

Ministry of Long-Term Care

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Ministère des Soins de longue durée

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January 14, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Long-Term Care Home Stakeholders

FROM: Sheila Bristo
Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Operations Division
Ministry of Long-Term Care

SUBJECT: Declaration of Provincial Emergency

As you are aware, the government declared a [provincial emergency](#), effective Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. to stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health and well-being of Ontarians.

The stay-at-home order requiring everyone to remain at home with exceptions for permitted purposes or activities, in addition to new and existing public health restrictions, is aimed at limiting people's mobility and reducing the number of daily contacts with those outside an immediate household. **These enhanced measures do not impact the current requirements for essential visits to long-term care homes.**

During the declared provincial emergency, all homes will be required to follow the applicable requirements and restrictions based on the Grey zone. Please see Table 1 below in Appendix A for an overview of requirements and restrictions.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to reduce the spread of COVID-19 across the province.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Sheila Bristo
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Long-Term Care

c:

Lisa Levin, Chief Executive Officer, AdvantAge Ontario
 Donna Duncan, Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Long Term Care Association
 Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care
 Erin Hannah, Associate Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Pandemic Response
 Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Policy Division
 Brian Pollard, Assistant Deputy Minister, Long-Term Care Capital Development

Appendix A

Table 1

	PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT REGION ZONE				
	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Grey
Resident Absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term or temporary absences are permitted and requests for these absences must be submitted to the home 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term or temporary absences are not permitted except for medical or compassionate reasons and requests for these absences must be submitted to the home 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A long-term care home cannot deny a resident's request to leave for a medical visit 				
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A maximum of two caregivers may visit a resident at a time A maximum of two general visitors may visit a resident at a time 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential visitors are the only type of visitors permitted to visit A maximum of one caregiver may visit a resident at a time General visitors are not permitted to visit. 		
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff, volunteers, student placements, caregivers, support workers and general visitors must satisfy applicable testing frequency requirements in the Minister's Directive COVID-19: Long-Term Care Home Surveillance Testing and Access to Homes. 				