

OARC In Action

For Residents By Residents

September 2026



IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ Residents' Council Week 2026 Recap
- ▶ Brag Board Contest Winners
- ▶ LTC Community Engagement Day Recap
- ▶ Ministry Updates
- ▶ Recognizing September 30th - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- ▶ New Residents' Bill of Rights Translation
- ▶ October Webinar: Respiratory Preparedness
- ▶ Sharron Cooke Annual Award Recipient
- ▶ Blue Ticket Winners!
- ▶ REAL Member Gale Engaging Community
- ▶ Coaches Corner - Redevelopment
- ▶ LTC Home Spotlight Stories - Gratitude Tree
- ▶ Dementia Resources

Thank you for Celebrating Residents' Council Week With Us!

September 14th – 20th marked the seventh annual Residents' Council Week, recognizing the important contributions Residents' Councils make within their homes and communities. OARC continues to be inspired by the dedication and creativity demonstrated by long-term care homes across the province. Over the years, we have witnessed a growing movement to elevate resident voices, experiences, and perspectives, reflected in the many meaningful ways Residents' Councils are recognized and celebrated throughout the week.



This year's celebrations were especially memorable. OARC's expanded team increased our capacity to share in the excitement, with team members attending events and celebrations in homes across the province and connecting directly with residents, families, and LTC partners. Regional Coaches delivered educational sessions as part of Residents' Council Week programming, helping to bring learning and engagement

opportunities directly to residents.

OARC also hosted an exciting Webinar Wednesday featuring inspiring remarks from the Honourable Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Long-Term Care and Francophone Affairs, unveiled our new website and promotional video, and celebrated the recipient of the 2026 Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award. Watch the video here: <https://shorturl.at/9geYX>

Members of OARC's provincial advisory group, the REALs, helped facilitate two Residents' Forums, in French and English, while keeping the celebrations going online through sing-alongs, storytelling, and opportunities for new attendees and resident regulars to connect and share their experiences.

Stephanie Ventura, OARC's Director of Education, summed up the team's collective excitement perfectly: ***"This is by far the best Residents' Council Week I've ever experienced! So much engagement... I'm blown away!"***

This year's Residents' Council Week was a powerful reminder of the impact of resident leadership and the vibrant communities that Residents' Councils help create across Ontario. As the celebrations continue to grow each year, so too does the recognition of the important role residents play in shaping life within their homes and communities.



Help Shape Residents' Council Week 2027!

What was your favourite part of Residents' Council Week 2026? Whether it was the **Ready, Set, Engage!** theme, the **Celebration Box contents**, or something else entirely, we'd love to hear from you. Tell us what worked well, what you'd like to see again, and what new ideas you have for next year. Your feedback helps us continue to improve Residents' Council Week. Share your thoughts with us at info@ontarc.com.

Brag Board Contest Winners

Ahead of Residents' Council Week, Councils were invited to showcase what they're most proud of through a Brag Board as part of our "Show Us Your Brag Board" Contest. We were excited to announce the winners on our social media platforms during Festive Friday, ending the week-long celebrations by recognizing the incredible accomplishments of Residents' Councils across Ontario.

Congratulations again to our three winning Residents' Councils:



Lakeridge Gardens



Royal Ottawa Place



Garry J. Armstrong Home

Each Brag Board was as unique as the Residents' Council that created it. Yet, across all three, common themes emerged: volunteerism, creating moments of celebration and fun, and giving back to fellow residents and the broader community. These initiatives were clear sources of pride and highlighted the many ways Residents' Councils contribute to life in their homes.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our contest this year! We look forward to showcasing more Brag Boards in the weeks to come!

➡ LTC Community Engagement Day

On September 18, long-term care homes across Ontario opened their doors to welcome community members, local leaders, elected officials, families, and neighbours as part of LTC Community Engagement Day. Originally launched by the Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA) in 2024, the initiative provides an opportunity for homes to showcase the people, programs, and relationships that make long-term care communities vibrant places to live, work, visit, and volunteer.

