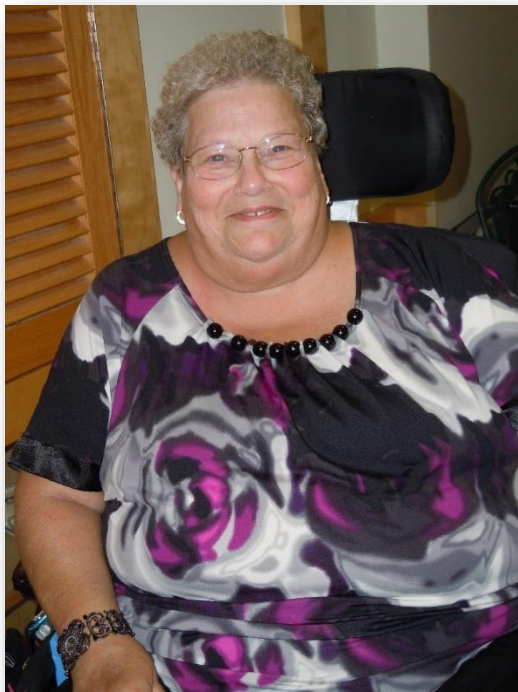


August 2022



Remembering Sharron Cooke Mentor, Advocate, Friend

OARC has lost a leader and a friend. It is with great sadness that we share the news that Resident Leader [Sharron Cooke](#) passed away early Sunday morning.

When most people think about OARC, they often think of an interaction they've had with Sharron—an inspiring presentation, a culture change idea expressed with conviction, an encouraging piece of advice, a patient, listening ear or a friendly smile.

For over thirteen years, Sharron has been thoroughly involved and committed to her work and advocacy through OARC and her Residents' Council at York Region Newmarket Health Centre.

Sharron blazed a trail with absolute and fierce determination to make a difference, to speak up unabashedly and boldly, to ensure that those in her presence knew what life was like, living in a LTC home. Over the years with OARC, Sharron has eloquently and effectively participated in countless government working groups and committees, has spoken with college and university students, has mentored fellow Resident Leaders, has embraced the tools, resources and programs developed through OARC, and has been a beacon of hope to residents across the province. She has forged relationships with people from every walk of life and has left OARC with a clear vision. As an OARC Board Director, Chair and Past Chair, Sharron led with style, thoroughness, understanding, compassion and focus. She understood that the 'system' was made up of individual people, and the decisions made at the systemic level affected her, her peers, and her friends personally. Sharron had OARC 'in her bones.'

The OARC team will continue to honour Sharron's memory in the coming weeks. We also look forward to sharing details about a special legacy project, about which Sharron was very excited and proud. Sharron never missed an opportunity to offer praise or to celebrate Residents' Councils and their ability to affect positive change.

A visitation and funeral service will be held for Sharron this Friday morning at Taylor Funeral Home in Newmarket. Sharron's obituary and service details can be found [here](#).

Residents' Council Week is a Few Short Weeks Away

September 12th to 18th, 2022

Promotional Boxes are here!

We hope that your Residents' Council has received their special edition Promotional Kit (pictured right), complete with themed placemats, "ASK a Resident" stickers, posters and activity ideas.



A limited amount of extra materials (available in both English and French) are available by request on a first come, first served basis. Please contact Jennifer Langston from our team at jangston@ontarc.com if your Residents' Council group has not received their box or require additional materials.

Events and Activity Ideas – [Click Here](#) for Details

- September 12 - **KICK-OFF MONDAY**: Official RC Week Kick-Off
- September 13 - **Tips Tuesday**: ***NEW*** OARC RC Foundations FAQ document released
- September 14 - **Webinar Wednesday**: ***NEW*** OARC RC Foundations pre-recorded webinar
- September 15 - **Thoughtful Thursday**: **CONNECT** with residents across Ontario - Join OARC's [Resident Forum](#)
- September 16 - **Festive Friday Feature**: **LIVE CONCERT** with performer Deidrey Francois. [Register Here](#)
- September 17/18 - **Weekend Fun**: **CELEBRATE** host social events during the weekend

2022 RC Week CONTEST: Show Us Your Boards

Our RC Week contest this year is themed, "Show Us Your Boards" – allowing you and your Council to showcase your current Residents' Council and/or Resident Information board for a chance to win 1 of 3 Gift Certificates to myactivityvboard.com (\$800 value includes custom board design and shipping) or 1 of 10 X \$50 Tim Horton's Gift Cards. See our website for CONTEST DETAILS HERE: <https://www.ontarc.com/residents-council-week/contest.html>

Deadline: Submit your entry to Melissa McVie at mmcvie@ontarc.com by Wednesday, September 14th, 2022. Winners will be selected by random draw and announced during a live concert performance hosted by OARC on Friday, September 16th at 2pm. Winning Councils will be contacted directly to coordinate prizes.

For more details about Residents' Council Week [visit our website](#) and [read our August 25th Bulletin](#).

