

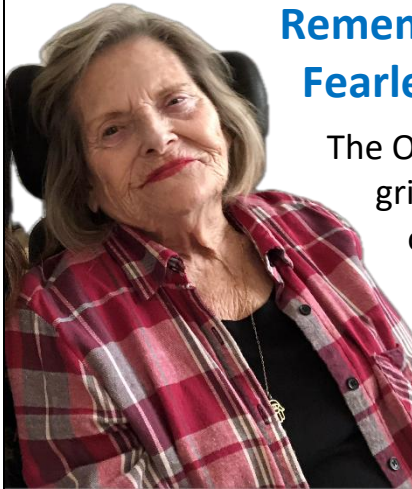
November 2025



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Remembering Our Special Friend and Fearless Advocate, Devora Greenspon



The Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) is grieving the loss of a very special member of our organization and our family, Devora Greenspon. Devora passed away on November 14th, 2025.

Devora's contributions to OARC have spanned more than a decade, shaping our work and inspiring countless individuals along the way. Her wisdom, passion, and unwavering advocacy for

residents living in long-term care homes have left an indelible mark on our organization and the sector. It will take time for OARC to fully honour and celebrate the profound impact Devora made and the legacy she leaves behind.

Devora spoke from the heart and from experience. Her words carried wisdom and weight, often quoted by her fellow OARC Resident Leaders and many others. One message that continues to resonate deeply is her urging reminder: **"Don't just listen to us [residents]... HEAR what we have to say."**

Today, more than ever, people are listening—and those voices are shaping change. Devora played a pivotal role in amplifying OARC's mission, ensuring that residents are not only heard but that their feedback is actively sought, respected, and valued.



We invite you to join us in remembering Devora and reflecting on her extraordinary contributions.

Her obituary can be found [here](#).

Devora's legacy will continue to guide and inspire us as we carry forward the work she cared so deeply about.

Thank you, Devora. Rest in peace.

New Residents' Bill of Rights Translations Available: Oji-Cree and Romanian

Did you know? OARC's website now offers translations of the Residents' Bill of Rights (Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021) in 30 different languages.

We are pleased to add two new languages this month:

- [Oji-Cree](#) (translation supported by [Nations Translation Group](#))
- [Romanian](#) (translation supported by [Get Blend](#))

Additional translations are available [here](#). Don't see the language you need? Please email Melissa McVie at mmcvie@ontarc.com and let us know.

Celebrating a Research Milestone: Publication in the Canadian Journal on Aging

OARC is proud to share an exciting milestone from our co-design research project, [Empowering Ontario Long-Term Care Residents to Shape the Places They Call Home](#). Our research team recently celebrated the publication of our scoping review in the Canadian Journal on Aging.

We acknowledge with gratitude Molly Hutchinson, who joined OARC as a practicum student and was instrumental in writing and submitting of this important review for publication.

The article, *"Listened to but Rarely Heard: A Scoping Review of Resident Engagement in the Organizational Design and Governance of their Long-Term Care Homes"* can be accessed [here](#).

Learn more about OARC's research project [here](#).

Thank You for Completing OARC's Resident Food Service Survey!

The Resident Food Service Survey is now closed, and we are thrilled to share that we received over **1,300** completed surveys from residents across Ontario long-term care homes.

Your voices matter! This incredible response will help us:

1. Identify opportunities to enhance the dining experience
2. Support advocacy efforts for increased resources
3. Inform future education, training, policy, and practice improvements

What's Next? Following the analysis of survey data, OARC and members of the Ontario Seniors Nutrition and Advocacy Committee (OSNAC) will be sharing highlights from our respective reports and partnering on a webinar to share key themes and next steps in March.

Thank you for taking the time to share your experiences to influence positive change.

Ontario Safe Medication Management in Long-Term Care Framework

The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada is pleased to share the newly released [Ontario Safe Medication Management in Long-Term Care Framework](#). This comprehensive framework was collaboratively developed with residents, families/care partners as well as representatives of Ontario LTC organizations, including pharmacy service providers.

The framework is organized according to three principles: Resident-Centred, Optimal Operational Practices & Procedures, and Sustainability & Resilience. Roles and responsibilities of residents, and their partners in care, are described based on each principle.

The framework is designed to be a practical tool that fosters a shared understanding of the critical responsibilities involved in medication safety within LTC home settings. It serves as a foundation to support residents and their care teams to strengthen medication practices, improve communication, and promote a culture of safety and resident-centred care.



OARC sincerely values the efforts of ISMP Canada and the Advisory Committee members for welcoming and thoughtfully incorporating resident feedback in the development of this framework. [Access the framework](#) and consider bringing it to your next Council meeting!

October Webinar Recording and Resources + Save the Date for January 2026

Last month, OARC welcomed guests from the Ministry of Long-Term Care and representatives from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health for a virtual fireside chat, discussing the topic of respiratory preparedness.

