



## RESIDENTIAL VISITATION PROCEDURE

We are updating the residential visitation procedure at the instruction of the Department of Families, effective immediately.

**Purpose:** To prevent the spread of COVID-19 while balancing between preventative measures and the benefits of social connections for people supported and their loved ones.

**Applicable:** To all people visiting or gathering at any place.

### Procedure for Residential Visitation to VOI Departments

Residential care facilities like VOI are not considered private residences for the purposes of the public health orders. However, some restrictions remain in place for them.

1. There are no longer restrictions on the number of people who can attend a visit or gathering at VOI departments.
2. All visitors must comply with infection prevention and control measures. This includes strict hand hygiene **before, during (if possible) and after** any visit and maintaining physical distancing (6 feet/2 meters apart) whenever possible. Any personal contact should be brief and kept to a minimum.
3. People supported are not required to wear PPE during visitation but wearing a non-medical mask during visits is encouraged.
4. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own lawn chair, if possible.

Visits may occur **only** if the visitor and the person supported:

1. have not been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 or is being tested for COVID-19 with results pending;
2. have not been instructed to self-isolate;
3. have not travelled outside of Manitoba in the last 14 days; and  
**note:** in some cases people may be exempt from isolating when coming to MB or returning from travel outside of MB (i.e. they are fully vaccinated). The On Call Manager and/or Shared Health can assist in confirming whether the visit can occur.
4. do not have any symptoms associated with COVID-19 (i.e. cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache).



The visitor must complete the screening questionnaire by using the QR code or by visiting [www.voimb.ca/screeningtool](http://www.voimb.ca/screeningtool) before coming to the home, and these criteria apply to all visits (indoor and outdoor).

#### Indoor Visits

The visitor must wear the same PPE that staff in the home are required to wear. At a minimum this means a surgical mask and eye shield. You may provide the visitor with PPE from VOI's stock if they do not have their own.

#### Outdoor Visits

Visitors are not required to wear PPE while outdoors.

#### Visitation to a Department with COVID-19 Case(s) or Suspected Case(s)

1. Visits will be suspended, unless critical to the supported person's wellbeing. Check with your Facility Manager or Director if you have questions about critical visits.
2. Indoor and outdoor visits may be considered in special circumstances on a case by case basis with the appropriate PPE and precautions in place.

#### Out of Home Visitation or Gathering

There are no longer restrictions on how many people can be present at a private or public visit or gathering.

#### Managing Risk

Because the people we support are part of the vulnerable population, their health remains an important consideration. Protecting the health and well-being of the people we support and their staff remains one of our top priorities. Regular reassessment by reviewing information shared by public health officials further to the impact and evaluation of the need for adjusted visitor restrictions will be ongoing.

#### **Procedure for Residential Visitation to People Supported Homes (SIL)**

There are no longer restrictions on the number of people who can attend a visit or gathering at a supported person's home.