

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Apr. ‘19**

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

1. **Ministry of Health Inspections**

The Province’s 630 long term care homes, including Strathmere Lodge, are subject to inspection visits conducted by Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Home “Compliance Inspectors”, the purpose of which is to enforce homes’ adherence to the provincial Long Term Care Homes Act and “Ontario Regulation 79/10”. These two pieces of provincial legislation amount to a 200-page document if printed from the Province’s “e-Laws” website. It is said that, apart from the Nuclear Power Generation sector, the Long Term Care Homes sector is the most highly government-regulated sector.

Ministry Compliance Inspector visits are unannounced (i.e., homes do not know when Inspectors will come). Compliance Inspectors will visit long term care homes in order to conduct:

1. Annual Inspections (“Resident Quality Inspections”), which involve:
	* interviews with 40 residents;
	* interviews with family members;
	* interviews with front line staff and managers;
	* multiple Inspectors on site; and
	* up to two weeks of inspection time for homes the size of Strathmere Lodge;

(b) Investigations of “Critical Incident Reports”

* + Submitted by homes to The Ministry as required by law, on matters such as:
* hospital visits leading to a significant health status change;
* allegations of abuse;
* any missing resident case;
* serious medication incident; and
* outbreak of a reportable disease (e,g., influenza);

(c) Investigations of complaints/concerns submitted via the provincial toll free “ACTION Line”; and

(d) Follow-up Inspection Visits (e.g., on previous inspection visits identifying resident risk issues).

Inspection reports on all long term care homes can be found on the Province’s “Public Reporting” website (publicreporting.ltchomes.net). Hardcopies of The Lodge’s prior inspection reports are posted across from our Reception Desk.

1. **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](https://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation) 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 April (in the Rose Room, unless otherwise indicated):

1. Tuesday, Apr. 2nd, 2:00pm – The Mocha Shrine Concert Band performs
2. Wednesday, Apr. 3rd, 2:00pm – Wayne & Rich entertain
3. Saturday, Apr. 6th, 10:00am to Noon – Ladies’ Auxiliary Indoor Yard Sale and Ollie Bolen sale
4. Monday, Apr. 8th, 2:00pm – Music with Franky Baby
5. Saturday, Apr. 13th, 2:00pm – Joel Horvath entertains
6. Wednesday, Apr. 17th, 2:00pm – Music with Walt Lonc
7. Tuesday, April 23rd, 2:00pm – Performance by Smile Theatre
8. Wednesday, Apr. 24th, 9:00am to 3:00pm – Geri Fashions clothing sale
9. Friday, April 26th, 2:00pm – Happy Hour with Jentleman Jim
10. **Telephone Calls During Resident Meal Times**



Meal time (breakfast, lunch and supper) is the “highlight of the day” for many residents. As such, our comprehensive provincial long term care homes legislation requires us to provide meal service in an efficient and effective manner.

In order for us to focus on residents’ needs during meal times, including administering medications ordered with meals, we are encouraging family and friends to place their non-urgent phone calls to the resident home areas outside of the following core meal times:

1. 8:15am to 9:00am;
2. Noon to 12:45pm; and
3. 5:00pm to 5:45pm.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns on this matter (Brent Kerwin, 519-245-2520, ext. 6222, or via email at: bkerwin@middlesex.ca).

1. **Residents Who Smoke**

The Lodge has a handful of residents who smoke, which we care plan for in accordance with our Long Term Care Homes legislation.

So as to adhere to smoking care plans arrived at with individual residents and their family members, we are asking that you do not provide residents with smoking materials (lighter, cigarettes), or facilitate additional cigarette access, where a resident that you are not affiliated with may approach you for such.

For the health and safety of all residents, we want to ensure that we are able to accurately monitor cigarette consumption, and that we know who is in possession of what quantity of smoking materials.

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 Monday, May 6, 2019, at 1:30pm, in the Conference Room (2nd floor).

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

For more information, please contact Marcy Welch (519-245-2520, ext. 6226, or mwelch@middlesex.ca).

Minutes of the most recent Family Council 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.

1. **Labelling of Residents’ Personal Items**



This is a reminder that new clothing needs to be labelled with the resident’s name before residents begin to wear it.

One of the ways clothing will go missing is if a resident wears new clothing before it gets labelled. In this case, if new clothing gets into our laundry system without a resident name on it, it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to trace it back to its rightful owner.

It is also a good idea to label other personal effects brought in to The Lodge (e.g., photographs, books/magazines, watering cans), as there are occasions where personal effects find their way outside of a resident’s room, whereupon it becomes difficult to trace such items back to their rightful owner without an associated name.

1. **In Conclusion ….**



Please let me know if you would like to see certain issues addressed in future newsletter editions (contact me at 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

Electronic back copies of our newsletter can be found on our web page. Hard copies are compiled in binders at both our Reception desk and the staff lounge, and are available for your review.

You can find additional copies of this newsletter edition on our Public Information Board in the main lobby (near the Chapel).

**Brent Kerwin,**

Administrator

Distribution: Responsible Parties, Auxiliary, Information Board, Resident Home Areas (5), Website, County Council, Staff, Other Stakeholderst