

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – August 2025**

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

1. **Upcoming Improvements**



Annually, “capital budget” monies are set aside, on approval of Middlesex County Council, in order to make major building improvements/repairs and/or to replace major equipment items.

Our upcoming planned and approved capital improvements for 2025 include:

1. Boiler replacement (1 of 2 units) - to heat water/create steam to provide heat for resident rooms and domestic hot water
2. Spa shower renos (X5)
3. Domestic water mixing valve installation
4. Metal cladding for windows - to prevent leaks from the elements (e.g., rain)
5. **Lodge Improvements Implemented**



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

1. Implementation of revised provincial resident health assessment tools/process effective July, 1, 2025 (quarterly resident health assessments are streamlined, leading to more staff time for direct resident care and more personalized care plans)
2. Bird exclusion project – erecting discreet building structures that act as physical barriers to prevent birds from accessing or inhabiting specific building areas where birds nest/roost (and possibly gain building entry)
3. New floor scrubber – for better cleaning and hygiene versus traditional mopping methods
4. New “DAKboards” (electronic resident directories posted via TV monitors in each resident home area)
5. Elevators (2) Rejuvenation (hydraulic oil change crucial for ensuring proper functioning and longevity of elevator hydraulic system)
6. **Administrative Documents on File**

Consistent with Strathmere Lodge’s provincial requirements, you are being invited to review/amend the written admission agreement material we have on file, further to the documents that you signed on admission. This material includes the agreement that you signed authorizing The Lodge to charge fees for services not covered by the province (e.g., hairdresser, television service, foot care). Please contact the Business Office (ext. 6221) 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:

1. If you have updated Power of Attorney (POA) 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. To this end, various informational items are posted on the wall near the Reception window.
3. **August Special 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.

Our upcoming events for August include a resident “Summer Carnival” on August 21st, outside in the courtyard (first floor, Hickory Woods/Sydenham Meadows) from 1:30pm – 3:00pm. Children of all ages welcome.

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 Jeff Turnbull, Lodge Environmental Services Manager, at (519) 245-2520, ext. 6244 (or, via email: jturnbull@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