

PLEASE READ... FEBRUARY 23, 2021 BETHANY MANOR UPDATE REGARDING TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF SASKATCHEWAN

You are receiving this communication because you are a resident of Bethany, or you have provided, and/or a Bethany resident(s) has provided your email address as they have identified you as their family/friend contact person.

The Saskatchewan Government recently announced that they continue to recommend **against all non-essential travel**, including out of province travel and out of country travel.

They further advise that if you do choose to travel inter-provincially, that you get tested for COVID-19 as soon as you return to Saskatchewan, and plan for a follow-up test seven (7) days after that.

They are recommending these measures due to the **new COVID variants** that are popping up across Canada. The new variants mean there is **increased risk of bringing more transmissible strains of COVID-19 home with you**. You may not experience any symptoms, but you may still have COVID-19. Testing is the best tool available to protect your family, friends, and all residents of Bethany against COVID-19 if you have travelled.

Self-isolation is **mandatory** if you have travelled **internationally/outside of Canada**.

At this time, the provincial government has said that it is **not mandatory** that you self-isolate for 14 days if you return from travel from another province. The government states that people who enter or re-enter Saskatchewan should at least self-monitor for 14 days and self-isolate at the first sign of even mild symptoms. However, Bethany is asking that you consider self-isolation in addition to self-monitoring after inter-provincial travel for the safety of our vulnerable community. We are also asking that Residents who have travelled out of province do not enter the Nook or use activity/common rooms for 14-days after returning from their travel.

Please remember that due to the “no household visiting” order put in place by the Saskatchewan government (and recently extended to March 19th), the only “external visitors” who may enter Bethany are **essential visitors**. Essential visitors are those who provide necessary support services to a resident that must be done but the resident is not able to do it on their own. As much as possible, the essential visitor must be the same person each time; not a revolving door of new visitors. Also, any essential visitor should be someone who lives in Saskatchewan, however, if an essential visitor is required and the only person who can perform that essential service/support for a resident is someone from outside of Saskatchewan, that person should observe all Saskatchewan public health measures, including mask wearing, physical distancing, and restrictions on the maximum number of people allowed to gather. As always, our common areas and Nook grocery store are closed to all external people (non-residents).

Please see previous Bethany communications for further description on essential visitors.

Management and Staff of Bethany Manor
Saskatoon Mennonite Care Services Inc.