

August/September  
2024



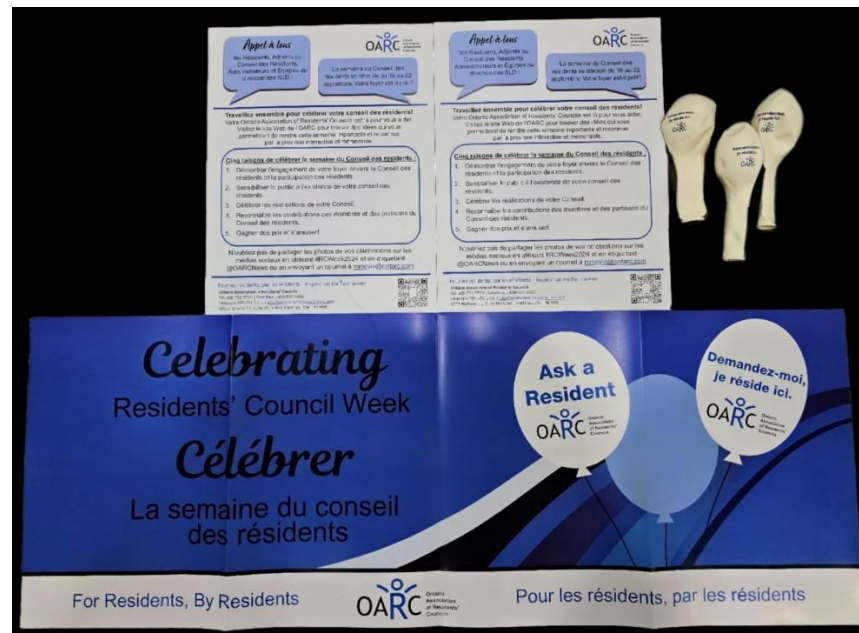
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### Residents' Council Week is fast approaching!

As the summer draws to a close, the OARC team is moving full steam ahead into a busy fall season. For us, fall is a time of excitement and anticipation as we prepare for Residents' Council Week (less than 2 weeks away!), fall conferences and the reconvening of many committees and groups.

**We hope that every Residents' Council received their 2024 Celebration package from OARC last month.** Designed to jumpstart and supplement your planning, the package, containing a letter, celebration banner and "Ask a Resident" balloons, was mailed in an envelope addressed to the attention of your Residents' Council Assistant.



If for any reason your home **did not** receive their envelope from OARC, please reach out to us as soon as possible by emailing our team: Attention Jennifer Langston at [jangston@ontarc.com](mailto:jangston@ontarc.com).

### Other Important Reminders:

- Register to save your spot for our [September 18<sup>th</sup> Live Webinar](#) Celebrating Residents' Councils and RC Week 2024, 2pm ET
- Encourage residents to join OARC's Weekly [Resident Forum](#) on Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 2pm ET to share and meet new friends!

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## RC Week Photo Contest: What Makes a Good Day in Your LTC Home?

We invite you to participate in a special [photo contest](#) to commemorate the 5th annual Residents' Council Week! Working with your home's Residents' Council, capture five moments that showcase what a good day looks like at your long-term care home. This might include a few snapshots of residents engaging in a favourite activity or program, a joyful connection amongst friends, or another aspect of daily life that your Residents' Council members look forward to. **We can't wait to see your photos!**



**Deadline:** September 23, 2024

**Instructions:** Send up to five (5) photos (with [permission form](#)) that include names, titles and emails (if applicable) of those pictured to Jennifer Langston [jangston@ontarc.com](mailto:jangston@ontarc.com).

**Prize:** Five lucky Residents' Council groups will be selected by random draw to receive one of five \$50 gift certificates.

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## REAL Member Sharing Ideas for RC Week 2024

Residents' Council Week is all about finding ways to bring your community together! The focus can be on raising awareness about your Residents' Council, but it can also focus on other aspects of relationship-building, learning and connecting.

OARC REAL member Gary Strickland, a Resident Leader at Rainycrest Long-Term Care Home in Fort Frances, Ontario, shared some of his home's preliminary plans for RC Week:



- Outdoor Games, BBQ and Visits from Farm Animals
- Meet and Greet Social Event with Home Management and Residents
- Visit from Indigenous Elder to share traditional teachings and smudging ceremony
- Colouring Contest and Bingo with prizes
- Antique Car Show, and much more!

