



Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party Newsletter – May 2026

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

1. Lodge Initiative – Strategic Review and Strategic Plan



Working with an external consultant firm (the Centre for Organizational Effectiveness, in London), our strategic planning efforts are in full swing to establish our Lodge “roadmap” for the coming years.

Meetings have taken place with staff, residents and families to elicit feedback in the development of The Lodge Strategic Plan. For those who could not attend a meeting, an on-line survey was made available.

The Consultant is currently compiling draft strategic plan material reflective of the feedback received from residents, families and staff, which will then be further refined by residents/families/staff to spell out The Lodge’s 5-year plan for the future.

2. Dr. Mohamed Mithoowani, Lodge Attending Physician



Please be advised that Dr. Mithoowani has submitted his intention to retire from providing attending physician services at The Lodge.

Dr. Mithoowani has been an attending physician at The Lodge for 30+ years. With tremendous appreciation for his dedication to the residents and families at The Lodge, we wish him well in his future endeavours.

Details of continued medical coverage for Dr. Mithoowani’s assigned residents will be communicated shortly.

3. Care Planning for End-of-Life Wishes and Preferences



As some of you know, we have started an important care planning initiative to ensure that each resident's wishes, values, and preferences—particularly related to future and end-of-life care—are clearly understood and respected.

Over the coming weeks, members of our Lodge care team will be reaching out to those residents and/or their substitute decision-makers yet to be contacted, in order to have these conversations. These discussions may include preferences related to treatments, comfort-focused care, and decisions about hospital transfers (in some situations, transferring to hospital may not always provide additional benefit to a resident's comfort or quality of life).

Our goal is to ensure that any decisions made reflect what matters most to each resident.

We encourage you to take part in these conversations openly and to share any questions or concerns you may have. This process is about supporting informed, person-centered care.

4. Lodge Hairdresser Services



Please be advised that effective June 1, the following Hairdresser services will go up in price:

- a) Shampoo and Cut (from \$18 to \$20);
- b) Cut, Blow-dry and Curling Iron (\$38 to \$40); and
- c) Men's Haircut (from \$18 to \$20).

The last price increase took place in May 2023.

5. May 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](#) 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 May include:

- Wed., May 6th, 2-3pm – Old Tyme Heritage Band (First Time at The Lodge)
- Fri., May 8th, 2-3pm - Lodge Mothers and Others Social, serving Portuguese tarts (Jerome Thomas to entertain)
- Tues., May 12th, 2-3pm – Mocha Shrine Concert Band (in the Rose Room)
- Tues., May 12th, 6:15pm – Firefighter Bingo, with cake to be served following the program (local firefighter will host this evening bingo session)
- Sat., May 23rd, 2-3pm – Don Cantwell entertains (in the Rose Room)
- Tues., May 26th, 6pm – Evening Bingo with local Girl Guides

6. Lodge Improvements Implemented



As part of adhering to our provincial long term care homes legislation, we communicate initiatives we implement aimed at improving our care, services, programs, goods/products and/or accommodations. To that end, improvements made since our last newsletter include:

- Additional staff trained in “Gentle Persuasive Approach (GPA)” (GPA training enhances staff ability to respond respectfully, and with confidence and skill, to resident responsive behaviours associated with Dementia)
- Two (2) bariatric beds with mattresses (for residents of larger/heavier stature)
- New shower chairs (4)
- New Sara Plus Lift (for residents who may not follow lift procedure instruction well)

7. 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). Note that, if clothing enters our

laundry system without first having a resident's name affixed, it may not be possible to trace unlabelled clothing back to the applicable resident.

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).

8. 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.

9. 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>.

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