

Hello Everyone

First, I'd like to thank all of you who are hanging in and making it possible for us to keep operating our essential services and also our Respite Homes and Day Programs. If these are "not quite as essential" services, they are nevertheless very important to some families.

Having listened to the Prime Minister's comments earlier this afternoon, we have decided to update our Friday message by instructing all programs to eliminate non-essential outings. Medical appointments that you feel should be kept, grocery shopping, etc. will of course continue, but unnecessary excursions, dinners out, etc. should no longer occur.

The Port Perry Resource Centre had only one participant today. The Uxbridge Day Program had six. Both Respite programs had more or less their regular quota of visitors, but some upcoming guests have cancelled and we will not be going to our cancellation list to replace them.

We are not making a move to close any of these programs as yet. Many families are making the decision to self-quarantine, but today all staff who were surplus to our need at the PPRC were easily redeployed to other programs that were glad of their help. Probably this will happen again tomorrow.

If someone who lives in a group home actually comes down with the virus, this could be the thing that prompts our first closure. South Balsam would likely be called upon to accommodate the person, unless accessibility is a major issue in which case we'd be looking to PP Respite.

If you have returned from out of country travel, and are now self-isolating, you should have a look at this how-to Guide: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate.pdf>

Please note the instructions in our original Friday message about the screening tool that was shared with you at that time. This morning Jenna Irons sent out a reminder as it appeared that some locations had not been using the self-screening Checklist. It is essential that you do and, as Jenna said, you must also do it for each other at shift change, as well as when visitors arrive.

Each location should have the self screening tool placed or pinned to the wall at each entrance. If staff in the home are busy, newly arrived staff can fill it out themselves. After/if they answer NO to all questions, and after they use the hand sanitizers placed at the entrance, they may then proceed into the home/program.

Thank you for your continuing efforts.

Glenn

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