- Access the [webinar recording](#) and [presentation slides](#).
- [Respiratory Preparedness Fact Sheet for Long-Term Care Residents](#) (Ministry of LTC)

OARC is pausing webinars for December. Join us January 21st, 2026 at 2:00 PM ET for our first webinar of 2026 - **Welcome to Your OARC: Connecting, Growing, Empowering**

Kick off the new year with a spotlight on OARC's regional expansion. Discover what this means for your Residents' Council and find out more about your Education and Home Support Regional Coach. Mark your calendars and [pre-register here](#).

Workshop Invitation for Sector Partners: Help Shape OARC's New Website

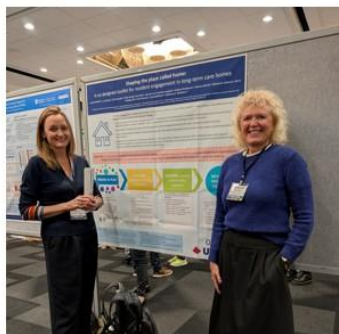
In January 2026, OARC will kick off an exciting project to create a new website!

To guide our planning and ensure the site is accessible, intuitive, and engaging, we're bringing together a small group of long-term care sector partners—including association representatives, team members, home leadership, and families/care partners—for a one-hour online workshop on **Thursday, January 15th at 1:00 PM ET**. OARC will also be having a dedicated session to hear directly from residents. Your input will help us design a website that people want to visit and that truly reflects OARC's mission.

Please express your interest by emailing Melissa at mmcvie@onarc.com by December 12th.

October Conference Highlights

For long-term care (LTC) home leadership, researchers and sector partners, October was a particularly busy and exciting month. OARC team members, Board Directors and Resident Leaders were actively engaged in three conferences, hosted by the **Ontario Long-Term Care Clinicians (OLTCC)**, the **Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA)** and **Canadian Association on Gerontology (CAG)**.



- The OLTCC Conference brings together physicians, Medical Directors, Nurse Practitioners, and other primary care providers for two days of learning and networking. This year in Toronto, OARC's Executive Director, Dee Tripp, co-presented with [Dr. Fred Mather](#), OARC's Vice Chair, on the topic "*Defender of Residents' Rights: The Clinician's Role.*" Their session focused on consent and capacity, highlighting how decisions are often made for residents rather than with them, and emphasizing that capacity is fluid and situational. Dee and Fred incorporated real experiences shared by

OARC's Resident Advisory Group to challenge clinicians to involve residents in care conferences and decision-making whenever possible. The one-hour session engaged about 50 medical professionals in ethically complex discussions through case studies.

- At OLTC's *This is Long Term Care* conference, OARC's Dee Tripp and Melissa McVie were joined by Resident Leader, Jennifer Brown for two days of inspired learning and connection. This annual event highlights innovations in LTC and we thank OLTC for generously providing a Community Connect tabletop that enabled meaningful engagement with sector leaders and partners.
- OARC would like to recognize Board Director, [Jennifer Bethell](#) for showcasing our [resident engagement research project](#) through a poster presentation at the CAG conference in Montreal. This national, multidisciplinary event brings together researchers, health professionals, and policy makers to advance innovation in aging, making it an ideal platform to raise awareness about empowering residents in LTC home operations and decision-making.

OARC REAL Members in Action

Last month, Resident Leaders Gale Ramsden and Steven Wenzowski joined OARC's Director of Education, Stephanie Ventura for two impactful teaching opportunities. At the Ministry of Long-Term Care Inspectors training, they met with new inspectors to share strategies for actively involving Residents' Councils during inspections. They also delivered a powerful presentation to approximately 42 participants in the Advantage Ontario's Administrator Leadership Program, using interactive case examples to highlight the resident perspective and what matters most to them.

In October, some OARC Resident Leaders took time out of their busy schedules to have some fun. Pictured below from left to right: La Vern Simkins models his homemade Halloween costume, Wally Loritz joins team members for an Oktoberfest social, and Ann Donaldson meets a friendly Minion!



Conference and Events Corner

Call for Content: *Together We Care 2026*

Have any ideas that could improve care for older adults in Ontario? Share it at #TWC2026!

Together We Care 2026 is accepting proposals for sessions that highlight practical solutions, new research, and workable approaches that support quality of life, workforce development and strong operations across long-term care and retirement communities.

Submit your abstract by 4:00 PM ET, Monday, December 1, 2025. Successful applicants will be invited to take part in Canada's largest long-term care and retirement living gathering, hosted by the Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA) and the Ontario Retirement Communities Association (ORCA). Help shape the future. Submit your proposal today!

Save the Date: March 23-25, 2026, Toronto Congress Centre

To learn more, visit: <https://www.together-we-care.com/2026>



Thank you to [AdvantAge Ontario](#), [Extendicare](#), [Java Group Programs](#), [Schlegel Villages Inc.](#), [Sienna Senior Living](#) and [S&R Group](#) for supporting OARC's Confidence in Culture Change Program. 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.

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