This year, OARC was thrilled to see LTC Community Engagement Day expand across the province and be embraced by members of both of Ontario's long-term care associations, OLTCA and AdvantAge Ontario. Coinciding with Residents' Council Week, the day provided an additional opportunity to highlight resident leadership and showcase the important role Residents' Councils play in fostering engagement, belonging, and quality of life within long-term care homes.

OARC and Family Councils Ontario (FCO) team members joined celebrations across Ontario, connecting with residents, families, team members, community partners, and municipal representatives and elected officials.

These events created meaningful opportunities to strengthen public awareness of long-term care, challenge outdated perceptions, and demonstrate the many ways

homes contribute to the communities they serve.

Culture change in long-term care requires a collective commitment across the sector. OARC extends its sincere thanks to OLTCOA for creating and championing this important initiative, and to AdvantAge Ontario, Family Councils Ontario, and the many participating homes that helped make this year's LTC Community Engagement Day a success. Together, these efforts continue to build awareness, strengthen relationships, and showcase the vibrant communities that exist within long-term care homes across Ontario.



➡ Ministry Updates

Share Your Feedback and Help Improve Ontario's Benefits Finder

Have you ever searched for government benefits or supports for yourself, a family member, or a friend? The Ontario government is looking for feedback from Ontarians to help improve its [Benefits Finder](#) tool and make it easier to connect people with programs and services they may be eligible for. The Benefits Finder helps users identify government benefits, tax credits, and support programs based on their individual circumstances.

Selected participants will be invited to take part in a 60-minute feedback session, either virtually or in person, where they will have the opportunity to explore the Benefits Finder, share their experiences, and help shape future improvements to the tool. Residents, family members, and those who support others in accessing benefits are encouraged to participate. A variety of perspectives are being sought, including those from urban, rural, northern, and diverse communities across the province.

Interested?

- ▶ Complete the short survey below to be considered: <https://shorturl.at/Dt2fM>
- ▶ Access the Benefits Finder Tool: <https://shorturl.at/0FBwv>

Participants selected for a feedback session will be contacted directly by the ServiceOntario Experience Design Lab. Your insights could help make it easier for Ontarians to find and access the supports they need.

Ontario Guidelines Protecting Communities from Respiratory Illnesses

The Ontario government has launched its fall immunization program to help prevent serious illness and keep communities healthy. Everyone is encouraged to review materials to make an informed decision, and get their flu and COVID-19 vaccines as they become available.

▶ **High-Risk Groups:** Available week of September 28

▶ **General Public:** Starting October 26

For more information, please read the full news release here: <https://shorturl.at/MYfcG>

October OARC Webinar - Respiratory Season Preparedness with Ministry Guests

As we enter the 2026-27 respiratory illness season, staying informed is an important part of helping residents remain healthy and well supported. Join the Ontario Association of Residents' Councils (OARC) for an informative webinar featuring representatives from Ontario's Ministry of Long-Term Care and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. In this webinar, you will learn an overview of respiratory season preparedness in Ontario long-term care homes, including:



- ▶ Seasonal immunization
- ▶ Infection prevention and control measures
- ▶ Outbreak management
- ▶ Current guidance to help reduce the impact of respiratory illnesses.

Date: October 7, 2026 | **Time:** 2:00pm ET | **Register here:** <https://shorturl.at/4Ytuk>

➡ Remembering Ron Schlegel

OARC was saddened to learn of the passing of Ron Schlegel. Through Schlegel Villages and the creation of the Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging, Ron championed research, innovation, and a deeper understanding of what it means to

age well. Throughout his life, he remained a passionate advocate for recognizing the contributions, experiences, and potential of older adults.

His message of Elder Wisdom continues to resonate deeply with OARC. At the heart of Ron's work was a simple but powerful belief: older adults have much to teach us when we take the time to listen. That belief remains closely aligned with OARC's commitment to elevating resident voices and recognizing residents as leaders, contributors, and experts in their own lived experience. We extend our sincere condolences to Ron's family, friends, and the entire Schlegel community. His legacy lives on in the ongoing work to ensure resident voices, experiences, and wisdom remain at the heart of seniors care.

