

RESIDENTS' COUNCIL WEEK

Celebration Ideas

September 16th – 22nd, 2024



Residents' Council Week is celebrated in the third week of September, and it presents a special opportunity to get your whole home excited about the importance and contributions of your Residents' Council, to have some fun learning about Residents' Rights, and to highlight resident engagement in all areas of your home's operations. In this document, we've pulled together some popular activity ideas to support you in planning for a memorable week!

For more inspiration, tools and templates, visit: www.ontarc.com/residents-council-week.html

Promote RC Week in your home's newsletter and on your activity calendars. Consider including pictures and short biographies about your Residents' Council leaders or highlight a list of Council accomplishments to highlight in your article.

Consider creating your own customized Residents' Council brochure using the OARC template <http://www.ontarc.com/education-support/tools.html#brochure>

Plan a Residents' Council social event or "meet and greet" where residents, team members, family and friends can interact and get to know the Resident Leaders in your home. A social event is also a great time for residents to get to know their home Administrator and team. If you live in a bigger home, consider having the Resident Leaders visit each floor/home area and have more intimate social events.

Create a Poster/Display Board in the front lobby (or one on each floor) promoting Residents' Council. Make your display interactive by incorporating trivia or handouts.

Consider hosting a "Red Carpet" Residents' Council Recognition event or awards ceremony to recognize the contributions of Resident Leaders and supportive partners (e.g., Residents' Council Assistant). Make up fun awards with ribbons, plastic trophies or certificates. OARC has created a **Certificate of Appreciation** template <https://www.ontarc.com/rcweek/2022RCweekCertificate.pdf>

Use RC Week as an opportunity to update or give your Residents' Council Board or Resident Information Board a makeover, incorporating resident input.

Consider repurposing a utility or activity cart as a mobile Residents' Council information cart. This can be a great way to raise awareness about your Council among residents who might not attend meetings regularly, and even team members who are unfamiliar with the Council's purpose and accomplishments.

Host a home-wide Education Event, showcasing how residents are engaged in all departments/ areas of home operations. Working with your LTC home team, you can transform an activity space and have display boards illustrating how residents are involved in quality improvement, emergency preparedness, menu-planning etc.

Participate in an [OARC Resident Forum](#), register for an OARC Educational Webinar, or view a previously recorded OARC webinar from our [website here](#).

With Council approval, consider sponsoring an entertainer (in-person, outdoor or virtual). You may also host an education session on a topic of interest to residents.

Launch a Residents' Council fundraiser in support of a specific goal/quality project.

Print and display your favourite [OARC tools and Fact sheets](#) and [publications](#). Showcase and celebrate the roles and contributions of your Residents' Council 'Pillars' by using these handouts: [Administrators](#) | [Council Assistant](#) | [Residents](#).

Integrate Residents' Bill of Rights education into RC Week:

- Create your own educational video to promote the new expanded Residents' Bill of Rights (Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021) featuring residents from your home.
- Host a Residents' Rights discussion group or make posters to display the rights around your home.
- Pre-order copies of the CLEO resource, Residents' Bill of Rights: Your rights if you live in a long-term care home: <https://www.cleo.on.ca/en/publications/everyres>
- If your home has implemented OARC's [Through Our Eyes](#) program, invite your facilitator team to schedule an education session or series of presentations to promote awareness of Residents' Rights throughout your home.
- Print and share Residents' Bill of Rights translated into the preferred languages of residents in your home <http://www.ontarc.com/residents-bill-of-rights.html>
- Coordinate a Residents' Rights Scavenger Hunt activity for everyone to enjoy: https://www.ontarc.com/rcweek/2022RCW_ScavengerHuntActivity.pdf

For Residents, By Residents – Inspiring a Better Tomorrow

Ontario Association of Residents' Councils

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