

The Brenda Strafford Foundation is currently planning for a potential 'COVID-19 Wave 2,' in conjunction with influenza season and 'Back to School' implications.

In accordance with Orders by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), The Brenda Strafford Foundation continues to evaluate our organizational risk tolerance for COVID-19 on an ongoing basis. We also continue to monitor and evaluate The Foundation's Safe Visiting Policy and Procedures as part of our ongoing risk tolerance assessment.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform our residents and families of some of the actions The Foundation may implement in order to safeguard our residents, staff, family/support person(s) and visitors if the risk for COVID-19 exposure is assessed to be high.

### **What does 'risk tolerance assessment' mean?**

As defined by the CMOH Order, 'risk tolerance' is the ability of a site to accept increased potential of exposure to COVID-19 and to inform situations where restricted access may be necessary. Risk tolerance is fluid (i.e. is not constant and will continuously change) and will depend on many factors.

### **When might visitation access be restricted?**

An operator may temporarily restrict access in situations where a risk tolerance assessment indicates increased risk of exposure to COVID-19, such as: an increase in local community COVID-19 cases; confirmed site outbreak; or other situations that may limit the ability of an operator to safely have more people on site.

Examples of restricted access include: only allowing designated family/support persons (i.e. no outdoor visits); adjusting designated family/support persons standing visitation schedules; reducing the number of persons permitted to limit the number of additional people on site at any one time.

### **What is The Brenda Strafford Foundation's current risk tolerance assessment?**

#### **Identified organizational risk factors:**

- An increased number of active cases in Alberta
- An increased number of active cases in the Calgary Zone
- An increased number of continuing care sites on outbreak in the Calgary Zone
- Recent increases to visitation in continuing care sites
- Re-opening of schools presents an increased risk for community transmission
- A second phase of COVID-19 may occur in Fall 2020 and coincide with typical flu season



**OUR RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS: COVID-19  
SPECIAL BULLETIN #19: SEP 4, 2020 FOR RESIDENTS, FAMILIES & VISITORS**

**Active cases rising in Calgary**

There has been a steady increase in active cases of COVID-19 in the Calgary zone, and once again Calgary now exceeds Edmonton as the 'hot spot' with the most active cases of COVID-19 in Alberta.

As of September 2, there are 639 active cases in the Calgary zone. The active case numbers in Calgary have more than doubled in the past two weeks, with an increase from 295 active cases on August 18, and an increase from 362 active cases on August 27. This is a concerning trend that we continue to monitor in our ongoing risk assessment factors.

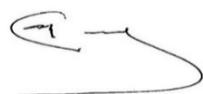
**BSF risk-based responses**

As part of our planning in preparation for the second wave, The Foundation has identified the following 'triggers' and 'responses' as part of our ongoing risk tolerance assessment processes.

Trigger	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>School outbreak</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Exclusion criteria at screening upon entry to site<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A person (staff or visitor) would not pass screening requirements if they had close contact with a child/teacher/school worker in their household who was exposed to COVID-19 in a school outbreak</li><li>▪ A designated family/support person who is a teacher or school worker would not pass screening requirements if they were exposed to COVID-19 in a school outbreak</li></ul></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>General community prevalence:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 1,000 active cases in Calgary zone</li><li>▪ And/or 15 continuing care sites on active outbreak in Calgary zone</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Stop non-essential/social outings</li><li>▪ Reduce number of visitors in the building at any given time</li><li>▪ Scheduled visitation only (cancel standing visits and require all visits to be scheduled in order to limit the number of visitors in the building)</li><li>▪ Limit the number of outdoor visit groups from 5 to 3 people</li><li>▪ Only permit outdoor visits for residents that are not on an outbreak unit</li><li>▪ Restricted visitation for residents that are actively COVID-19 positive</li><li>▪ New admissions to site would stop</li><li>▪ Restrict items being brought onto site</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>BSF site on outbreak</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Above restrictions for the Manor</li></ul>

Any restrictions on access to the site would be communicated to residents, families and visitors. Restrictions would be monitored on an ongoing basis, and would not exceed 14 days without re-evaluation, in accordance with the CMOH Order and The Foundation's commitment to ongoing risk assessment.

Please speak to the management at your site if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your ongoing understanding and cooperation. Together, we remain BSF Strong!



Mike Conroy  
President and CEO