Learn more: <https://shorturl.at/YEXRa>

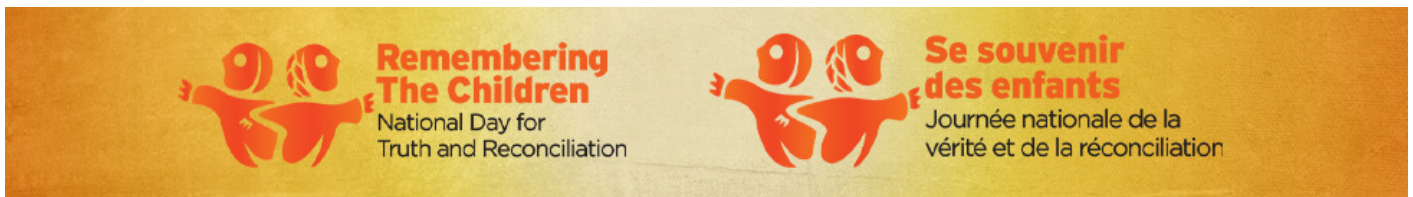


In the Know at OARC

Recognizing September 30th - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30th is a day for Canadians across the country to reflect, learn and take meaningful action to deepen their understanding of the history and ongoing impacts of residential schools on Indigenous Peoples, families and communities.

Many residents have asked OARC how they can engage meaningfully on this day—and how they can continue to support the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action. What matters most is that each person takes the first step—and continues to take steps—on their journey of learning and understanding, while honouring and supporting others wherever they are along the way.



Remembering The Children: Live Broadcast From Parliament Hill

On September 30th, APTN and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation will host Remembering the Children, a multilingual commemorative gathering on Parliament Hill, located on the unceded territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin Nation. The gathering will feature personal reflections from residential school Survivors, and musical

performances by distinguished First Nations, Inuit and Metis artists. All are invited to join. The live broadcast is free to stream on APTN.

- ▶ **Time:** 12:00 pm ET / 9:00 am PT
- ▶ **Repeats:** 7:00pm ET | 4:00 pm PT
- ▶ **Where:** <https://www.apntv.ca/ndtr/>

Learning Opportunity for LTC homes: Blanket Exercise Workshop

Created in 1996 by the Aboriginal Rights Coalition, in partnership with Indigenous elders and teachers, The Blanket Exercise is an interactive learning workshop that uses Indigenous methodologies to build understanding about the shared history between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada.

KAIROS' Indigenous Partners deliver blanket exercises for groups, including Long-term care homes. All KAIROS Blanket Exercises are Indigenous-led, with partners certified through Indigenous-led Facilitator Training.



- ▶ **Learn more here:** <https://shorturl.at/gQcFM>
- ▶ **To arrange a workshop, email** KBE@kairoscanada.or
- ▶ There is also a virtual exercise that can be explored as well. See here for more information: <https://shorturl.at/7Nb8Q>

OARC Joins Advancing Cultural Safety Together

As OARC's expanded Home Support Team continues to reach more homes and residents than ever before, we recognize the importance of strengthening our understanding of the diverse communities we serve. We are proud to be participating in Advancing Cultural Safety Together (ACST), a national program led by Healthcare Excellence Canada that supports organizations in implementing the Cultural Safety Pathway. Through coaching, shared learning opportunities, practical tools, and collaboration with other organizations, ACST helps address systemic racism and advance culturally safe care and practices for working with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. By taking part in this initiative, OARC hopes to strengthen our commitment to equity, inclusion, and cultural humility, and to building meaningful relationships that contribute to safer experiences and greater trust with Indigenous residents and communities.

To learn more about this program, visit: <https://shorturl.at/jp3Ne>

Catch OARC at TiLTC!

