sleeps ... it is always available and happy to interact!

# BC COVID-19 Update

For many it's a relief that we can resume regular activities in most areas of our lives; however, it is still important to remain vigilant with our COVID-19 protocols in all our continuing care homes. Please note that masking and continuous screening are still mandatory. We ask that no one enters our communities if you have any symptoms of illness.

As per the BC Ministry of Health, all our residents continue to be screened at least daily for COVID-19 symptoms, including fever.

Residents have now all been offered a second booster dose of the vaccine (4<sup>th</sup> dose), ensuring the maximum amount of protection from COVID-19. Staff who missed a booster or may need assistance or support can call 1-833-838-2323.





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#### **Reminder of Masking Requirements**

#### A mask is required:

• To enter the building and while moving through the building and corridors.

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- In residents' rooms and in all resident communal spaces.
- In administrative or conference areas where residents are present.
- On community bus outings, due to close quarters with residents.

### A mask may be removed:

- When in break rooms to eat or drink where physical distancing can always be maintained, and no residents are present.
- When in a meeting or conference where physical distancing can always be maintained and no residents are present.

# COVID – Frequently Asked Questions

### You have COVID Questions? We have Answers!

As we move into year three of the pandemic, many of you have questions about the protocols and processes (past and present) we have implemented in our communities. We are pleased to provide you with a quick link where you will find '<u>Frequently Asked Questions</u>' accompanied by our best efforts at providing answers.



## **Visitor Guidelines**



While many restrictions have been lifted outside of our community, we wish to reiterate the need for safe, responsible practices in our centres, including continuous masking and hand hygiene. **Remember! Help us limit potential exposure to COVID by staying away if you are unwell.** 

Coming for a visit? Please familiarize yourself with these guidelines. Download the Visitor Guide (PDF) -->

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# **Recreation Calendars**

Our recreation team works hard to create engaging activities that enrich the mind, body and spirit. We are continuously looking for ways to reduce the risk of transmission while having the least impact on residents wellbeing. At this time, visitors are not permitted to attend indoor recreation programming, including concerts. We appreciate your understanding.

Please note that communities with an exposure or on outbreak may have different recreation restrictions in effect. Contact your community or sign up for email updates to stay informed on the latest information.

## View the Recreation Calendars for your AgeCare Community:

Brandt's Creek Mews	Cariboo Place	Harmony Court
Monashee Mews	Mount Ida Mews	

# We're Hiring

Did you know AgeCare is hiring? Great opportunities for caring people. From health care aides to food services to recreation to administration and more, we are looking for dedicated and caring individuals.

If you or someone you know is looking for an exciting new opportunity, check out our careers page at <u>www.agecare.ca/hiring</u>.

