



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Caressant Care Announces Mandatory Vaccination Policy

**September 7, 2021**

**Woodstock, ON** – Caressant Care Nursing and Retirement Homes LTD. is joining other long-term care organizations in making vaccination mandatory for those working in all our homes.

Effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, all staff (including those contracted to provide Resident care), students and volunteers who work in any of our 15 long-term care and 10 retirement homes must show proof of all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, or a combination of COVID-19 vaccines approved by Health Canada or the World Health Organization (WHO). Those who are not fully vaccinated and do not fall under the exemption criteria including medical and religious reasons will be placed on unpaid leave.

“With cases continuing to rise as we head into fall and concerns over the Delta and other variants of COVID-19 Caressant Care recognizes the importance of immunization of staff, student placements, and volunteers due to the nature of their work with vulnerable seniors and potential for exposure in the community,” says Stuart Oakley, Communications and Marketing Manager for Caressant Care. “This COVID-19 policy aims to protect the home’s population including residents, staff, and volunteers.”

This policy applies to:

- Workers/staff (employees, people retained on a contracted services basis, and people employed by an employment agency or other third party)
- Newly hired staff (prior to commencing orientation in the home). Effective November 1, 2021, all offers of employment will be conditional upon proof of vaccination against COVID -19.
- Students on an educational placement at the Home (prior to starting student placement in the home)
- Volunteers (prior to commencing volunteering in the home)

“Every employee in our organization has chosen older adult care as their profession and therefore has a responsibility to protect those entrusted in their care.

A fully vaccinated workforce creates the safest possible workplace environment for residents and staff.”

-30-

**For more information:**

Stuart Oakley, Communications and Marketing Manager

[soakley@caessantcare.com](mailto:soakley@caessantcare.com)

(519) 539-0408 Cell (519) 537-1774

“Caring Families – Yours and Ours Together”

Founded in 1975, Caessant Care Nursing and Retirement Homes Limited owns and operates 15 Nursing Homes and 10 Retirement Homes located in primarily small towns across Ontario.