Planning to attend the *This is Long Term Care* conference this October? Stop by tabletop 110 in the Partner Piazza October 27 & 28 and come say hi! Learn more about our organization, grab a copy of our bi-annual Seasons Magazine, explore our new Resident Engagement Toolkit and more!

Conference: This is Long Term Care (TiLTC)

What happens when ideas and perspectives from across long-term care come together?

Occurring October 26-28, This Is Long Term Care (TiLTC), hosted by the Ontario Long Term Care Association, brings together long-term care homes, sector partners, innovators, and thought leaders to share insights, explore emerging approaches, and discuss opportunities for the sector.

With 22+ sessions, a full exhibit hall, and opportunities to connect with colleagues from across the sector, TiLTC offers a chance to learn, exchange perspectives, and explore what's ahead.

Check out the program and register at thisisltc.com.



New Residents' Rights Translation

As part of OARC's mission to empower residents to understand their rights, we are dedicated to continually expanding our language bank of Residents' Bill of Rights translation resources. This month, we are excited to add Malayalam to our growing list. Special thanks Temiskaming Lodge for identifying this need and recommending this language.

- ▷ Access the Residents' Bill of Rights in Malayalam: <https://shorturl.at/ycNBp>
- ▷ See the full list of translations here: <https://shorturl.at/upEnJ>



Sharron Cooke Annual Award Recipient!

We were so excited to announce the recipient of the 2026 Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award during our September 16th Residents' Council Week webinar. Special thanks to everyone who helped us celebrate Humber Meadows Long-Term Care Home and their winning initiative, "Code Butterfly." This year the selection process was especially challenging, with over 20 submissions showcasing wonderful examples of resident-led initiatives that positively impacted their home communities. However, our panel of resident adjudicators felt "Code Butterfly" truly exemplified long-term care culture change in action, and best reflected the spirit of the award.

To learn more about the winning initiative, visit: <https://shorturl.at/fylwS>

Missed Our Residents' Council Week Webinar?

Thank you to everyone who joined OARC's Residents' Council Week Webinar on September 16th! Special thanks to the Honourable Natalia Kusendova-Bashta, Minister of Francophone Affairs and Minister of Long-Term Care, for her inspiring opening remarks about the importance of this week, and for recognizing the valuable role of Residents' Councils in acting as the collective voice of residents. You can watch the Minister's greeting, the unveiling of our new website, and the announcement of the 2026 Sharron Cooke Annual Legacy Award recipient, in the webinar recording.

Watch the recording here: <https://shorturl.at/Xjtjo>

 *Thank you for existing and inspiring other provinces to 'get with the program' to help improve long-term care for our residents.*

Session Participant Feedback

Celebrating our Blue Ticket Winners

To support the implementation of Residents' Council Week 2026, OARC distributed a special **Ready, Set, Engage! Celebration Box** to long-term care homes across Ontario, filled with planning tips, resources, and themed items to help make the week memorable. To add an extra element of surprise, six boxes included a special Blue Ticket hidden by our publishing partner.

Congratulations to [Espanola Nursing Home](#), [Tsiionkwanonhso:te Long-Term Care](#)

Home, Foyer Richelieu Welland, and Hogarth Riverview Manor for claiming their Blue Ticket prize packs! With winning tickets randomly distributed among Celebration Box shipments across Ontario Health regions, the Blue Ticket draw added an extra dose of excitement to this year's Residents' Council Week.

We hope the prize packs brought some extra joy to your celebrations!



OARC Impact Stories

OARC Resident Leaders Lead the Way

Residents' Council Week wouldn't be the same without the enthusiasm and leadership of OARC's REAL members. Across the province, Resident Leaders helped raise awareness about Residents' Council Week and OARC within their homes through creative displays, residents' rights-themed activities, presentations, and conversations with fellow residents and community members. Many also served as resident ambassadors during LTC Community Engagement Day, welcoming visitors and sharing firsthand insights about life in long-term care and the value of resident leadership. Thank you to our REAL members for helping champion resident voice and making this year's celebrations such a success.



