



June 9, 2020

Dear Family Members,

Further to my letter of June 5th we have received more information from our public health officials regarding *Essential Visits* in long-term care homes. As you can understand, Mount St. Mary Hospital is regularly receiving numerous guidance documents and policies from multiple sources during this time of Covid-19. As such, our policies and procedures around visiting Mount St. Mary must be amended.

We are anticipating receipt of a guidance document on defining *Essential Visits*, as well as a document from our public health officials regarding the possibility of easing visitor restrictions within long-term care.

As always, our precautionary measures are in place to protect our residents and our staff.

Our leadership team is assessing each request for a visit to ensure it meets the current definition of an essential visit.

While we know this update will bring disappointment, we assure you that your loved one is being well cared for during this time and we continue to address their physical and mental well-being. We have confidence in our Provincial Health Officer and Minister of Health and I ask for your support in waiting for further direction from our public health officials.

We, on Vancouver Island, have collectively been exemplary in our behaviours, policies and practices during this pandemic. For this we grateful.

With kind regards and thanks for your support,

Sara John Fowler
Chief Executive Officer