**Need some more inspiration and ideas? Visit OARC's [RC Week webpage](#) to access printable resources, customizable templates and more!**

- Explore our 2024 compilation of [activity ideas](#)
- Consider entering our [photo contest](#) for a chance to win a \$50 Gift Card for your Residents' Council
- Secure your spot for our [September 18<sup>th</sup> Live Webinar](#): Celebrating RC Week
- Join an [OARC Resident Forum](#) to chat with other residents from across Ontario!

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## Updates from Our Ministry of Long-Term Care

### **August 23, 2024: Funding for the 2024-25 Comprehensive Minor Capital Fund**

Our Minister of Long-Term Care, Hon. Natalia Kusendova-Bashta released a letter to the sector outlining details about the 2024-25 Comprehensive Minor Capital Fund. These funds can be accessed by eligible LTC homes for minor capital improvements to maintain and upgrade the home. Funds may also be used for improvements directly linked to IPAC practices and those that promote increased mobility and enhanced safety and quality of life for LTC residents.

Read the full letter here: [English](#) | [French](#)

### **August 23, 2024: Call for early adopters of the interRAI Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF) Resident Assessment Instrument**

Long-Term Care homes in Ontario will be transitioning to a new mandatory standard for quarterly resident assessments by April 1, 2026. The Ministry of Long-Term Care is seeking volunteer long-term care homes to be early adopters of the new resident assessment instrument called the interRAI Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCF) and the Integrated interRAI Reporting System (IRRS). Early adopters will receive training in the fall and begin using the LTCG in early 2025.

Learn more and access the companion Fact Sheet here: [English](#) | [French](#)

### **August 16, 2024: Director Memo on Family Council Membership**

This memo, circulated by Brad Robinson, Director of the Long-Term Care Inspections Branch, reiterates key legislative requirements for Family Councils under the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021. Homes are encouraged to share this information with their Family Councils.

Access the memo here: [English](#) | [French](#)

### **July 31, 2024: Alignment with the Health and Supportive Care Providers Oversight Authority (HSCPOA) for the Class of Personal Support Workers**

This memo, circulated by Sean Court, Assistant Deputy Minister, LTC Policy Division shared the Ministry of LTC's plans to begin consultations on proposed amendments to the Ontario Regulation 246/22 this fall/winter to align its staffing qualifications with the registration pathways for personal support workers (PSW's) under the Health and Supportive Care Providers Oversight Authority (HSPCOA).

The HSCPOA is an oversight body that PSW's will be able to voluntarily register with starting December 1, 2024 and will help to ensure consistent education and training for PSW's, regardless of where they work and whether they work full-time or part-time.

Access the full ADM memo here: [English](#) | [French](#)

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## Release of Safe Long-Term Care Act Engagement: *What We Heard* Report

At the end of last week, Health Canada released the Safe LTC Act engagement: What we heard report. OARC is proud to have been included amongst the many organizations that were engaged as part of the national consultations to inform the development of the Safe Long-Term Care Act.

During a private consultation, OARC Resident Leaders were invited to share responses to the same questions presented in the online public survey, which yielded over 5000 responses. We are encouraged to see how much direct feedback from residents is reflected throughout the the final report, including the quote below:

***“Current quality and evaluation metrics in long-term care homes are entirely clinical in nature. Moving forward, it is imperative that each province and territory develop (and place greater emphasis on) quality of living indicators, as defined by residents themselves. What factors make a good home or living experience for residents? Ask them!”***

According to the Government of Canada’s [website](#), the Safe Long-Term Care Act “will respect provincial and territorial jurisdiction: it won’t mandate standards or regulate LTC delivery. Instead it will outline guiding principles to support quality and safety in LTC.”

Access the full report here: [English](#) | [French](#)

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## LTC Sector Partner Spotlight – Engagement Opportunities

### Person-Centred Language (PCL) Award Nominations – Open until September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The **Person-Centred Language Award** recognizes the extraordinary efforts of champions who are dedicated to creating supportive and life-affirming environments for residents, family care partners, and team members in Long-Term Care. This encompasses respectful and inclusive communication practices, including verbal and non-verbal language, that focus on the individual and their unique preferences and needs. Through their passion and commitment, PCL champions have helped foster an environment of compassion, dignity, and respect.

