

RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK

Celebration Ideas

September 14th to 20th, 2020

The OARC team is excited to help you start preparations for Residents' Council Week. We understand that, in the current climate, activities and special events might need to look a bit different to minimize risk and ensure the safety of everyone in your home. This is a time to get creative. What makes your Residents' Council special and how can you share this with others to commemorate Ontario's very FIRST Residents' Council Week?

HOW IS YOUR RESIDENTS' COUNCIL MANAGING?

Every home is experiencing the pandemic differently. We encourage you to find ways to connect with your peers with the support of your Residents' Council Assistant or other team members.

- Are we able to meet in person (on a 1:1 or small group basis)?
- Can you arrange to meet virtually with other resident leaders using technology such as Facetime, Skype or Zoom?
- Can you connect by telephone?

Through these various formats, we urge you to start to have a discussion about program ideas your Council may wish to organize/execute during this celebratory week.

RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK PLANNING

Depending on your home's situation and available resources, you may decide to offer a Council-themed or sponsored activity every day during the week or devote efforts into planning one or two special events to celebrate and raise awareness about the Residents' Council at your home! Your home's Programs department can help.



WE WANT TO TELL THE WORLD! SHARE YOUR IDEAS

Have fun, and be sure to share your ideas and event pictures with the OARC team so we can start to inspire other homes at mmcvie@ontarc.com | 1-800-532-0201 x 260

Here are some suggestions that might support your Residents' Council Week ideas. This list is not prescriptive, so have fun and allow yourselves to be creative.

CREATE POSTERS TO CELEBRATE RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK: Download Residents' Council Week posters to post in your home or use the template to create your own.

- Residents' Council Week Poster – [Celebrate Teamwork](#)
- Residents' Council Week Poster – [Ask A Resident](#)
- Residents' Council Week Poster – [Customizable Templates](#)
- Residents' Council Week Table Tent Sign – [Customizable Template](#)

PROMOTE RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK: Promote Residents' Council Week in your home's newsletter; activity boards and calendars; social media and website. Consider adding pictures and short biographies about your Residents' Council leaders or create a list of accomplishments the Council has achieved in the past year.

CREATE A RESIDENTS' COUNCIL BROCHURE: Consider creating your own customized Residents' Council brochure using the OARC template.

<http://www.ontarc.com/education-support/tools.html#brochure>

DOWNLOAD RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK ACTIVITY SHEETS FROM OARC'S WEBSITE:

Check our OARC's Residents' Council Week webpage to print a Council-themed word search puzzle, trivia sheet and colouring sheet.

<http://www.ontarc.com/residents-council-week.html>

HOST A RED CARPET RESIDENT RECOGNITION EVENT: Consider hosting a "red carpet" resident recognition event or awards ceremony to recognize resident leaders and resident ambassadors in the home as well as your supportive partners (e.g. Residents' Council Assistant). If you can't gather as a group, you can adapt this activity to be a more intimate home area program and find ways to recognize your peers. Example: Make up fun awards with ribbons, plastic trophy's or certificates.

SPONSOR AN ENTERTAINER: With Council approval (virtual or in-person), consider sponsoring an entertainer. This can be adapted as needed – some musicians/performers are willing to travel and perform small, short concerts in different parts of your home OR even outside in a courtyard for residents to watch from windows or perform a virtual concert/show.

OARC TOOL AND FACT SHEETS: Consider printing and displaying OARC tools and Fact Sheets in your home. <http://www.ontarc.com/education-support/tools.html>

RESIDENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS: Consider integrating the Residents' Bill of Rights into your celebrations. Highlight a specific Residents' Right every day or Print and share Residents' Bill of Rights translated into the preferred languages of residents in your home. Check out OARC's Residents' Rights webpage for more information.

<http://www.ontarc.com/residents-bill-of-rights.html>

THROUGH OUR EYES: BRINGING THE RESIDENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS ALIVE: Has your home implemented OARC's Through Our Eyes Program yet? Working together, this unique program guides long-term care home teams of staff and residents to co-develop and co-facilitate education sessions about the Residents' Bill of Rights (LTCHA 2007). <http://www.ontarc.com/education-support/through-our-eyes.html>

SHARE OARC'S POPULAR MAGAZINE AND NEWSLETTERS: Download and print digital copies of Seasons magazine or newsletters. <http://www.ontarc.com/publications.html>

PARTICIPATE IN OARC'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK: Check our schedule of events. For more details check our [webpage](#).

1. Monday, September 14: Residents' Council Week Kick Off Bulletin - Video
2. Tuesday, September 15 | 10:30 am: Resident Forum
3. Wednesday, September 16 | 2 pm: Residents' Councils: Exploring a New Normal Webinar
4. Thursday, September 17 | 2 pm: Resident Forum
5. Vendredi, septembre 18 | 10:30 am: Forum des residents

PARTICIPATE IN RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK CONTESTS!

Contest 1: Share Your Residents' Council Week Activities on Social Media: How is your LTC home celebrating Ontario's FIRST Residents' Council Week? Share your pictures and stories and tag us Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) [LinkedIn](#) or [@OARCnews](#) Twitter between September 14-20 using hashtag #RCWeek for a chance to win a gift card for your Residents' Council.

Contest 2: Share Your Residents' Council Week Activities and Stories with the OARC Team by email or regular mail by September 30: We invite you to share some of your highlights from Residents' Council Week. All submissions received by email or regular mail by September 30 will be eligible to win 1 of 3 gift card prizes, and a small feature in OARC's fall/winter Seasons magazine. 250-300 words with picture.

For Residents, By Residents – Inspiring a Better Tomorrow

Ontario Association of Residents' Councils

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