



June 26, 2023

Dear Family and Friends,

We hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the warm weather. We are writing to inform you of the revisions to the COVID-19 Response Measures announced by the Ministry on Friday, June 23, 2023 and more specifically the changes to the requirements for masking and physical distancing.

Effective Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 7:00 am, masks are no longer required by anyone in administrative and staff-only areas (e.g. lunchrooms, offices, etc.). On resident home areas, masking by staff, volunteers, students and support workers is no longer mandatory but, will continue to be required based on a point-of-care risk assessment consistent with existing routine practices. Staff may also consider wearing a mask during prolonged direct resident care (15 minutes or longer) and if they prefer to wear a mask beyond minimum requirements. If a resident (or substitute decision-makers) requests that a staff member wears a mask when providing care, the staff will do so in alignment with the Residents' Bill of Rights.

For caregivers and visitors, masks are recommended, but not required, in all areas of the home. This also means that caregivers and visitors may now join in for dining and sharing a meal or beverage in communal areas.

In outbreak situations, or if a resident is on additional precautions, all individuals, including caregivers and visitors, are required to comply with masking and other personal protective equipment requirements as directed by the outbreak management team and the local public health unit.

For anyone who wishes to continue wearing a mask, masks will continue to be readily available at the front entrance at Villa Colombo Toronto and on the units (if in Outbreak).

Currently, there are no COVID-19 specific requirements or restrictions related to physical distancing or cohorting when not in Outbreak.

Please note that if a visitor is positive for COVID-19, they must not visit Villa Colombo Toronto for ten (10) days after the onset of symptoms or a positive test result. However, a visitor who is an essential caregiver can visit within the 10-day timeframe, if asymptomatic or symptoms have resolved, but must follow measures to reduce the risk of transmission for ten (10) days from the onset of symptoms, including wearing a mask.

While this update brings some relaxation to the masking requirements, we cannot emphasize enough the importance of self-screening for everyone entering Villa Colombo Toronto. Please ensure that you

Villa Colombo Homes for the Aged Inc.

40 Playfair Avenue, Toronto, ON M6B 2P9 | T 416.789.2113 | F 416.789.5435 | www.villacharities.com

Villa Charities Inc.(1971)=Villa Colombo Toronto(1976)=Villa Colombo Toronto Auxiliary(1976)=Columbus Centre(1980)=Caboto Terrace(1984)=Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery(1987)=Villa Charities Foundation(1990)=Casa DelZotto(1991)=Casa Abruzzo(2004)=Villa Colombo Vaughan Di Poce Centre(2006)

assess your health status and refrain from visiting if you are experiencing any symptoms or feeling unwell. Also, it is now more important than ever to maintain good infection, prevention and control practices, such as regular hand washing and sanitizing. Your cooperation in these matters is vital to maintaining a healthy and safe environment for residents, staff, and visitors.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these updated guidelines please contact us at info@villacolombo.on.ca.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and support.

Toni Dell'Aquila
Executive Director
Villa Colombo Toronto