Learn more and complete a nomination form today: <https://clri-ltc.ca/resource/person-centred-language-pcl-award/>

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### **OLTCA's *This is Long Term Care Conference*: [October 20 – 22, 2024](#)**

The OARC team is excited to be returning to the *This is Long Term Care* conference hosted by the Ontario Long Term Care Association.

You can catch members of the OARC team at **booth #114** located in Partner Alley and join our **live session, *Residents Shaping the Place They Call Home: Resident Engagement Toolkit Preview*** on Monday, October 21st at 9:45am.

We encourage you to join the long-term care community October 20-22 at the Beanfield Centre in Toronto and discover emerging research, innovations and best practice programs. Let's celebrate '10 years of aging innovation' at the annual conference dedicated to advancement of quality and care in long-term care!

To register and learn more, visit: <https://thisisltc.com/>

Early Bird Registration Deadline – September 9<sup>th</sup>.

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### ***Together We Care 2025*: [April 7 – 9, 2025](#)**

The Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA) and the Ontario Retirement Communities Association (ORCA) are thrilled to announce the *Together We Care* (TWC) 2025 Convention and Trade Show. This highly anticipated event unites the long-term care and retirement community sectors to shape the future of seniors care.

Key Dates include: September 16<sup>th</sup> – Calls for Content Submissions Open and November 14<sup>th</sup> – Registration Opens.

Visit the [TWC Website](#) for more information.

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### **Advancing Senior Care AdvantAge Ontario Annual Convention: [April 30 – May 2, 2025](#)**

Save the date for Advancing Senior Care, the Annual Convention hosted by AdvantAge Ontario. New in 2025, the convention will expand to fill three full days of learning and networking for Ontario's LTC and seniors' housing community.

Key Dates: Call for presentation proposals open now until October 11, 2024. Registration opens January 2025.

Visit the [Convention website](#) for more information.

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## Dave's Monthly Musing: *Perspective*

When I hear the word perspective, the first thing that comes to my 'painter's mind' are straight lines all meeting at a focal point on the horizon. To the modern mind, it's hard to believe that perspective in art had to be "discovered"... but the truth is that before the 1400s, paintings simply lacked accurate perspective. Instead, important people and objects were simply shown larger than less important ones; and although distant objects were sometimes shown smaller than near ones, this wasn't done in a regular and accurate way.



The first known picture to make use of linear perspective was created by the Florentine architect Filippo Brunelleschi. Painted in 1415, it depicted the Baptistery in Florence from the front gate of the unfinished cathedral. Isn't it amazing what random pieces of knowledge you can learn these days with the ease and click of a keyboard versus thumbing through a book?

Just as odd, many paintings didn't represent the other meaning of perspective either—that is, a scene might not be shown as if it were being seen from one single place. Today, perspective is used much like 'standpoint' – the physical place where you stand and the way you "see" things as a result of who you are, what you believe in, and what you do—the same could be said about perspective.

Well, that may be the case from your standpoint, but consider this... Life is never easy as simply 'two sides of the coin'. It would be a lot easier mind you, but, alas, such is never the case. Examples of perspective are first-person, second-person, third-person objective, third-person omniscient, and third-person limited. A narrator's perspective may also be classified as naïve or unreliable.

So remember no one sees something the same way you do, they have a different perspective... and neither is necessarily right or wrong - just different! Consider that the sinking of the Titanic was a miracle for the live lobsters in the kitchen awaiting their fate. Perspective!

Shared by: [David Stanyon](#), Resident Leader, Kensington Gardens & OARC REAL member.



Advancing Senior Care




Thank you to [AdvantAge Ontario](#), [Extendicare](#), [Java Group Programs](#), [Schlegel Villages Inc.](#), and [Sienna Senior Living](#) for supporting OARC's Culture Change products and education programs. To find out more about how you can support OARC, please contact Dee Tripp, Executive Director [dtripp@ontarc.com](mailto:dtripp@ontarc.com) 1-800-532-0201 x 240.

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