Six Nations Remains Committed to the Safety of Iroquois Lodge Residents

Ohsweken, ON, Mar. 14, 2020: As the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, we remain committed to maintaining the safety of our residents at Iroquois Lodge. In order to ensure a safe and secure environment, we are following the directive of Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer from the Ministry of Health in collaboration with The Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care has mandated that all Long-Term Care Homes in Ontario enforce strict limitations on visiting effective immediately. The only exceptions for visitors are if they are visiting someone who has a terminal illness requiring palliative care or if the resident is extremely ill. We encourage those who feel their visit is essential to contact the home first before visiting.

All employees and visitors are actively screened when they enter Iroquois Lodge. Anyone who fails the screening are asked to return home. The Chief Medical Officer of Health of Toronto has further stated that any person who has travelled outside Canada should self-isolate for 14 days. Any staff member who returns from travel outside Canada must be advised about return to work by Ohsweken Public Health.

To ensure the safety and well-being of the residents at Iroquois Lodge, we want to do everything we can to prevent COVID-19 from affecting any resident at Iroquois Lodge. A team member has been contacting all family members. The residents of Iroquois Lodge were all informed about the visitor restrictions this afternoon. All activities have been cancelled. We are also discouraging residents from leaving the property to help limit risk. We further explained that they are part of the most vulnerable population who are at risk for COVID-19. Their safety is our number one priority and concern!

This visitor restriction is going to be extremely difficult for all residents and their families. Families and friends may call Iroquois Lodge to talk to their loved one. We are in regular communication with Public Health and with the Ministry of Health and will continue to follow their provincial directives to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Nya:weh for your understanding and cooperation!

Holly Cowan
Acting Director of Care, Iroquois Lodge

Katie Gasparelli
Acting Administrator, Iroquois Lodge

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