

August 18, 2025

Let's Celebrate Residents' Council Week September 15th-21st, 2025

Next month, long-term care homes across Ontario are invited to participate in the sixth annual **Residents' Council Week**. This province-wide initiative helps to raise awareness and celebrates the contributions of residents through their Residents' Councils.

To support homes in their planning, the Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) is providing a range of resources to help make this week impactful and accessible, including:

- A **Celebration Package** mailed to each Residents' Council, featuring posters, stickers, balloons, and [schedule of events](#) (shipping this week)
- A [live concert and educational webinar](#) to engage and inspire residents and teams
- Customizable and downloadable [templates and activity ideas](#)
- The launch of a [*New* Residents' Bill of Rights contest](#) and the return of the [Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award](#) recognizing collaborative projects and culture change initiatives in long-term care homes (accepting applications until August 22)



Learn more here: www.ontarc.com/residents-council-week.html

Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award – Apply by August 22!

Has your long-term care (LTC) home been involved in a collaborative project or initiative (with residents!) that has had a positive impact on the resident experience and overall culture of your home? Consider applying for OARC's [Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award](#). Deadline this Friday, August 22.

Each award submission is thoughtfully reviewed by OARC Resident Leaders, who will select one lucky recipient to receive a prize item of their choosing, valued up to \$500. Read about our inspiring award recipients: [Kensington Village](#) (2024) and [Glen Rouge Community](#) (2023).

Learn more and apply today!

<https://www.ontarc.com/residents-council-week/sharron-cooke-legacy-award.html>





Residents' Council Week Contest: Express Your Residents' Bill of Rights

This year, OARC's Residents' Council Week Contest encourages residents to use their creativity to express their residents' rights through art!

Contest Overview:

Choose one residents' right from the Residents' Bill of Rights (FLTCA, 2021) and express it through art. Be creative...

Suggested Mediums:

- Drawing or painting
- Photography
- Poetry or short writing
- Video (max 2 minutes)
- Collage or mixed media
- Audio recording (e.g., spoken word or music)

Submission Deadline: Friday, September 12th by 5pm.

How to Submit:

Email a photo or file to Jennifer Langston jangston@ontarc.com

Or mail your contribution to:

Ontario Association of Residents' Councils

4261 Highway 7 East, Suite # A14-360

Markham, ON L3R 9W6

Important Note: Large items are not accepted at our mailing address and mailed items will not be returned.

Prizes:

- All submissions will be featured in OARC Communications
- Enter the draw for a chance to receive one of three \$50 gift cards
- Prize recipients will be contacted directly, and recognized live during RC Week

Full contest details available here: [English Poster](#) | [French Poster](#)

RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK

September 15th – 21st, 2025

Week at a Glance



15th

Membership Monday

Every resident is a member of Residents' Council (regardless of meeting participation). Consider creating a mobile cart or visual display to spread the word about Council, involving Residents' Council leaders.

16th

Togetherness Tuesday

Host a social event bringing together the '3 pillars' of Residents' Council on each floor or in a larger activity space. Pillars include residents, your Council Assistant and Administrator. Celebrate how you work together!

17th

Webinar Wednesday- Residents' Council Success Panel

Pre-register for OARC's Residents' Council-themed webinar featuring Resident Leaders as they discuss their Council successes and answer your questions. Details at ontarc.com/education-support/webinars.html

18th

Thoughtful Thursday – English and French Forums

Connect with other residents at one of OARC's peer-led Resident Forums. No registration required: French language Forum at 10:30 AM and English at 2:00 PM EST. Details at ontarc.com/resident-forums.html

19th

Festive Friday- OARC Live Concert

Join us for a joyful live online concert with award announcements created especially for residents in long-term care—let's celebrate with music, connection, and community!
Details at ontarc.com/residents-council-week.html

[Click here to download our 2025 Schedule of Events.](#)

Access more activity ideas [here](#).