



Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party Newsletter – Feb. '24

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

1. Annual Income Tax Receipt

Canada



In this month's mailing, you will find enclosed your annual tax receipt for the purpose of filing resident income taxes.

The receipt shows the annual co-payment charges for the 2023 calendar year that each resident pays as per provincially established rates.

Questions on this may be directed to Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor (519-245-2520, ext. 6246, or via email at: acaines@middlesex.ca).

2. Resident TV Service



This is an important message for those of you who currently subscribe to The Lodge TV service package via Stubbs Communications/Shaw. You will need to take action to continue TV service beyond February 29th.

The current TV service will no longer be available beyond February 29th. The current service provider (Stubbs Communications/Shaw) is proposing a price increase of 58%. As other local service providers offer lower pricing, The Lodge anticipates the proposed cost increase will be unpalatable to many of you, making the current TV service financially unviable.

In reviewing the local TV service provider market, The Lodge has identified that Rogers and Execulink offer better pricing. To continue with your TV service, we are encouraging you to contact Rogers or Execulink directly. Further to this, Execulink representatives will be at The Lodge shortly to outline their service options to residents/families (residents/families will have options regarding TV channels, and will also have the option to bundle TV service with phone and/or internet service). Note that this change will mean that residents/families will be dealing directly with their preferred service provider (e.g., Execulink or Rogers), including receiving invoices and invoice payments.

Dates/times that Execulink representatives will be The Lodge will be communicated to you shortly via our OneCallNow message software.

Please contact Brent Kerwin, Lodge Administrator (519-245-2520, x6222, or via email at bkerwin@middlesex.ca), with any questions.

3. Specialized Foot Care Services



For those residents who receive foot care services from our contracted service provider, please be advised that the cost of these services is going up, from \$35 per visit to \$40 per visit, effective February 1st. The last price increase was 1.5 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 pressure injury development, and those who require treatment for such things as ingrown toenails, fungal infections 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 Sonya Gillett, Director of Resident Care (519-245-2520, ext. 6234, or sgillett@middlesex.ca).

4. 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](#) 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 February include our Valentine's Day Social on February 14th, featuring entertainment with Randy Grey (2:00pm in the Rose Room).

If you have any questions/feedback on Recreation Services, please contact Marcy Welch, Recreation Manager (519-245-2520, ext. 6226, or mwelch@middlesex.ca).

5. Next Family Council Meeting



This group of involved and caring friends and family members meets on a regular basis to share information and discuss common issues. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 1:30pm in the Chapel.

At our March meeting, we are very pleased to announce that Susan Oster from the Alzheimer Society will be a guest speaker. Susan will do a presentation entitled “Dementia Friendly Community”, which will discuss ways we can support our family members at The Lodge with the dementia of loved ones.

All family and friends of residents of Strathmere Lodge are welcome to attend. No pre-registration is necessary.

For more information, please contact Kristie Ouellette, Resident and Family Liaison (519-245-2520, ext. 6223, or kouellette@middlesex.ca).

Minutes of the most recent meeting are posted on the family information board in the Rose Room (near the Chapel), and previous minutes are available for review at our Reception desk.

6. 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.

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).

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).

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): <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