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Hot Off the Presses: Seasons Magazine

We hope that Residents' Councils have been enjoying their complimentary copy of OARC's Seasons magazine!

Our Spring/Summer issue features inspiring stories submitted by long-term care home residents and teams across Ontario.

Please continue to share and enjoy!

Access our digital *Seasons* here: [English](#) | [French*](#)

***Note: We have a limited quantity of extra Saisons (French publication) available. Please email mmcvie@ontarc.com to request one.**



Upcoming OARC Webinars for May and June 2024

Please note that our webinar schedule has been adjusted to accommodate a special Spring Update webinar with guests from the Ministry of Long-Term Care. This session will include updates for residents about regulatory amendments, spring vaccinations, changes to respiratory guidance, and other Ministry updates.

Ministry of Long-Term Care: Spring Updates for Residents | May 8 at 2 pm EST | [Register Here](#)

Ministère des Soins de longue durée - Mise à jour du printemps à l'intention des résidents et des familles | 7 mai à 14h00 | [Inscrivez-vous ici](#)

OARC's May webinar, [Setting Your Council Up for Success Part 3: Understanding Our Law](#) will now be offered on a ***new date*** - June 12th at 2pm EST. [Register Here](#)

Note: If you were pre-registered for this session, we will transfer your registration to the new date. You will also receive a Zoom notification reflecting this change. Thank you for your understanding.

Spring Conference Engagement Highlights

Spring is often recognized as a time of growth and renewal – and this is precisely how the OARC team is feeling after attending two inspiring conferences hosted by our friends at the [Ontario Long-Term Care Association](#) (in collaboration with the [Ontario Retirement Communities Association](#)) in March and [AdvantAge Ontario](#) in April.

Both Associations are dedicated to providing education, advocacy and support to long-term care home operators across Ontario, and they are valued partners of OARC.



Pictured above, Resident Leader Dave Stanyon wore many hats while attending the AdvantAge Ontario Spring Convention. Dave spoke to delegates visiting the OARC booth, he helped to adjudicate a Poster Competition, and on opening night, he was a guest speaker on the main stage with OARC’s Executive Director, Dee Tripp.



This week, members of the OARC team are Ottawa-bound for the [Walk With Me](#) conference, hosted by the [Research Institute for Aging](#). We’ll be facilitating a 75-minute workshop about resident engagement alongside Resident Leaders, Devora Greenspon, Gale Ramsden and Leslie Froats. *We hope to see you there!*

Stay Connected with OARC and Your Peers... Join our Forums!

Looking for a way to connect and learn from other residents or team members that support Residents' Councils? Join us if your schedule permits!

RESIDENT FORUMS: Weekly, Thursday at 2 pm EST – Find more details [here](#).

Participation is limited to residents living in Ontario long-term care homes.

RESIDENTS' COUNCIL ASSISTANT FORUMS: Monthly, last Tuesday of the month at 1:30 pm EST – register [here](#). Participation is limited to team/staff members who assist long-term care home Residents' Councils.

Updates from Our Ministry of Long-Term Care (LTC)

OARC encourages LTC teams to share the following updates (and supporting documents) with Residents' Councils. To support resident understanding, the Ministry of Long-Term Care will be hosting webinars in English and French to discuss some of the updates mentioned below.

English Session | May 8 at 2pm EST | [Register Here](#)

French Session | May 7 at 2pm EST | [Inscrivez-vous ici](#)

April 26, 2024: [Changes to Ontario Regulation 246/22 coming into effect on May 1, 2024 and July 1, 2024](#)

Last Friday, Assistant Deputy Minister Sean Court from the Ministry's LTC Policy Division, released a memo to the sector outlining anticipated changes to the regulations under the [Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021](#) (the law that long-term care homes follow). The memo states: "the Ministry has refined the regulatory framework to address priorities in three key areas: staffing qualifications and flexibility, pandemic recovery and stabilization, and technical and clarifying amendments."

A summary of the proposed regulation changes are captured in a handout for residents, called [What Residents Can Expect](#). OARC was pleased to be amongst the many key partners that were proactively engaged to provide feedback when changes were being considered.

Access the full Memo – [English](#) | [French](#)

What Residents Can Expect – Regulation Changes – [English](#) | [French](#)

April 19, 2024: [Spring 2024 COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign and Respiratory Illness Guidance](#)

Earlier this month, Assistant Deputy Minister Kelly McAslan from the Ministry's LTC Operations Division, released a memo containing updates about the Spring 2024 vaccination campaign and respiratory illness guidance. A complimentary [Fact Sheet for Long-Term Care Residents](#) about vaccinations and therapeutics was also distributed with the memo.

