

Retirement Home Resident Network Meeting Synopsis

Meeting #13 2021 – December 20 2021

Welcome

RHRA reviewed the meeting agenda and introduced the guest speaker from RHRA to the Resident Network.

Retirement Homes Act, 2010 (Act)

A representative from RHRA presented the approved amendments to the Act and proposed amendments to the Ontario Regulation 166/11 of the Act.

Feedback from the Resident Network:

- Residents commented that the presentation was informative.
- One resident asked if the RHRA knows about flu outbreaks in homes. If RHRA doesn't have health data other than COVID outbreaks, then they don't know the full story about what happens in homes.

Questions from the Resident Network:

- Why do retirement home price lists have to be requested by the consumer? Why do retirement homes not provide them without being requested?
- Has financial abuse from retirement home staff and licensees been a big issue?

Other Items

RHRA updated the Resident Network that a revised Directive #3 was released. RHRA notified the residents that they will be releasing a communication to the sector about what this means for retirement homes and changes to the Retirement Homes Policy to Implement Directive #3.

Feedback from the Resident Network:

- One resident finds it interesting that if a resident who has the booster shot visits relatives for the holidays for an overnight stay, they have to be tested for COVID-19 and isolate for seven days.

- One resident noted that their home has guest suites for family, and it is not clear if the visiting family would be treated as visitors.
- One resident feels it is alarming that this is beginning to sound like a lockdown if a resident has to isolate for seven days when they leave for a night, even when they have had three vaccinations.
- One resident explained that they do not see the logic in testing requirements upon return to the home for residents who have a day absence versus someone having an overnight stay outside the home. However, another resident notes that they do not want this feedback to imply that it is acceptable to lock down people who go out for a short day absence. This resident emphasized that the government needs to remember the horrific results of locking residents in. There are still people who are not leaving their room.

Questions from the Resident Network:

- Can grandchildren visit residents in their suites?
- Is there a clear definition of “fully vaccinated”?
- Are there changes to dining room and similar setting capacities?
- When are the new rules effective? This will affect resident exercise programs and activities.

Action Items for RHRA

- Send a poll with meeting options to the Resident Network.
- Compile comments on changes to Directive #3 and the Retirement Homes Policy to Implement Directive #3 and share with the RHRA and the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA).