

OARC Announces Dee Lender as OARC's Executive Director



Dee Lender is the Executive Director of the Ontario Association of Residents' Councils - the largest long-term care Residents' Council Association in Canada, supporting Residents' Councils from a variety of long-term care homes across Ontario.

Dee's passion for person centred care began over 20 years ago as a university student in Gerontology. Since then she has fostered authentic relationships and pursued open contribution from all those in the long-term care community, care partners and residents alike. Through roles as diverse as Activity Director, Coordinator of Family and Resident Services, Educator, Counselor and Consultant, Dee has been a spokesperson for a "people first" attitude in a climate of changing culture and changing demographics. Hence, she is keenly interested in educating future generations of compassionate caregivers. Most recently, Dee has become certified in P.I.E.C.E.S and continues to explore new ways to work with residents.

Her commitment in the field stems from building strong, open and transparent relationships, encouraging everyone to view quality of life through residents' lived experience. Dee searches to understand what it is that each individual can contribute to the common good of living and working in a long-term care environment - jokingly saying that she is reminded daily of her responsibilities in caring for others through her role as a mother of four children and a husband who also works in the compassionate care sector.

Dee is the Association's contact for Media and Research related inquiries at dlender@ontarc.com.

OARC Membership Renewal - Join us in Membership!



OARC Board of Directors 2016

Top row, left to right: Gord McIntee, Dorothy Asselstine, Dee Lender;
 Bottom row: Josie Ince, Sharron Cooke, Devora Greenspon,
 Jamie Ward, Sam Clark

Greetings from OARC's Board of Directors. We live in long-term care homes across Ontario and represent the resident perspective through our individual Residents' Councils. Together with OARC staff, we work with government, researchers and other organizations to address issues identified through member Residents' Councils. OARC also works directly with Residents' Councils to build skills and understanding so that the Councils are as effective as possible in each home. Your membership with OARC helps continue this important work.

Thank you.

Watch for your membership renewal notice arriving in February.

For Residents, By Residents

OARC Home Support:

Message from Susan Thibert, OARC Education and Support



I have been wonderfully busy interacting via telephone and email with the individual Residents' Councils and their Assistants in long-term care homes across Ontario. I have also been invited into many homes with OARC's educational presentation entitled 'The Role of Residents' Councils'. This presentation was designed specifically for the residents and their Assistant but it is always open to all interested staff, family members and volunteers. Let me share one example of the positive comments that we have received from the attendees..."OARC was wonderful to work with. All the information and guidance made everything so much easier for me. Our Residents' Council is much more structured now. It's changed for the better".

Don't hesitate to be in touch if support or assistance is needed in your home. I would be pleased to help. I would enjoy hearing about the successes experienced so please share those with me also!

Susan is the Association's contact for Education and Support inquiries at sthibert@ontarc.com.

SHARE YOUR STORY! Feature your Residents' Council in the next issue of Seasons - OARC's newsletter

We invite your Residents' Council to tell us about ...

- What is working well in your Residents' Council?
- Are there any new ideas your Council has tried to improve resident involvement with your Council?
- How has Residents' Council enhanced the quality of life in your home?

Win a Tim Horton's gift certificate if your submission is selected!

Your submission could be a written paragraph or story, a poem or a photo. Submissions due by March 10th, 2016 and can be emailed to jgarvey@ontarc.com or mailed to OARC, 80 Fulton Way, Suite 201, Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4B 1J5.

Questions? Please contact Julie Garvey 905-731-3710.

Thank you.



Questions, comments or clarifications may be addressed to:
Ontario Association of Residents' Councils

Tel: 905-731-3710 | Toll Free: 1-800-532-0201 | info@ontarc.com

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