



November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Dear Family and Friends:

With the summer and fall months behind us, we turn our focus to the festive holiday season. At Villa Colombo Toronto (VCT), Christmas is a special time of year when we take the opportunity to celebrate with our residents and their families. This year we will again be holding our annual Christmas Open Houses for the individual residential units and we have some wonderful entertainment offered throughout December by our local schools and community organizations. For your convenience, I have included a calendar of the events planned for the month of December. We hope you will be able to join us and take the opportunity to spend time with your loved ones.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the safety of our residents, visitors, and staff. Your diligence in adhering to mandatory indoor masking and conducting self-screening before attending events or activities is truly appreciated, especially during this period of anticipated elevated cases of COVID-19, Influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). Your proactive efforts play a crucial role in maintaining a secure environment within our Home.

As we welcome our families and friends during the Holiday Season, we want to emphasize the crucial role you play in maintaining a safe and secure environment for all. Kindly take a moment to check the signage at the entrance when you visit, which outlines the outbreak status of the units and provides guidance on any precautions in place. Additionally, please ensure to sign in and out at every visit. Your commitment to these measures is sincerely appreciated. If you're unwell, we kindly request that you refrain from visiting VCT. Your awareness and adherence to our Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) protocols not only safeguard the well-being of our residents but also contribute to a safe and joyous holiday season for everyone.

We understand the genuine desire of our families and friends to express appreciation to our dedicated staff, particularly during this festive season, however while we truly appreciate the sentiments of our families and friends, we want to remind you that staff are not permitted to accept personal gifts. Should you wish to contribute a gesture of gratitude, we encourage you to consider offering gifts that can be shared and enjoyed by the entire unit. Alternatively, you can donate to the Villa Colombo Toronto Auxiliary (VCTA) on behalf of your family, in honor of the staff. Your understanding and support contribute immensely to the spirit of sharing.

If you plan to take your loved one home for the Holidays, please inform the nurse on the units by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Friday). This will assist in planning and preparing any required medications for the resident during the leave. For those celebrating the holiday season with your loved one at VCT and wishing to use the Sala, it is available on a first-come, first-served basis when not in use for another event. To ensure that all residents and families can use the Sala, parties of no more than 10 people for a maximum of one hour will be accommodated. We kindly ask that you clean and sanitize the spaces before and after your use of the Sala.

On Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Villa Colombo Toronto Auxiliary (VCTA) is excited to present its annual Christmas Pasta Bingo fundraising event. This is a wonderful evening, where you can have some fun and enjoy some great food and prizes. Thanks to the dedication of the VCTA volunteers, the funds raised will support

Villa Colombo Homes for the Aged Inc.  
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various initiatives that directly benefit our residents. We invite you to join us in supporting this wonderful group of volunteers who have made a positive difference in the lives of our residents. Your presence and support truly make a difference.

We're excited to share the news of two significant upcoming visits. On Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., the Consul General of Italy, Luca Zelioli, will be visiting Villa Colombo. Following this, on Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Minister of Long-Term Care, Hon. Stan Cho, will be joining us at 9:00 a.m. We are extending an invitation to our families to join us in welcoming these special guests and showcasing the warmth of our Villa Colombo community.

I would like to take this opportunity to share the news of my retirement in January of 2024. The years I have spent at Villa Colombo have been nothing short of extraordinary, and I have had the honor of working alongside so many dedicated and caring staff. As I reflect on my time here, I am grateful for the countless wonderful families and friends I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with. The past three years, marked by the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic, have been a journey that we couldn't have navigated without the hard work of our staff and the unwavering commitment of our families and friends to ensuring the safety of our residents. I want to express my deepest gratitude for the privilege of serving our residents and clients. I will truly miss them. As I look forward to the next chapter, I take with me many cherished memories. Villa Colombo will always hold a special place in my heart. Thank you for being part of this incredible journey.

Please take note that our next Family Town Hall will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:00 pm. Please send your questions to [info@villacolombo.on.ca](mailto:info@villacolombo.on.ca) by 12:00 p.m. on the same day. To access the Family Town Hall, please [click here](#) or dial +1 587 328 1099. The webinar ID is: 835 7048 3141.

Wishing you and yours the best of the Holiday Season,

Toni Dell'Aquila  
Executive Director



# December

2023



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1 Christmas Tree Decorating (All Units)	2
3	4 4th Floor Open House Sala Caboto	5 5th Floor Open House Sala Caboto	6 1st & 2nd Floor Open House Sala Caboto	7	8	9
10 Christmas Concert @1:30 Sala Caboto	11 3rd Floor Open House Sala Caboto	12	13 Volunteer Christmas Party @1:00 Sala Caboto	14 North York Concert Band @6:30 Sala Caboto	15	16
17	18	19 Columbus Concert Band @6:30 Sala Caboto	20 Christmas Bingo Sala Caboto 1:30-3:00	21 Colombus Center Choir @1:30 Sala Caboto	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

