

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

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

1. **Strathmere Lodge Ladies’ Auxiliary Donation**

The Lodge would like to acknowledge the generous financial donation received from the Ladies’ Auxiliary in order to purchase three (3) swing sets for residents and family members to enjoy.

These swings will be located in resident patio areas, including our Bear Creek resident home area, our Sydenham Meadows/Hickory Woods patio area, and our second floor resident terrace area (near the hair salon).

The Ladies’ Auxiliary is made up of a group of dedicated ladies who work tirelessly volunteering their time to support Lodge residents, and to raise funds for resident equipment and activities (e.g., through Bazaars and Tuck Shop sales).

1. **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 Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 1:00pm in the Chapel.

At our June meeting, our Staff Educator (Lena) and our Behavioural Supports staff (Laurie and Sara) will provide an overview of the “Gentle Persuasive Approach (GPA)” philosophy.

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 of the Family Council 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.

1. **Provincial Co-payment Rate Reduction for Basic (Shared) Rooms**



Those who are receiving the monthly co-payment rate reduction (i.e., those residents in a shared (“Basic”) room with a lower income as defined by the province) must apply for the rate reduction annually. Please send us a copy of your 2023 Notice of Assessment (NOA) from Canada Revenue Agency as soon as possible after income tax filing, in order to be re-assessed for continued rate reduction eligibility this year. To avoid being charged the full Basic rate, NOAs are required prior to July 1st.

Those currently paying the full cost of a basic room may wish to submit the NOA noted above, in order to see if a provincial subsidy is warranted for this year (e.g., this may be the case if a resident’s income dropped in 2023 versus 2022).

For clarification and/or additional information, please contact Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor (519-245-2520, ext. 6246, or via email at: acaines@middlesex.ca).

1. **Provincial Notice of Co-payment Rate Increase**

Related to the item above, please note that the province has announced an annual co-payment rate increase of 2.5% effective July 1, 2024. This increase pertains to both Basic and Private rooms.

The province typically increases the co-payment rate annually.

A copy of the province’s rate increase bulletin is enclosed/appended.

For clarification and/or additional information, please contact Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor (519-245-2520, ext. 6246, or via email at: acaines@middlesex.ca).

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 Brent Kerwin, Administrator, at (519) 245-2520, ext. 6222 (or, via email: bkerwin@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