

Ministry of Health

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June 10, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay O'Neill, Registrar, Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority

FROM: Dr. Kieran Moore

Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario

RE: COVID-19 Public Health Measures in Retirement Homes

As you are aware, the Chief Medical Officer of Health's Directive #3 issued under section 77.7 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, which outlines routine and outbreak management measures and requirements to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in long-term care homes and retirement homes, is being revoked effective June 11, 2022.

The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH) has worked and will continue to work collaboratively with colleagues at the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA) to ensure that preventive COVID-19 measures remain in place in retirement homes, given that residents are older and have higher rates of medical complexities and are therefore more susceptible to severe outcomes from COVID-19 than the general population.

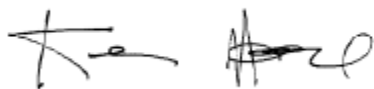
After consultation with colleagues in the MSAA, I am recommending retirement homes implement the policies, procedures and preventative measures in the Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Guidance: Long-Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes for Public Health Units](#), as amended, to reduce the risk of COVID-19 among residents of retirement homes.

This memorandum constitutes *guidance, advice, or recommendations given to retirement homes by the Chief Medical Officer of Health*, which the licensee of a retirement home shall ensure are followed in the retirement home in accordance with clause 27(5) (O.a) of O. Reg. 166/11 under the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010*. This memo to the retirement home sector is being issued due to the vulnerability of the population in retirement homes and the continued risk of COVID-19 within Ontario.

I kindly request that the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority distribute my recommendation with the retirement home sector as expediently as possible.

Thank you for your collaboration and dedication to the COVID-19 response in Ontario retirement homes.

Sincerely,



Kieran Michael Moore, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC, FCAHS
Chief Medical Officer of Health

- C: Carlene Alexander, Deputy Minister, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
Dr. Catherine Zahn, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Jacqueline Cureton, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy, Programs and Strategic Partnerships, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
Marsha Pinto, Director, Policy, Programs and Strategic Partnerships, Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
Dr. Barbara Yaffe, Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health
Dr. Sarah Erdman, Senior Medical Consultant, Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health
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Paulina Salamo, Manager, Planning and Evaluation, Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health