

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – June ‘16**

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

1. **Annual Ministry of Health Inspection**



Every year, the provincial Ministry of Health and Long Term Care does an annual inspection of each of the province’s 629 long term care homes, measuring adherence to the hundreds of legislative requirements contained in the provincial Long Term Care Homes Act and accompanying Regulation (Regulation 79/10).

Inspections are always unannounced (i.e., we do not know when we can expect a Ministry of Health visit). Our annual inspection commenced on Monday, May 16th, and was conducted over the course of 7.5 days. Four (4) Ministry of Health Compliance Inspectors were involved in our inspection.

I am very pleased to advise you that we had an excellent inspection outcome. Specifically, we received only two (2) findings of non-compliance. The average provincial long term care home encounters 12 findings of non-compliance and a further two (2) “Orders” (which represent matters that need tending to more urgently).

In providing her verbal report, the Lead Inspector commended the Home, noting that it is clean, organized and well-maintained, and that it has a friendly and “home-like” environment.

The results of the inspection have been discussed at recent meetings of the Residents’ Council, Family Council and Ladies’ Auxiliary, and have been shared with staff via monthly employee newsletter.

The Ministry of Health will provide a public version of the report, which will be reviewed by Middlesex County Council, and posted near our main entrance. The Ministry will also post the report on its provincial Long Term Care Home public reporting website at: <http://publicreporting.ltchomes.net/en-ca/homeprofile.aspx?Home=m627&tab=1>

1. **Dr. Paul Ferner, Medical Director**

Dr. Ferner has advised of us of his intention to advance his retirement plans, and has tendered his resignation as Medical Director and attending physician effective August 31, 2016.

Dr. Ferner has been with Strathmere Lodge since 1989, and has been Medical Director since 2000.

His caseload of residents will be picked up by two new physicians.

We wish to thank Dr. Ferner for his many years of dedicated care and service to the residents and families of Strathmere Lodge. We wish him well in his future endeavours. He will be greatly missed.

1. **Building Temperatures**



As individuals (i.e., residents, visitors and staff) each have a different tolerance level for heat and cold, it becomes very difficult, if not impossible, to satisfy everyone’s individual preference for building temperatures throughout the Home, despite Strathmere Lodge having a modern HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system. This is especially true as one moves from one internal building location to other internal building locations (e.g., from a resident room, to the dining room, to the Rose Room).

Comfort levels with building temperatures can also be impacted by one’s level of physical activity (e.g., walking versus sitting), or by how many people occupy an area/room.

Our air conditioning system works on a “negative air pressure” basis, meaning that resident rooms are cooled by the air conditioning in the corridors that is drawn into individual resident rooms. As such, individual resident room temperature during the summer cooling system can be moderated by opening/closing resident room doors.

It may be necessary to dress in layers (e.g., wear a sweater), and to add/remove layers as building temperature comfort levels change, especially when changing physical locations within the building.

For more information about our HVAC system, please contact John Fournier, Environmental Services Manager (519-245-2520, ext. 244, or via email at jfournier@middlesex.ca).

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**4. Recreation Calendar**

Please pick up and check out our monthly Recreation calendar (available in each Resident Home Area, and also posted on our website) for events that you may find of interest and would like to attend.

Our upcoming Special Events for July:

1. Saturday, July 2nd at 1:30pm – Ross Ward entertains
2. Monday, July 11th at 6:30pm – Music with John
3. Wednesday, July 13th at 2:00pm – Annual Ladies Auxiliary Garden Party - outdoors weather permitting (don’t forget your lawn chair). The Goldies entertain at 6:30pm.
4. Wednesday, July 20th at 2:00pm – Gary Boyle entertains
5. Friday, July 29th at 2:00pm – Happy Hour with Jentleman Jim
6. **Building Improvements**



Each year, monies are set aside to make improvements/upgrades to the Home. This year’s list of “capital projects” include:

1. Resident dining room floors replacement (the Ministry of Health has previously noted current damage);
2. Additional “hi-lo” beds (to minimize the potential for resident falls and any resulting injury); and
3. Replacement of servery doors in resident dining rooms (for resident safety).

**6. Annual Rate Reduction Process**

To those of you in a basic room accommodation who have received your annual rate reduction notice, this is a reminder to submit a copy of the required “Notice of Assessment” if you have not already done so.

**7. 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. 222, 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 website: <http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care>

Electronic back copies of our newsletter can be found on our website. 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