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## An Important Part of the Team

At the Grove Nursing Home, the care and safety of our residents is paramount. The Grove is their home and our team is committed to the very best care. A key part of that team is the Family Council. Established in 2006, the Family Council is a self-led group made up of family and friends of the residents. The Council has an important role to play in providing a voice for all residents; providing mutual support for other family members, and building partnerships with management and staff. The Council meets every other month and welcomes new members.

Mardi Coady knows firsthand the importance of this special group. Her husband Charles has lived at the Grove for three years and she is there every day to help care for him. "Charles is well looked after and everyone is always interested in making things better. We want to work together." And they do. The Council provides input into such projects as the resident satisfaction survey and the capital redevelopment plans. And they make a difference. "On the CEO's first day on the job, I told him that the tub rooms needed to be improved," she recalls. "Now one tub room is renovated to be more home-like and brighter. That is really great for the residents." Upgrades to the second tub room, as well as other renovations, are planned for the coming year.

"The Council's input helps us to identify and prioritize plans to ensure high quality care and the best physical environment for our residents," says Patti McLean, Director of Care. "They have had an instrumental role in the redevelopment of the Grove to help us meet the future needs of the residents of Arnprior and surrounding communities."

Mardi says she hopes that more people get involved with the Grove - by volunteering, offering their services such as playing the piano once a month or just visiting residents who may not have family close at hand. "We need to speak for them and support them as this is their home."

Thank you to Mardi and the Family Council for your valuable input.