



Deafblind and Sensory  
Support Network of Canada

Réseau canadien de soutien à la  
surdicécité et troubles sensoriels

April 8, 2021

Dear Sensity Community,

The provincial government has declared a State of Emergency and issued a Stay-at-Home order in response to rising cases of COVID-19 and strains on our health-care system in this third wave of the pandemic. The measures take effect today (Thursday, April 8) and require everyone to remain at home except for essential purposes such as grocery shopping, accessing health-care services (including COVID-19 vaccinations) and work that cannot be done remotely.

Intervenors are essential workers and will continue to report to work.

A small number of administrative staff members will remain on duty in the Resource Centre in order to allow Sensity to continue to operate safely and perform work that cannot be done remotely. Please consult with your supervisor regarding on-site and work-from-home details. One member of the senior leadership team will be on duty at the Resource Centre at all times during business hours.

The situation in the province is serious and I urge you as responsible citizens to do your part and follow the Stay-At-Home order for the greater health and safety of everyone. By doing so, you will also help protect the vulnerable people we support and your co-workers.

Although Sensity cannot mandate it, I encourage staff to get a vaccine as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

The Sensity community has remained without a single case of COVID-19 in our residential settings thanks to your professionalism and diligence in adhering to safety protocols and best practices. Please continue to self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to work, fill out the self-assessment document when you arrive at work and wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) properly.

We would like the people we support to remain as active and engaged as possible within the Stay-at-Home restrictions. We encourage you to get fresh air and exercise outdoors by going for a walk in the neighbourhood

or spending some socially distanced time in a safe place, such as the Sensory Garden.

Please continue to participate in online activities such as Music Therapy and the calendar events created by Special Projects Intervenor Katrina Modesti.

The sensory equipment in the Multi-Purpose and Snoezelen rooms will remain available for exercise, relaxation and recreation. Please ensure to follow the booking system and rules regarding the number of people allowed in the rooms (i.e. a maximum of five people at one time in the Multi-Purpose Room).

During the Stay-at-Home order, the people we support are not to do any of their own shopping, such as for groceries and personal items. The grocery delivery routine in Paris remains in place and Intervenor Services Coordinators will arrange grocery shopping in other residential settings.

We also ask that you stop the practice of taking the people we support for car rides for recreational purposes for the duration of the Stay-at-Home order.

As we previously communicated on April 1, family visits remain suspended.

You can read the full text of the government's announcement by following the link below:

<https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/61029/ontario-enacts-provincial-emergency-and-stay-at-home-order>

On behalf of Sensity, I am truly grateful for your continuing efforts in these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,



Cathy Proll  
Chief Executive Officer