

Hospice Prince Edward will continue to offer its services through the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In the wake of COVID-19, Hospice has made some difficult decisions regarding the services we offer. Hospice provides support and service to some of the most vulnerable people in our community, many of whom are elderly, frail, or have serious underlying health conditions.

Although COVID-19 has not yet been reported in Prince Edward County, Hospice's number one priority is to keep our clients, their families, our volunteers and our staff safe.

Hospice Prince Edward is following the advice of the Public Health Authorities and at this time, there will be the following changes to our programs, services and events.

What we are doing to keep everyone safe?

Hospice Prince Edward Community Visiting Volunteer Program:

We are suspending the visiting program with case-by-case exceptions where warranted. Our volunteers will continue to provide support by phoning clients instead of visiting in-person.

Where clients absolutely require an in-person visit, this will be addressed between the Family, our Hospice volunteer and Hospice staff.

Hospice Prince Edward Grief & Bereavement Program:

We are suspending all grief & bereavement group meetings effective immediately. For the volunteers who are providing one-to-one grief support with clients, this will be handled on a case by case basis between the client, our Hospice volunteer and Hospice staff.

Hospice Prince Edward Residence:

We are restricting visitors to the immediate family of our clients, deliveries of medical supplies and the health care team. All volunteer shifts have been cancelled until further notice. Visitors can expect to be screened upon entry to hospice and if showing any signs of illness, will be turned away at the door. Our administrative employees will be working from home.

Upcoming Events:

Volunteer Education Day – March 24 – cancelled

Caregiver Training Day – March 31 – cancelled

Volunteer Meeting – April 2 – cancelled

Hike for Hospice – May 2 – cancelled (postponed to the Fall, date yet to be determined)

We will endeavor to reschedule these events at a later date.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to keep Hospice Prince Edward a healthy and safe environment. We will continue our work of supporting those Living with Dying.

For any questions or concerns regarding these changes to our programs and services, please contact our main line: 613-645-4040 (extension #206) or email: sarahm@hospicepe.com. Voicemail messages will be checked (remotely) periodically throughout the day during business hours.

Suggestions to Stay Safe

FROM HASTINGS PRINCE EDWARD REGION PUBLIC HEALTH:

All residents can take the following steps to protect themselves not only from new and emerging diseases but also from the common cold and the flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are sick
- Increase cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces like toilets, sink tap handles, doorknobs, countertops, etc. using regular household cleaners

STAY INFORMED. We encourage you to review the following websites:

Hastings Prince Edward Public Health <https://hpepublichealth.ca/the-novel-coronavirus-2019ncov/>
613-966-5500, ext. 349 (Monday – Friday 8:30-4:30)

Ontario Ministry of Health www.ontario.ca/coronavirus

Telehealth Ontario 1-866-797-0000