



PEI Chief Public Health Office

Directive on Visitation to Long-Term Care Facilities and Nursing Homes

Further to the Chief Public Health Officer's COVID-19 Prevention and Self-Isolation Order effective February 16, 2021, as updated from time to time, visitation to long-term care facilities and nursing homes is permitted under the direction established by the Chief Public Health Officer ("CPHO") below.

1. Visitation to long-term care facilities and nursing homes ("facility" or "facilities") is permitted at a facility provided the facility complies with the measures outlined in this Directive.
2. Except as outlined in this Directive, facilities must ensure that:
 - a) Partners in Care may be designated by the Resident or Resident's guardian in the following manner:
 - i) Up to three (3) Partners in Care may be designated for each Resident to be Partners in Care for the Resident. These individuals may support feeding, mobility, personal hygiene, cognitive stimulation, communication, meaningful connections, relational continuity and assistance in decision-making for the Resident.
 - ii) Partners in Care may visit the Resident, individually or together, at any time of the day, with no restriction on frequency or length of visits, on the condition that the Partner in Care's presence in the facility cannot have a negative impact on the care of any Resident in the facility.
 - b) Each Resident may designate up to six (6) visitors ("Designated Visitors") who may visit the Resident primarily for social or other supportive reasons and may include family and friends. Designated Visitors are permitted, indoors or outdoors, as more particularly set out in this Directive in order to support Residents and families, and must follow all infection control measures to protect Resident, public and staff safety. Visits must take place at a scheduled time and indoor visits must take place in a designated indoor space in the facility and not in a Resident's room. There shall be a maximum of two (2) Designated Visitors visiting with the Resident at any one time.
 - c) A daily record containing full names and contact information of all Designated Visitors, including Partners in Care or contacts made by a Resident in any exceptional life circumstance approved by a facility in section 8 of this Directive, must be created for each Resident. These records, including full names and phone numbers, must be kept by a facility for one month after the day of creation to facilitate contact tracing in the event of a COVID-19 infection situation. Facilities must have an internal process in place to quickly retrieve these records, should the records be needed, including weekends. These records must be stored in a safe, secure location for one month after creation of the records and then disposed of using a secure destruction method to maintain the

confidentiality of personal information collected under this section. For paper records, secure destruction means, at minimum, cross-cut shredding.

- d) Partners in Care and Designated Visitors must comply with the following requirements:
- i) They will receive an orientation by facility staff prior to beginning visitation at the facility;
 - ii) They must provide their full name and contact information to the facility and be screened for COVID-19 upon entry to the facility;
 - iii) They must be asymptomatic of COVID-19;
 - iv) They must follow a facility's infection control guidelines and must maintain physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) from the Resident they are visiting, from other persons at the facility and from each other (unless they are from the same household) at all times during indoor visits, except Partners in Care may be closer than 2 metres (6 feet) to Residents and facility staff, as necessary, during visits if they wear a medical grade mask;
 - v) During outdoor visits, Designated Visitors must wear a non-medical mask at all times. Partners in Care must wear a non-medical mask during outdoor visits if physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) is not possible;
 - vi) During indoor visits, they must wear a medical grade mask;
 - vii) An individual can only be a Partner in Care at one facility in the Province;
 - viii) Partners in Care shall only visit one Resident at the facility;
 - ix) Partners in Care and Designated Visitors may be accompanied by dependents during visits if the Partners in Care or Designated Visitors exercise responsibility for the minor dependents during the visit. For greater certainty, visiting dependents who must be cared for by a parent or guardian are considered Designated Visitors for purposes of this Directive but will not be counted in the six-person Designated Visitor limit of the Resident nor in the maximum of two (2) Designated Visitors visiting at one time with the Resident;
 - x) Partners in Care and Designated Visitors who have travelled outside of Prince Edward Island in the 14 days prior to a visit are not allowed to visit a Resident, except if:
 - (i) the Resident is a palliative individual or a person being actively treated for a life threatening illness which may end their life;
 - (ii) the Partner in Care or Designated Visitor has received an Authorized Designated Visitor form signed by the facility administrator and the Resident's attending physician in advance of the visit, which form details

the name of the Designated Visitor, the name of the Resident and facility being visited, and the date(s) of the visit(s);

(iii) the Partner in Care or Designated Visitor is not denied entry to the facility under clause 2(h) of this Directive; and

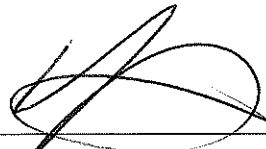
(iv) the Partner in Care or Designated Visitor wears full personal protective equipment such as gown, gloves and mask ("PPE") during the visit(s).

