

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

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

1. **Re-start of Regular Family Council Meetings**



We are very pleased to announce that we are holding our first Family Council meeting since the COVID-19 pandemic started. It has been a long three (3) years since our last meeting and many changes have taken place. We have welcomed many new residents, family members, friends, and staff members to our Strathmere Lodge community.

Our hope for the first meeting of the post-pandemic Family Council is to meet interested family members, introduce our management team, and set some goals for future meetings. This first post-pandemic meeting will be an informal meeting; no need to RSVP, just come and join us. We will hold this meeting on Thursday, September 14th, at 1:30pm in the Lodge Chapel.

If you have any questions about the Family Council, please reach out to Kristie Ouellette, Resident and Family Liaison, at (519) 245-2520, ext. 6223, or via email at: kouellette@middlesex.ca. We look forward to seeing you there.

1. **Recreation Calendar / Important Events**

Please pick up and check out our monthly Recreation calendar (given to every individual resident, in addition to being available in each Resident Home Area, and on our [web page](https://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation) at: https://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation) for events that you may find of interest and would like to attend.

Of note in September is the Strathroy-Caradoc Cruisers Car Club Show to be held in The Lodge parking lot on Monday, September 11, 2023, from 5pm-7pm (rain date, if applicable, will be September 12th).

All residents, family members and friends are welcome.

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 monthly newsletter include:

1. New Adjustable Dining Room Tables – all of our resident dining room tables in all five (5) of our resident dining rooms are now adjustable. Each end of our resident dining room tables (2-seater tables and 4-seater tables) can be adjusted both in and out, and up and down, in order to provide residents with the individualized space they need to enjoy their meals, and in order to enable our staff to sit at these tables in order to provide feeding assistance to applicable residents as necessary.
2. **Resident Clothing Closet and Drawers**



Our Lodge clothes laundering process results in quick turnaround times, which minimizes the need to have/store large volumes of clothing in the provided closet and drawers.

Given that our closets and drawers have finite space, we ask families to rotate clothing in/out as the seasons change, in order to avoid large volumes of clothing in the closet and drawers, which can lead to disorganization.

We appreciate families’ assistance in reviewing clothing in order to ensure that clothing is kept organized and easily accessible.

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