



Volume 4, November 2017

RHRA Update is published by the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority (RHRA) for retirement home operators and licensees. This e-newsletter is also available in French upon request.

Fire Sprinkler Retrofit Program

Under the Ontario Fire Code, all licensed retirement homes are required to be equipped with automatic fire sprinklers by January 1, 2019. To find out more about the Ministry of Seniors Affairs funding program for fire sprinklers including who's eligible, how you can use the funds, and timelines, please visit the Ministry of Seniors Affairs website at www.ontario.ca/page/fire-sprinkler-retrofit-program.

The *Retirement Home Act, 2010* requires us to provide information about a home's sprinklers on the Public Register. Please provide updated information on the status of sprinklers in your home(s), by calling 1-855-275-7472 or email at info@rhra.ca.

New RHRA Website Now Live

Our newly designed website RHRA.ca is now live. We've made many improvements to the functionality and content to better meet the information needs of operators and licensees, residents, and those looking for a retirement home. Information for licensees and operators can be found easily on the navigation bar and dropdown menus. Our website is now mobile-friendly, and the [Public Register](#) has many enhanced search features. Check out the [resources](#) listing and stay-tuned for upcoming training modules. Please visit RHRA.ca and let us know what you think by completing the survey.

Requirement for Filing Your Accessibility Compliance Report

A reminder about Ontario's accessibility laws. If your business has 20 or more employees, or if you are a public sector organization, you are legally required to file a 2017 accessibility compliance report by December 31, 2017.

The compliance report consists of a series of yes or no questions. Download a quick and easy accessibility compliance reporting form at ontario.ca/AccessibilityReport.

If you have any questions about the AODA compliance report, please contact the AODA Help Desk:

Email: accessibility@ontario.ca

Toll-free: 1-866-515-2025

TTY: 416-325-3408 / 1-800-268-7095

For a complete list of your requirements visit ontario.ca/accessibility.

Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP)

If you would like to provide influenza vaccine to your residents, and did not pre-qualify to participate in the 2017-18 UIIP, you may choose to:

1. Hire a health care agency to transport and administer influenza vaccine at your retirement home. Your local public health unit can assist you in finding a participating health care agency.
2. Arrange for each resident's primary care provider to transport and administer influenza vaccine at your retirement home.
3. Assist homebound residents with contacting their pharmacist to transport and administer influenza vaccine at your retirement home. Pharmacists may only administer influenza vaccine to a resident in a retirement home provided that the following conditions are met:
 - a. the resident is unable to travel to the pharmacy (i.e., homebound);
 - b. the resident is a patient of the pharmacist (i.e., resident is already receiving dispensing services from the pharmacy); and
 - c. the pharmacy is located in the same public health unit as the retirement home.

Please note that retirement homes can only store publicly funded influenza vaccine in refrigerators at their facility if they have pre-qualified to participate in the 2017-18 UIIP with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

For more information about the 2017-18 UIIP please visit <https://www.ontario.ca/influenza/>.

If you have additional questions please send them to UIIP.MOH@ontario.ca.

Helpful Resources for Flu and Infection Control

Flu Season has Started

People who are 65 years of age or older are at greater risk of getting seriously ill from the flu. Retirement home residents, staff, and visitors are encouraged to get a flu shot at the start of the

season. Helpful information about the flu from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care can be downloaded [here](#).

Infection Prevention and Control Online Training

Public Health Ontario's has online training related to Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Core Competencies. These may be useful to you and your staff.

For more information or to access the IPAC training module click [here](#).

Guide on Respiratory Infection Outbreaks

A resource guide on respiratory infection outbreaks produced by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care may be of interest to Retirement Home Operators.

"A Guide to the Control of Respiratory Infection Outbreaks in Long-Term Care Homes" can be downloaded [here](#).

RHRA 2016-17 Annual Report Now Online

Download a copy of our 2016-17 [Annual Report](#) or visit the Annual Report website for key highlights. RHRA's CEO and Registrar, Bonnie Rose, explains our strategic plan in a [video](#) message.

Stay Connected

To stay informed about news and important notices, please add admin@rhra.i-sight.com to your email safe-sender list. If at any time there is a change, please fill out the [Notice of Change form](#) and send it to licensing@rhra.ca.

Feedback

Your feedback and comments are always welcome. Please let us know if you have any questions or additional subjects you would like us to cover in future issues of RHRA Update by clicking on the feedback button below.

[Feedback](#)

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