

Support, Respect, Choices Appui, Respect, Choix

May 9, 2023.

With the recent announcement by the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring an end to COVID-19 as a global health emergency, Ongwanada has decided to modify its masking practice. Effective immediately, visitors and staff will only be required to wear masks when in close proximity to supported individuals or when delivering personal care, for example, when providing assistance with bathing, changing, eating, etc. Staff and visitors may continue wearing masks at other times if they so choose.

The requirement to wear masks and other PPE may be modified on a location-by-location basis and/or due to other circumstances as outlined in Ongwanada's Infectious Disease Outbreak Management Policy (1-8-11).

It is important to remember that, despite the WHO announcement, COVID-19 is still present in the community, and good infection control practices (hand hygiene, cough etiquette, social distancing, and wearing PPE when appropriate) should be followed at all times.

Finally, please remember if you are symptomatic to reach out to Carleen Arthurs or Crystal Brash, for further guidance.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Supervisor or email <u>covid@ongwanada.com</u>.

Sincerely,

A. Alastair Lamb M.Sc. MPA CEO