La Vern championing and promoting OARC



Ann enjoying Residents' Council Week Carnival Day



Wanda meeting with Mayor and Councillors of Minto

REAL Member Gale Engaging Community About the Resident Experience

On September 18th, Perley Health celebrated LTC Community Engagement Day with an open House, welcoming residents, families, staff, volunteers, partners and local

leaders for a special celebration. As part of the day's event, Gale Ramsden, OARC Board member and Resident Expert Advisor and Leader (REAL), was invited to deliver a fireside chat about her experiences as a resident living at Perley Health. Gale shares her thoughts about the experience below:

“

At my home, we enjoyed a great turnout at our LTC Community Engagement event marking the end of Resident Council week. I was honoured to be asked to speak about living as a resident in LTC. I chose an informal “fireside chat” format. The audience appeared to enjoy the talk, asked some thoughtful questions with a few positive improvement suggestions sprinkled in.

I was very pleased the audience was so engaged and interested in hearing some of what is great about Perley Health and living in a LTC environment. ***We also discussed some of the challenges caused by Ministry restrictions, Home policies, and problems faced by residents with more advanced capabilities in finding their place in an institution (I dislike that word) which is home to a majority of residents with dementia and complex physical problems.***

Food, of course was discussed with the entire audience wondering how Homes can provide three meals and three snack on \$13.71 per resident per day (lobby your MP!) when they had just spent almost that amount on a coffee and danish. We ended with the Residents' Bill of Rights. I recognized all 29 to be important, but asked they to pay particular attention to number 19, which deals with residents' right to understand and be involved in their care plan, be involved in care decisions and are able to agree to or refuse treatment.

* Thank you to Perley Health for inviting the Resident voice to be heard.



Coaches Corner

Coaches Corner brings you helpful tips, insights, and resources directly from our four Education and Home Support Regional Coaches. This month, Sierra Roberti offers guidance on how homes can work with Residents' Councils to prepare for home relocation, and steps staff, residents and home leadership can take together to help with the transition.

Bringing Our Home With Us

Moving into a new long-term care home does not mean leaving everything behind. Redevelopment and relocation are significant moments for residents, and Residents' Councils are an excellent place to help residents share their experiences, ask questions and shape what comes next. Use this small resource before, during, and after the move to guide conversations, record what matters to residents, and identify opportunities for follow-up.

What Makes Our Home Feel Like Home?

Before the move, invite residents to reflect on what makes their current home special.

Ask residents:

- ▷ What do you enjoy most about living here?
- ▷ What places do you enjoy spending time in?
- ▷ What traditions or activities are important to you?
- ▷ What makes our resident home area (RHA) or community feel welcoming?
- ▷ What would you miss if it didn't come with us?

Your Ideas: Record anything else that comes to mind or stands out during the conversation.

What Do We Want to Bring With Us?

Think beyond physical belongings. What should continue in our new home? Here are some examples:

- ▷ Favourite activities
- ▷ Social gatherings
- ▷ Resident traditions
- ▷ Residents' Council traditions
- ▷ Artwork and décor
- ▷ Favourite foods or meals
- ▷ Outdoor activities



- ▷ Community connections
- ▷ Familiar routines
- ▷ Other: _____

What Are We Excited to Create?

A new home also provides opportunities to create something new. What would you like to see, do or create in our new home?

Your Ideas: Record the features, activities, or experiences residents would like to create in the new home.

After the Move: Let's Talk About It

Residents' Council offers a structured way for long-term care leaders to support meaningful participation by making time for honest discussion, listening openly, recording key themes and following up on the feedback received.

Not every concern will have an immediate solution, and not every suggestion will be possible. What matters is that residents have an opportunity to be heard. Acknowledge each item, explain what can or cannot be done, identify any next steps and provide an appropriate follow-up.

Residents may want to discuss:

- ▷ What went well?
- ▷ What was challenging?
- ▷ What could have been done differently?
- ▷ What helped make the transition easier?
- ▷ What would we recommend for future moves?
- ▷ What changes would make our new home feel more like home?

