

# *St. Mary's Villa Safety Status Update*



FEBRUARY 15, 2012

## **Safety and prevention drive decision to relocate Dust Wing residents**

Saskatoon Health Region has invested in and completed significant reviews of St. Mary's Villa infrastructure systems. A recent report from an external engineering firm outlined several recommendations to meet the short-term and long-term safety needs related to the Dust Wing flooring system. The report recommends that an action plan be in place by March 2012 to address ongoing structural inadequacy and deterioration of the Dust Wing flooring system.

While no imminent danger is evident, Saskatoon Health Region is committed to providing a safe work environment for staff, and quality care and service for residents at St. Mary's Villa. The Region has decided to take every proactive safety precaution possible, including:

- Creation of a plan, including options to relocate Dust Wing residents by the end of March to rooms in other parts of St. Mary's Villa, including rooms in the St. Mary's Wing (Enriched Housing) that will be vacated by those currently residing there.
- Creation of a plan to find suitable housing alternatives for those currently living in St. Mary's Wing.

Consultation with employees, residents, clients and their families is key to creating this plan. Some next steps include:

- Informing the Occupational Health Committee today on the status of the floor.
- Meeting with staff over the coming days to discuss this change.
- Meeting with residents, enriched housing clients and their families to discuss this change and work together to identify options and timelines.
- Reviewing and discussing long-term options for the Dust Wing with the Ministry of Health.

Employees, residents, clients and their families will be asked for ongoing input and receive regular updates as they become available.

In order to facilitate these options and to maintain a safe environment for residents and staff, we will be completing some improvements to St. Mary's Wing, including nurse call systems and windows. In addition, ongoing monitoring and maintenance of heating and boiler systems, ventilation systems and safety training for employees will continue to be a priority.

All employees, residents, clients and families of St. Mary's Villa deserve thanks for their commitment and dedication during this difficult year.

**Employees are invited to a staff meeting to discuss this information at St. Mary's Hall  
at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2012.**