

Barrhead & District Social Housing Association

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Date: April 8th, 2022

On March 23rd, a COVID-19 outbreak was declared at Barrhead and District Social Housing Association. Initially, there were only a few residents that were symptomatic, but this variant has now spread through both Hillcrest Lodge and Klondike Place. While site restrictions have been in place throughout the entire pandemic, they have recently been relaxed significantly outside of BDSHA properties. There is absolutely no way of determining how the virus entered the senior population at BDSHA. Unfortunately, it was always believed it would only be a matter of time before there was another outbreak at BDSHA.

The Covid-19 variants that are affecting BDSHA are very contagious and transmission has been rapid between close contacts. While most residents and staff are vaccinated, this virus does not discriminate. Regardless of immunization status, everyone seems to be contracting the illness. Thankfully the symptoms in the majority of cases have been mild, with residents recovering within days of initial onset.

BDSHA is working very closely with a team consisting of representatives from the North Zone Communicable Disease Control Outbreak Team (CDC), Infection Control Practitioners(ICP), Home Care, Community Health, Environmental Public Health(EPH) and other Alberta Health Services entities. Extraordinary measures are being taken to contain the virus and prevent spread to the rest of the residents, visitors, and staff at BDSHA. Both ICP and Environmental Public Health have visited the site(s) and determined that BDSHA is adhering to all applicable orders and guidelines.

Additional measures implemented as per MOH direction:

- **As of April 11th, 2022 Residents residing at Hillcrest or Klondike place are restricted to 2 Designated Support Visitors. Residents must notify BDSHA of their designated visitors prior to any visitation occurring. Family and Friends should call ahead to determine whether they are permitted to visit. All visitation must occur in the resident's suite, and visitors must wear applicable PPE at all times. The MOH will reassess visitation in 2 weeks.**
- **All social activities have been postponed or cancelled until further notice. This is an extremely unfortunate, but necessary precaution to prevent further spread. Individual activities will proceed when and where it is possible.**
- **BDSHA Staff will be required to complete a Rapid Antigen Test upon arrival for each shift.**
- **Additional social distancing requirements for resident dining.**

This is a very stressful and difficult time for everyone that resides or works within these properties. Please be assured that BDSHA is providing the best possible accommodation and services while coping with the situation at hand.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact us at (780) 674-2787 or info@bdsha.org.

Tyler Batdorf

CAO

Barrhead and District Social Housing Association