

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Jan. ‘24**

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

1. **Happy New Year**



All the best for 2024. Looking forward to a year where COVID becomes less-and-less impactful.

1. **Recreation Calendar**



Please note that circulation of the January Recreation Calendar will be delayed beyond the first of the month.

When available, they will be provided to every individual resident as usual, and will be available at the entrance to each resident home area entrance, in addition to our webpage ([www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation](http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation)).

1. **Lodge Improvements**

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 monthly newsletter include:

* New electronic health record software (“Point-Click-Care”), which includes modules to enhance medication administration safety and nursing decision-making via “clinical pathways”;
* Purchase of new wireless resident safety system for falls prevention (bed alarms, chair alarms, motion sensors);
* New lift slings for lift equipment, including introduction of “comfort” slings;
* New lift equipment (X7);
* New wheelchair weigh scales (X5) - to take required monthly resident weights;
* New Doppler Vascular Devices (X5) – for vein visualization associated with Intravenous (IV) Therapy; and
* New Vitals Machines (X5) with wifi capability (vitals readings, including blood pressure and heart rate, will transmit directly into new electronic health record).
1. **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