

## **Are you planning a Holiday celebration?**

The Holiday season is here and we know that Patients, Residents and Staff are looking forward to celebrating with family, friends and each other. We all want celebrations to be safe and fun for everyone. Below are some reminders for safe visiting and gathering at Deer Lodge Centre. Please also take a moment to review the [Visitation Guidelines](#) on our website.

### **Safe Visiting and Gathering Basics:**

- Currently group activities are limited to 25 people who are fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus;
- All entertainers will be fully vaccinated and will also be asked to follow DLC's safe visiting guidelines;
- Everyone should wear proper PPE, including a mask and eye protection, whenever possible. If / when this is not possible (i.e. when eating or drinking), a physical distance of 2-meters must be maintained between people; and
- Remember to clean your hands:
  - before and after touching any shared items;
  - before and after eating or drinking;
  - before and after physical contact; and
  - after using the washroom

### **Safe Sharing of Food**

Gifts of food are welcome at Deer Lodge Centre. If you are bringing food to share, please remember:

- Individually packaged servings are the safest.
- If sharing food (i.e. pot luck), assign one person to serve the food or use individual serving utensils.
- Remember to clean and disinfect serving and eating areas before and after use.
- Food shared between Patients, Residents and Visitors should happen off the unit. There are seating areas for eating and drinking in the cafeteria, Chad's Place and the Patient & Resident Lounge.

### **Safe Visiting Off-Site**

Many Patients and Residents like to go off-site during the holidays for short visits with family and friends. Managers are here to help. Patients and Residents or their families should talk to their manager before going for off-site visits to ensure they have a safe visit plan. Patients and Residents who are leaving DLC to visit off-site should follow the same visiting guidelines as they would if they were visiting at DLC. For example:

- Don't visit with people who are not feeling well or have symptoms of COVID-19;
- Limit visits to only fully vaccinated family and friends;
- Wear masks whenever possible;
- Maintain a 2-meter physical distance when eating and drinking; and
- Clean your hands often.

We hope everyone enjoys their holiday celebrations wherever they may be and we thank you for your co-operation in following the safe visiting guidelines. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season and all the best in the New Year!