For Long-Term Care Leaders: Keep the Conversation Going

The move may be complete, but the transition period will continue for several months after the move.

Check in with Residents' Council members at regular intervals after the move. Ask what residents are experiencing, record recurring themes, identify adjustments that may be possible and assign responsibility for follow-up.

Most importantly, close the loop! Let residents know what was heard, what can and cannot be acted on, what actions are being taken, who is responsible and when they can expect an update.

A new building is only one part of creating a new home. The relationships, routines, traditions and resident voices that existed long before the move will continue to shape the community that comes next.



► **Sierra Roberti**

Education & Support
Coach, Central Region

sroberti@ontarc.com

T 905-731-3710 ext. 350

If you have any questions about relocation guidance, or would simply like to connect with Sierra, we encourage you to reach out.



LTC Home Spotlights

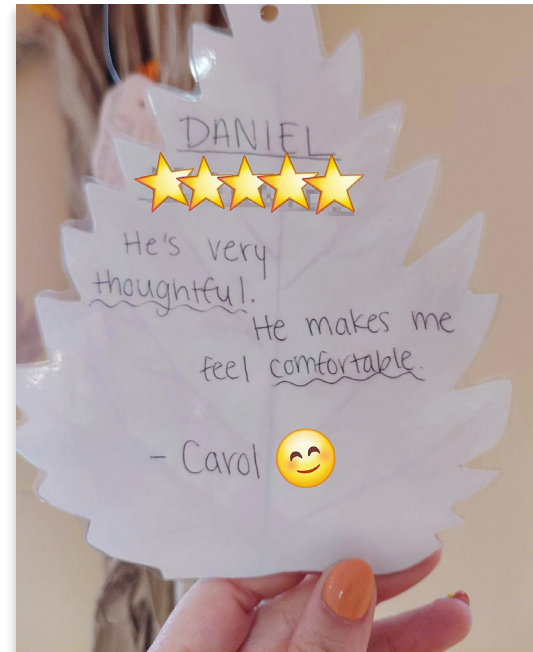
Growing Gratitude Through Resident Voices

As part of Residents' Council Week celebrations, resident representatives at Saint-Louis LTC identified a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the people who regularly contribute to a positive living experience.

The idea emerged during the celebration week's planning discussions between Resident Representatives and the Council Assistant. With support from the Therapeutic Recreation Team, several activity themes were considered, including games, baking, music, crafts, etc. Of the many ideas explored, residents unanimously geared towards a Gratitude Tree, recognizing it as a meaningful way to express appreciation to those who positively impact their lives. Residents saw it as a unique opportunity to thank staff, volunteers, loved ones, and fellow residents who contribute to a caring and supportive community.

Members of our Therapeutic Recreation Team prepared the materials and supported residents in creating personalized messages of recognition. Residents also chose to design beautiful stained-glass leaves, adding an artistic element that further enriched the initiative. Today, many of these colourful creations remain displayed alongside the tree, while others have been proudly brought back to residents' rooms as cherished keepsakes.

Beyond the finished display, the activity fostered meaningful social connection,



engagement, and reflection. Residents worked side by side, sharing stories, laughter, and gratitude while creating their leaves. The project provided an opportunity not only for creative expression but also for residents to recognize and celebrate the relationships that contribute to their quality of life.

More than a craft project, the Gratitude Tree continues to be displayed as a symbol of recognition, connection, and community. Its colourful display reminds all who pass by of the meaningful relationships that shape daily life within our home and the appreciation residents have for those who support them every day.

“Recognizing the people who help you every day is very important. We want them to know how much we appreciate them.” Shared by a Resident Representative from the 2AB Community

*Special thanks to Martine Moreau, Officer, Residents Experience and Programs, Long-Term Care, at Bruyère Health, for sharing this story with us!



Resources

➡ Dementia Resources

“The earlier you know, the more you can do.” Early detection is the theme for this September’s World Alzheimer’s Month, with the focus on empowering people and their care-partners to understand dementia, what the set of symptoms are, and the benefits of an early diagnosis.