- e) Except in accordance with clause 2(d)(x) of this Directive, as of November 23, 2020, Partners in Care and Designated Visitors are not permitted to visit a Resident at the facility, either indoors or outdoors, until they have been in the Province for a continuous period of 14 days.
 - f) As of November 23, 2020, no person (excluding facility staff) is permitted to attend at the facility for any purpose until they have been in the Province for a continuous period of 14 days.
 - g) Partners in Care and Designated Visitors must comply with the following requirements in a COVID-19 care area of the facility:
 - i) Designated Visitors cannot attend any COVID-19 care area of the facility when COVID-19 cases are present;
 - ii) Designated Visitors cannot visit with a Resident with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, regardless of the medical condition of the Resident;
 - iii) Partners in Care may visit with a Resident with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 provided the Partners in Care wear full PPE during visits.
 - h) Partners in Care and Designated Visitors are not permitted entry to a facility in the following circumstances:
 - i) If the Partner in Care or Designated Visitor is symptomatic or has a diagnosis of COVID-19;
 - ii) If the Partner in Care or Designated Visitor is required to self-isolate, or self-isolate except when at work, under a CPHO Order.
3. A Resident of a facility may, as a Designated Visitor or a Partner in Care, visit a family member who is a Resident of a different facility provided that all infection control measures of both facilities are maintained. .
4. A Resident may leave the facility in a vehicle with one or more Partners in Care as detailed by the Partners in Care to facility staff, provided the Residents and Partners in Care follow all infection control measures. The Resident may exit the vehicle provided the Resident does not have any contact with any other persons (i.e. no restaurants, no crowded public

areas). The Resident may exit the vehicle at the residence of the Partner in Care, but no other family or other persons shall be present and the Resident shall not have any contact with any other persons. The Partners in Care are required to wear a medical grade mask in the vehicle and to be the only people in the vehicle with the Resident.

5. Residents are permitted to stay overnight with any or all of their Partners in Care at the primary residence of the Resident or of a Partner in Care, provided that all infection control measures are maintained by the Resident and Partners in Care. No one other than the Partners in Care and the Resident shall be in the home during an overnight stay. The rules contained in this Directive applicable to Partner in Care visitation with a Resident within the facility also apply to any overnight stay.
6. Residents may have visits from their clergy and hair stylists provided that the rules contained in this Directive applicable to Designated Visitor visitation with a Resident within the facility also apply to these visitors. For greater certainty, clergy and hair stylist visitors are considered Designated Visitors for purposes of this Directive but will not be counted in the six-person Designated Visitor limit of the Resident and hair stylists may be closer than 2 metres (6 feet) with the Resident only when providing the hair styling service.
7. If a Resident is a palliative individual or a person being treated for a life threatening illness which may end their life, there is no limit to the number of Partners in Care or Designated Visitors allowed to visit the Resident. However, only a combined total of three Partners in Care and Designated Visitors may visit the Resident at any one time. If a Partner in Care or a Designated Visitor has travelled outside the Province within the 14 day period prior to the visit, that Partner in Care or Designated Visitor shall be the only visitor in the room with the Resident for their visit.
8. In exceptional life circumstances, exemptions may be made to the restrictions in this Directive by Medical Staff. Any exemption based on exceptional life circumstances made by Medical Staff must be made in consultation with the facility administrator, and the facility administrator shall keep a record of all exemptions or approvals made under this Directive.
9. This Directive:
 - a. amends my Directive of December 8, 2020 and is effective on February 16, 2021 at 8:01 a.m., except where stated in this Directive to have retroactive effect; and
 - b. shall remain in effect for the duration of the public health emergency in the Province, unless earlier amended or revoked.

Date: Feb 12, 2021



Dr. Heather Morrison,
Chief Public Health Officer