

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – July ‘22**

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

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



Here are the main points currently governing Visiting during the on-going pandemic (subject to ongoing change):

1. There is no longer a vaccination requirement (though vaccination is highly recommended);
2. Indoor visits are to be conducted two (2) visitors at a time, but there is no limit as to who can visit (unless The Lodge is in an Outbreak situation);
3. Visitors can be five (5) years old or older;
4. Mask wearing remains mandatory at all times when visiting indoors;
5. We are currently conducting daily on-site rapid antigen testing for visits both indoors, and outdoors on Lodge premises; and
6. Residents may leave Lodge premises, and are not required to isolate upon return, unless COVID infection is suspected/determined (restrictions on leaving the premises will be in place in an Outbreak situation).

The importance of not visiting when you feel unwell cannot be stressed enough. COVID is still prevalent.

Please contact The Lodge with any questions regarding Visiting during the pandemic.

1. **Lodge Improvements**



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

1. Tractor replacement (the tractor is used by Lodge Maintenance staff to care for Lodge grounds, including grass cutting and gardens maintenance);
2. Mixer equipment replacement (the equipment replaced was very old, and is used by our Food Services staff to automate the food preparation process for our 160 residents, including preparing mashed potatoes and dough for baking); and
3. (Commenced and in progress) upgrading our heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system (funding specific to this project has been provided by both the provincial and federal governments).
4. **Specialized Foot Care**



Please be advised that the cost of specialized foot care services is going from $30 per visit to $35 per visit, effective August 1, 2022. The last price increase was 2.5+ years ago.

Typically, a significant number of long term care home residents require specialized foot care.

Specialized foot care is applicable to those who need on-going assessment of their feet related to circulation, swelling and the potential for ulcer development, and those who require treatment for such things as ingrown toenails and fungal and thick nails.

We discuss the need for specialized foot care with applicable residents/families.

Specialized foot care is not a provincially insured service. It is provided at The Lodge by a contracted (external) Registered Practical Nurse (RPN) with specialized training.

Specialized foot care is typically required every six (6) to eight (8) weeks.

For more information on foot care, please contact Crystal Brooks, Director of Resident Care (519-245-2520, ext. 6228, or cbrooks@middlesex.ca).

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. **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 both our Reception desk and the staff lounge, and are available for your review.

**Brent Kerwin,** Administrator