

January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Dear Residents/Caregivers,

Fraser Health, in partnership with our Assisted Living Providers, has identified a need for on-site physician services in Assisted Living to provide easier and more convenient access to medical care for residents. We have heard from residents that many are having difficulty accessing their Family Doctor in the community and would prefer to see a physician on site. To address this concern, it is essential that care provided to residents living at Assisted Living care communities be patient-centred, focused on health promotion and quality of life, and aligned with the residents' individual values and goals of care.

We are pleased to announce that we will be starting a new optional primary care model in Assisted Living. Family Physicians will be attached to the Assisted Living care communities and will be able to see residents on site for regular scheduled visits. The Family Physicians working at the Assisted Living care communities will assume care for interested residents and will work as a full-service Family Physician for those residents with the same roles and responsibilities as they would in their community practice.

Please be aware that involvement with the onsite physician is optional and you do not have to transfer care from your current Family Physician if you wish to continue seeing them off site instead.

We are excited to welcome Dr. Panagiotis "Taki" Galanopoulos to Nikkei Home. Dr. Galanopoulos is an alumnus of Ross University School of Medicine and the University of Louisville Department of Family and Geriatric Medicine residency. He happily hosts medical residents and nurse practitioner students at his multi-provider Clinic, Blue Water Medical. He is currently Vice Chair at the Vancouver Division of Family Practice and also sits on various committees and working groups at the Division and Doctors of BC.

Dr. Panagiotis Galanopoulos will be seeing patients on-site either weekly or every second week at Nikkei Home. If you are interested in transferring care and seeing the physician on site, instead of continuing to follow with your community physician, please connect with Tara Pagnottaro, Team Leader Coordinator at Nikkei Home.