Access the full ADM Memo – [English](#) | [French](#)

Fact Sheet for LTC Residents: Vaccinations and Therapeutics Spring 2024 – [English](#) | [French](#)

Engagement Opportunities for Long-Term Care Teams



Become an Innovator Home for Medication Safety (Registration Deadline: May 1, 2024)

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada is seeking homes for the next phase of the Strengthening Medication Safety in Long-Term Care initiative. ISMP is working in partnership with the Ministry to provide education and support regarding medication safety to staff and residents in long-term care homes across the province.

A provincial learning and sharing collaborative hosted by ISMP Canada will support homes through a 6-month program to improve med safety! Register to join with other homes to become Innovators. Champion and Trailblazer Homes are also invited to continue their improvement work and register as an Innovator Home.

Please visit [Innovator Homes Registration - ISMP Canada](#) for registration and more information! Contact LTC@ismpcanada.ca for questions or further support.

Call for Abstracts: Join the Conversation at OLTCA's 2024

This is Long Term Care Conference

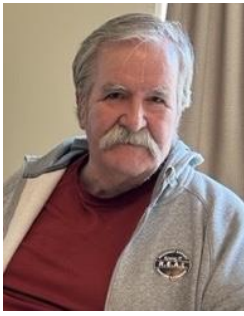
OLTCA's 2024 signature conference "This is Long Term Care" provides a platform to address current challenges in long-term care while laying the groundwork for the future. This year's theme, "Celebrating a Decade of Innovative Aging Transformation," pays tribute to the ten-year journey of the conference and acknowledges the substantial advancements made by long-term care homes and Business Partners.



We are seeking your emerging research, initiatives for enhancing quality, innovative solutions and expertise that will educate and inspire others in seniors' care. Our goal is to gather and share practical strategies that elevate both the quality of care and the quality of life for seniors. This is an opportunity to present about your innovative improvements to care and quality of life, and your partnerships in the health system and other sectors that are helping to address challenges in seniors' care.

The Call for Content deadline: Friday, May 3, 2024 @ 4:00pm ET
To learn more and apply, [click here](#).

About the conference: OLTCA's *This is Long Term Care* Conference is taking place October 20-22, 2024, at the Beanfield Centre and Hotel X in Toronto.



Dave's Monthly Musing: *Fasten Your Seatbelt!*

It's the law! And I confess, I once got a ticket for not wearing mine. But I had a good reason. I was coming home from the cottage and stopped the car to help a turtle cross the road as he (or she) was walking very slowly towards the local marsh for a bit of a swim. And amidst all of the excitement with three small kids in the car, I simply forgot to put it back on. The Police Officer didn't buy my story.

Back in the day, when they were first introduced, they were an 'option' you could have when buying a new car (like a cigarette lighter) and they were called 'safety belts'. They weren't a big seller, as the term 'safety' implied that you might have a serious car accident and lose your life (or worse). So, they changed the name and made them compulsory. (A good call by our government!)

You don't feel it, (thank goodness) but our little planet Earth is moving around the Sun at a tidy 67,000 miles per hour, all the while spinning on its axis at a 1,000 miles per hour. Are you dizzy yet? And if that weren't enough, our entire solar system is travelling around the Galactic Center at 514,000 miles per hour!

Everything is in motion! And we can thank the law of gravity for not flinging us all into space. And yet, every so often, everything lines up 'just so' and we get to experience a total solar eclipse. They actually happen every 18 months or so, but the Earth being as big as it is, any one point on the surface will experience a total eclipse only every 360 years!

And that is why this month's eclipse was so special! A truly once in a lifetime event! I hope you got to experience it in some way, if only by watching it on the news or marvelling at how it turned into nighttime at 3:00 in the afternoon!

Shared by: [David Stanyon](#), Resident Leader, Kensington Gardens & OARC REAL member.



Thank you to [Java Group Programs](#), [Extendicare](#), [Schlegel Villages Inc.](#) and [Sienna Senior Living](#) for supporting OARC's Culture Change products and education programs. To find out more about how you can support OARC, please contact Dee Tripp, Executive Director dtripp@ontarc.com 1-800-532-0201 x 240.

We encourage you to share this information with residents in your home. We love to hear from you - call, write or email us with your questions, suggestions and stories.



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