

November 3, 2022

The Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) Resident Advisory (REAL) Group is Expanding!

Formed in the summer of 2021, the [Resident Expert Advisors and Leaders](#) (REAL) group is OARC's provincial advisory group, comprised of residents living in long-term care (LTC) homes across Ontario. Members of the REAL group bring individual strengths and experience to inform the work of OARC and help raise awareness about issues of importance to residents.

REAL members come together once a month for meetings. Some help to facilitate OARC's weekly [Resident Forums](#), and are involved on OARC's internal Board Committees. Based on their self-identified interests, REAL members are involved in consultations, presentations, research, as well as curriculum and resource development –bringing their invaluable perspectives and expertise as residents to inspire LTC culture change, improve resident quality of life and educate sector partners and broader public.



Through this recruitment effort, **we are looking to expand our current group to broaden our perspective and to reflect more diverse lived experiences of people living in LTC.**

- Are you an engaged resident living in an Ontario long-term care home?
- Are you interested in lending your voice and experience to discussions at the community and provincial levels to educate others and inspire change?
- Would you welcome opportunities to provide advice and consultation to government, media, students or other stakeholder advisory groups?
- Do you bring a regional, cultural, lifestyle or health-informed perspective that you'd like to see reflected on our REAL group?

Everyone has a unique story to share and OARC celebrates and honours this through a person-centred approach. If you answered YES to any questions above, we want to hear from YOU! You don't need to be a Residents' Council expert or have any specific training to apply.

Please express your interest by completing a [Getting to Know You form](#) and forward to Melissa McVie at mmcvie@ontarc.com.

If you have specific questions about the REAL experience, we would be happy to connect you with a current REAL member to learn more. Another way to meet the REALs is to join an OARC Resident Forum to meet some of our current members!

We hope to hear from you soon.

Positions open until filled.