

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Aug. ‘23**

Dear Strathmere Lodge residents, family members, friends/responsible parties:

1. **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**



In late June, the province lifted the mask mandate, which had been in place for all long term care homes for over three (3) years.

Masks continue to be made available at the entrance for those who opt to continue wearing one.

It is important to note that the COVID virus still exists, as do cold/flu viruses. As such, it remains important that you refrain from visiting when you feel unwell, in order to minimize the possibility of future outbreaks, which can lead to visitor/resident restrictions.

Please ensure hand sanitizing before visiting a resident, and when leaving a resident’s room.

1. **Lodge Improvements**

As part of adhering to our provincial long term care homes legislation, we are required to communicate improvements made to our care, services, programs, goods and accommodations. To that end, improvements made since our last newsletter include:

1. Replacement of minor equipment used by our Dietary staff in preparing/serving resident meals – conveyor toasters (2), convention toaster (1) and conventional microwave oven (1); and
2. Repairs to uneven concrete walkway between main entrance and visitors’ parking lot.
3. **Making Deposits to Resident Trust Accounts With The Lodge**



For residents with Strathmere Lodge resident trust accounts, the option to deposit funds electronically (versus issuing us cheques) has been in place since last year.

If opting to deposit funds electronically (known as “Electronic Funds Transfer”, or “EFT”), use email address: trustfund@middlesex.ca (while on your banking website), and **be sure to insert the applicable resident name in the Message section** when transferring funds, so we know which resident account to apply transferred funds to.

Contact Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor (at ext. 6246, or via email at: acaines@middlesex.ca) with any questions regarding EFTs.

1. **Opportunity to Review Signed Admission Documents**



Please see the enclosed memo regarding admission documentation.

Please feel free contact Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor (519-245-2520, ext. 6246, or via email at: acaines@middlesex.ca), if you would like to review/change information on file.

1. **Bird Feeders Create Problems**

Though many of us are bird lovers, we are requesting that no bird feeders be established at The Lodge, as the bird seed attracts mice/critters, who then enter the facility.

The other problem we are facing is that bird feeders are attracting birds, who then nest in our roof areas, creating roof damage and staining the building façade with bird droppings.

Thank you very much for your cooperation on this matter.

1. **Resident Safety / Resident Outings**



Resident safety is paramount to us, and to that end, we want to ensure we can account for resident whereabouts at all times.

We ask residents and families to let staff know when residents are leaving the premises on an outing of any kind. Using the Sign-out Book maintained at the desk in each resident home area is an added way to make sure we know residents have left the premises.

Thank you for your on-ongoing assistance in keeping Lodge residents safe.

1. **Labelling of Residents’ Clothing**

To prevent missing clothing … This is a reminder that new clothing needs to be labelled with the resident’s name before a resident begins to wear it (this also includes items such as shoes/slippers and personal blankets/throws). Please ensure that you use the Clothing Bin near the main entrance to deposit clothing requiring labelling, after inventorying the clothing items on the form provided at the bin (further instructions are provided at the clothing bin).

For inquiries regarding missing clothing and the like, please contact John Fournier, Environmental Services Manager, at (519) 245-2520, ext. 6244 (or, via email: jfournier@middlesex.ca).

1. **Labelling of Other Personal Resident Items**

Apart from clothes labelling noted above, residents/families are encouraged to label other personal resident effects (including new items brought to The Lodge from time-to-time), notably items that are more portable in nature, such as TV remote controls.

1. **In Conclusion ….**



Please let me know if you would like to see certain issues addressed in future newsletter editions (contact Brent Kerwin, Administrator,

519-245-2520, ext. 6222, or via email at: bkerwin@middlesex.ca).

Please share a copy of this newsletter with other family members and friends, or direct them to our [web page](http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care): <http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care>.

Hardcopies of our newsletter are also maintained at our Public Information Board near Reception. Copies of older newsletter editions are compiled in binders at our Reception desk, and are available for your review.

**Brent Kerwin,** Administrator



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[www.middlesex.ca/](http://www.county.middlesex.on.ca/strathmerelodge)departments/long-term-care

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TO: Families/Residents

FROM: Brent Kerwin, Administrator

DATE: Aug. 1, 2023

**RE: Administrative Documents on File**

Consistent with Strathmere Lodge’s provincial requirements, this correspondence is to invite you to review/amend the written agreement material we have on file, further to the documents that you signed on admission. This includes the agreement that you signed authorizing us to charge fees for services not covered by the province (e.g., hairdresser, cable television, foot care, etc.). Please contact the Business Office (ext. 6245), if you wish to review/amend such documents.

No action is required on your part, if you do not feel the need to respond to the above.

Also, please note the following reminders:

1. If you have updated Power of Attorney documents, please present such to the Business Office (main entrance); and
2. The Lodge is required to post/communicate information about the Lodge and resident care. You may review such on the bulletin board near Reception (main entrance).