Getting diagnosed earlier means more time to explore clinical trials and treatment options –many of which are more effective when started at the earliest stages of the disease. Reaching out early to healthcare professionals and trusted family and friends can positively impact long-term well-being.

Resources from the Alzheimer Society:

1. **Signs of Dementia** – Learn the most common warning signs of dementia so you can ensure an early diagnosis. <https://tinyurl.com/367u4t5w>

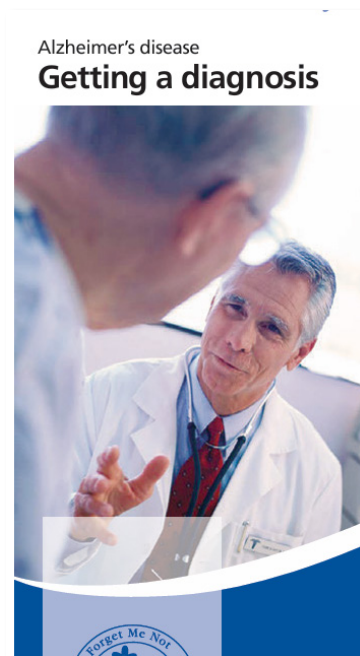
2. What to Expect while getting your diagnosis – There's no one test that can diagnose dementia. Learn the various assessments and exams in a potential diagnostic process here: <https://tinyurl.com/3jjwed9p>

a. Download brochure: <https://tinyurl.com/3x6m4pwk>

Forward With Dementia

Forward With Dementia is a website initiative that has been hosted at the Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging since 2023. Here you can access resources for people living with dementia and for care partners, and read life stories from people navigating their dementia journey.

Explore the website here: <https://shorturl.at/mmFua>



➡ Program inspiration

Article: 97-year-old doesn't let age get in the way of a chance to skydive"

"I just went down, down, down, down, all the way towards the place (we took off from). I was absolutely fascinated." Schlegel Villages' retirement and long-term care homes in Ontario often collaborates with Skydive SWOOP in Dundas to sponsor residents and team members to skydive. Read more about 97-year-old James Gordon, and his experience jumping from a height of 4,200 metres in this article here: <https://tinyurl.com/5x34s2vj>

Article: A year-round postcard project aims to connect residents with people and places around the globe

"Each postcard represents a connection: a person, a place, and a reminder that our residents are part of a much larger world." The retirement residence on Simcoe St. has launched a year-round initiative asking people from Orillia, across Canada and around the world to send postcards to its residents. Read on and learn how this program was started, and the positive impact it continues to have on its residents. <https://tinyurl.com/2zcfbxzd>

➡ Media

Video: Friends reconnect in long-term Care after losing touch for 76 years

“It’s never too late to make new friends. In this case it was great to meet an old friend.” Olga Callbeck and Dot McIver were former classmates in the 1940s and 60s. After going their separate ways after graduation, they lost touch, but rekindled their friendship quickly after a surprising reuniting at Andrews of Summerside.

Watch on CBC: <https://shorturl.at/IQR64>



Podcast: Family Matters Part 1 – Staying Connected in Care

Dr. Papaioannou speaks with Linda Verlinden, a family member of a long-term care resident, and Sam Peck, CEO of Family Councils Ontario, about the essential role of families and caregivers in long-term care.

Newly added is a downloadable infographic that summarizes the top tips for staying connected for families and caregivers.

Listen to the episode, and access the infographic here: <https://shorturl.at/JUw0v>



Article: This person-centred approach to dementia could revolutionize long-term care in Canada

The Views, which opened in 2024, is Canada’s first public, non-profit long-term care village. Modeled after dementia villages in the Netherlands, there are no locked doors, residents roam freely, enjoy gardens, cafes, an art studio and salon, and eat communally in shared kitchens. This village is part of a growing, person-centred long-term care movement where building community, and focusing on what people can still do rather than what they can’t, is the pillar to care. Read more about this growing movement here: <https://shorturl.at/ASU8Q>

 **Courses, e-Learning, and Webinars**

What Shapes Safer Care? Join the Canadian Patient Safety Week 2026 and Add Your Voice

Organized by Healthcare Excellence Canada, Canadian Patient Safety Week (October 26-30, 2026) is an annual campaign that brings people together around a shared goal: making healthcare safer for everyone. This year, people across health and social care are invited to reflect on one question: What shapes safer care?