Home Visit Travelogue: Discovering Ontario, One Home at a Time

OARC home support visits ramped up again after a 2 ½ year long hiatus. This summer Melissa (Mel) Matheson, Education and Home Support Facilitator travelled across Ontario, starting in Kingston, then travelling across to Southwest Ontario where she visited homes in Exeter, Zurich, Alisa Craig, Forest, and Petrolia. Continuing north she made her way to Manitoulin Island where she was able to visit the homes on the Island in Gore Bay, Little Current and Wikwemikong, the next stop was in Espanola, then onto visit four homes in Sudbury, Chelmsford, then ending the summer in London visiting 3 homes.

Across Ontario Mel met amazing Residents' Councils, Resident Leaders, Residents' Council Assistants and Management staff who opened their doors, welcoming Mel in with warmth, excitement, and gratitude. She was able to share some support and knowledge on the new changes in legislation and the powers that it has given the Residents' Councils, education sessions on the new Resident Bill of Rights, Residents' Council 101 to new members and have thoughtful discussions and idea sharing. It has been a tough few years at the homes but the resilience, tireless dedication and joy that each of these Resident Leaders and Residents' Council Assistants shared was inspiring.

Mel would like to express her sincere gratitude to the following homes for allowing her the opportunity to connect in person: Trillium Retirement and Care Community, Rideaucrest Home, Providence Manor, Craigwiel Gardens, Blue Water Rest Home, Exeter Villa Nursing Home, North Lambton Lodge, Lambton Meadowview Villa, Manitoulin Lodge, Manitoulin Centennial Manor, Wikwemikong Nursing Home, Espanola Nursing Home, Extencicare Falconbridge, Extencicare York, Pioneer Manor, Villa St. Gabriel Villa, Earl's Court, Chelsey Park and Kensington Village.

Here are some pictures from Mel's home visits...



Trillium Care Community Residents' Council



Rideaucrest Home with
Kathy and Patricia



Pioneer Manor with
Theresa and Stacey



Lambton Meadowville
Villa, Mel with Resident
Leaders, Gail & Helen



Manitoulin Centennial
Manor, Little Current



Manitoulin Lodge,
Gore Bay



Wikwemikong
Nursing Home,
Wikwemikong



Resident Leader, Frank Mason from
Espanola Nursing Home



Pierre Joly, from
Extendicare York



Mel with Resident Leaders at Pioneer Manor, Sudbury



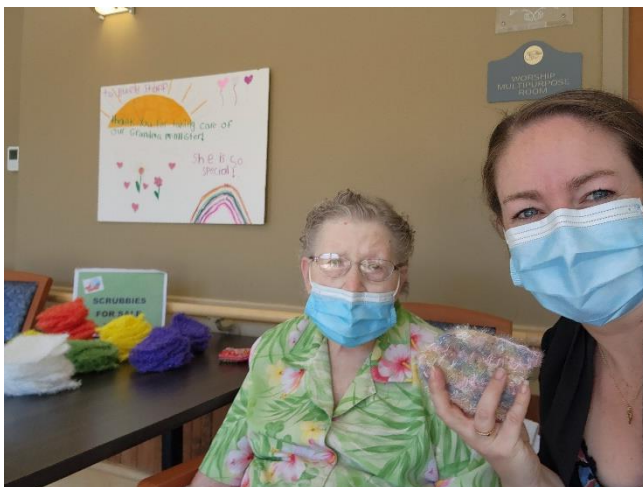
Mel with OARC REAL member, Bob Neveu at his home, Villa St. Gabriel in Chelmsford



Resident Leader, Brennan from Earl's Court



Chelsey Park Resident Leaders, Carolyn and Elizabeth with their RC Assistant, Brent



Mel holding a handmade "scrubby" from a resident leader at Blue Water Rest Home in Zurich, Ontario

Residents and Families Play an Important Role in Medication Safety



The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada has shared a recent newsletter showcasing how residents and families play an important role in medication safety in long-term care. Check out the [newsletter here](#).

World Patient Safety Day (September 17) falls during Residents' Council Week this year. Check out [this poster](#) to incorporate this into your resident engagement plans.

Project AMPLIFI Aims to Improve Transitions for Long-Term Care Residents



Pictured: Dr. Hugh Boyd, Medical Director at St. Joseph's Villa (Dundas). LTC partner in the St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton project.

Stronger collaboration and communication pathways are required among healthcare providers to improve transitions of care between Long-Term Care (LTC) and acute/tertiary care hospitals. Funded by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Long-Term Care, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, as the delivery partner, is leading Project AMPLIFI across the province. Project AMPLIFI aims to digitally link LTC homes to hospitals using a

PointClickCare software solution that will enable clinical information sharing when residents transfer between care institutions.

The goal of **Project AMPLIFI** is to enable real-time sharing of resident health information between LTC homes and hospitals in the same geographic region. The exchange of up-to-date and accurate health information will reduce the need for paper documentation, improve the resident journey, and enable better clinical decision making.

If you have any questions about how your LTCH is being engaged in **Project AMPLIFI** or any other general inquiries, please email projectamplifi@stjoes.ca.



Thank you to Java Group Programs and the Ontario Centres for Learning, Research and Innovation in Long-Term Care 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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