

## For Better Retirement Living



Dear Augustine House Community,

Here we are coming to the end of January, 2021. The biggest news for the month has been the first dose of Vaccine. We have had a truly great response from both staff and Residents, with exceptional uptake. As a community we feel honored to be able to participate in the vaccination program; to be able to do this important step to protect each other. We are now waiting word about timing for the second dose.

The Augustine House vaccination clinic was featured in the Delta Optimist, highlighting our oldest vaccine recipient as well as a resident who had not received a vaccination in 70 years. Her motivation to receive this vaccination was the safety of our community at Augustine House.

As a community providing support for older adults, Augustine House is able to participate in weekly Zoom meetings with the Fraser Health Authority. During these calls participants are able to submit questions, and many of these questions are asking for information on what restrictions may, or may not be loosened after the second dose of vaccine is received. Because this is a new situation, only those of us who are older than 100 years old have experienced a pandemic before, Fraser Health is reluctant to speculate into the next few months. Our expectation is that although some restrictions may be relaxed, the bulk will remain in place until either case numbers in community drop significantly, or there is significant vaccine uptake in community. I will keep you informed as we receive any information. The bottom line is that both Fraser Health and the Ministry of Health want to decrease the risk of illness for our Residents. We support this.

Augustine House continues to receive very favorable inspection reports from Fraser Health Infection Control Inspectors. Our staff has been diligently following all recommendations and procedures to keep our community as safe as possible. We are so thankful that we have such a wonderfully dedicated staff. And I would like to thank each of our community members for the notes of thanks and encouragement that we have received. I think it is fair to say that we all feel Covid Fatigue at times. These notes certainly help us focus on what is truly important.

Life in Augustine House continues to happen, with Bingo, Team Trivia, exercises, and Social Hour being very popular. We have honed our physical distance and sanitizing skills so we are able to do these activities in safe ways. We are also exploring how to increase our dining room capacity while maintaining the infection control procedures required. Our goal is to invite all residents who wish to eat in the dining room to do so every day. We are still working out a few issues but

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plan to transition to this in February. Some residents feel safer eating in their suite. We will continue to provide room service for those residents for the time being. Our goal is to ensure each resident continues to be provided opportunities to socialize in a safe way and to continue to feel safe at Augustine House.

Stay well and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J Reiners".

Jackie Reiners  
Executive Director  
Augustine House