

**Face Masking Guidelines Changed for Towers**

**Effective today, Saint John's is no longer requiring face masks for residents, visitors, or employees throughout the Towers, including the Town Center.** Face masks are still required for employees and visitors in the Care Neighborhoods (Windsor, Stratford, and Canterbury).

Face masks will continue to be recommended or required in certain circumstances:

- For people who are immunocompromised
- For people who are not feeling well or experiencing symptoms of a respiratory illness
- For people who have been exposed to a known COVID+ individual
- For people who have tested COVID+

For many, this is exciting news and worthy of celebrating. Face masks were the most visible reminder of the pandemic, and this feels like a big step closer to 'normal.' It's possible we have all forgotten what the lower half of each other's faces look like – and it will be wonderful to see smiles again!

However, for others this news might cause worry. For those, please trust our clinical team who carefully researched and recommended this position. We believe this change does not materially change the risk of COVID transmission throughout our community. Additionally, given the very high vaccination rates amongst employees and residents, we believe this change does not increase the risk of any person experiencing serious illness.

**We will continue, for the foreseeable future, to be a mask-optional community.** I would ask all residents and employees to recognize and respect every person's decision to wear a mask, or to not.

**Current COVID Cases**

There are no current COVID cases on campus, amongst either residents or employees.

**Questions?**

The COVID Updates are produced by Saint John's COVID Response Team. If you have a question for the team, please contact Matt Loyd, COO, at (414) 831 – 6953 or [mloyd@saintjohnsmilw.org](mailto:mloyd@saintjohnsmilw.org).