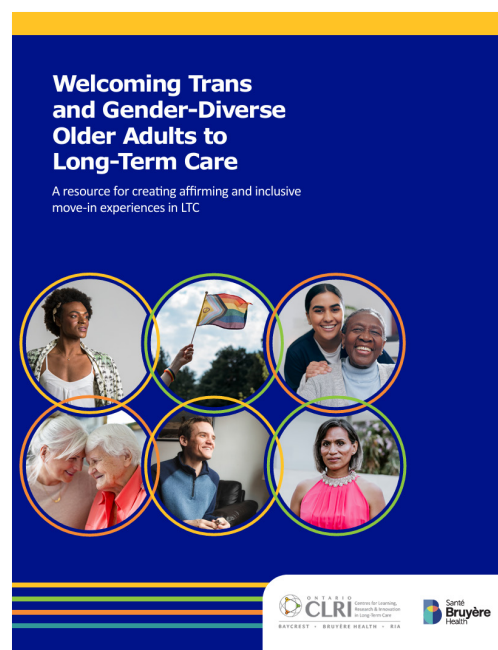
- ▶ **Add Your Voice:** Using the linked form, share one word that shapes safe care for you and/or a moment or experience that shaped safer care for you: <https://shorturl.at/U9mkx>
- ▶ **Activity Guide:** suitable for staff, residents, care partners, volunteers, community members, leaders and board members, this activity invites participants to create a growing visual display that sparks meaningful conversations around safer care. You can download the activity guide and resources from the Patient Safety Week website here: <https://shorturl.at/DzaxQ>



New: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Practice Guides for Long-Term Care

The Ontario CLRI at Bruyère Health has launched their new Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Practice Guides for Long-Term Care!

Developed in collaboration with people with lived and living experience, LTC home representatives, educators and researchers, these guides provide practical, topic-specific strategies, reflection questions, and additional resources to help LTC leaders and teams advance inclusion and belonging. The first guide offers practical strategies to help LTC homes create welcoming and affirming experiences for trans and gender-diverse older adults. It includes actionable guidance on admission, assessment, care planning, communication, and organizational practices, along with reflection questions and curated resources to support continued learning.



Learn more: <https://shorturl.at/QkVuo>

Navigating Moral Distress in Long-Term Care: eLearning and Resources

Moral distress is a common experience among team members working in LTC. The Navigating Moral Distress in Long-Term Care resources, by the Ontario CLRI at Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging (RIA), supports LTC team members with education on mental health support, interventions during times of crisis, challenging interactions, and moral distress for all team members who provide care within an LTC home. Co-designed with LTC team members, this resource includes an eLearning Course, Huddle Guide, and more. Access the resources: <https://shorturl.at/NDNaH>

Opportunities

There's still time to Join the Workplace Mental Health Program for LTC!

Are you a leader in long-term care looking to protect the mental health of team members by fostering a happier, healthier and more resilient workforce? The Ontario CLRI at the Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging (RIA) invites you to register for the [Workplace Mental Health in LTC Program](#)! This six-month program provides free training to help your Ontario LTC home:

- ▷ Develop an action plan that supports the mental health of team members
- ▷ Build an organizational culture where team members are fully supported in delivering quality care for residents, contributing to improved retention.
- ▷ Connect with a supportive community of leaders from various LTC homes

Learn More and enroll here: <https://shorturl.at/4ljrc>



Thank you to [AdvantAge Ontario](#), [Extendicare](#), [Java Group Programs](#), [peopleCare communities](#), [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 [Melissa McVie](#), Acting Executive Director mmcvie@ontarc.com.

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