

Admitted Patients At The Pembroke Regional Hospital Will Be Able To Welcome Additional Visitors At Their Bedside Starting March 28th

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 25, 2022

PEMBROKE – Effective March 28th, admitted patients at the Pembroke Regional Hospital will be able to welcome additional visitors at their bedside as Renfrew County hospitals transition their visitor policies to “Low Pandemic Restrictions”.

This means that admitted patients will be able to have two individuals (visitors or essential caregivers / care partners) present at the bedside at the same time, with physical distancing, unless they are on a unit with an outbreak.

Under the amended policy, general visitors will not need to be designated but they will still need to be masked for the duration of their visit and they will need to provide proof of vaccination and pass screening upon entry to the hospital.

"We recognize the important role visitors play in a patient's recovery journey and we are pleased that a decrease in COVID cases and hospitalizations is allowing us to once again lift some of the tight restrictions that had to be imposed," said PRH President and CEO Pierre Noel.

"While these policy updates are certainly a step in the right direction, we urge everyone to remain vigilant and safe and we ask those coming to the hospital to respect the differences between community-based settings and hospitals," Mr. Noel said. "In order to protect the community's most vulnerable residents, hospitals including ours will be maintaining COVID-19 safety measures and restrictions at this time, despite seeing them lifted in most public spaces across the province."

As hospitals are considered “highest risk” settings, all essential caregivers / care partners and general visitors must comply with all COVID-19 safety measures when visiting PRH. This includes:

- Providing proof that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, along with personal identification
- Completing and passing COVID-19 entrance screening
- Wearing a medical grade (PRH supplied) mask at all times in the hospital (including when in the patient's room), and additional personal protective equipment as indicated
- Practicing physical distancing at all times
- Not consuming food or drink at the patient's bedside

In addition, any individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 or displays COVID-19 symptoms must wait 10 days (from date of test and/or onset of symptoms) before coming to the hospital.

As information continues to change, members of the public are encouraged to refer to the hospital's website (www.pembrokeregionalhospital.ca) or speak with a member of

the health care team for the latest information about restrictions, safety measures and policies for visitors.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

**Carolyn Levesque, Public Affairs and Communications Coordinator
Pembroke Regional Hospital**

(613) 732-2811, extension 6165 / carolyn.levesque@prh.email