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What Does Long Term Care Mean in Our Community?

Lately in the news there has been a lot of talk about Alternative Level of Care (ALC). Discussion has centered on the lack of access to LTC beds, Aging at Home Strategies, retirement residences and alternative level of care. A lot of terms but not always clear definitions.

The Grove Nursing Home is a long term care facility and the only LTC home in Arnprior. Long Term Care homes are licensed and governed by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHTLC). The MOHTLC is responsible for setting rates for which residents are required to pay for services. Long Term care facilities provide medical care for those needing whose care needs cannot be provide for in the community, as they require more assistance than is available. For many, Long Term Care is the only option for those who need constant care.

The wait time for a long term care bed is another issue. Canada's population is rapidly aging with over four million people aged 65 or older. Arnprior has one of the highest percentages of people over the age of 75. The aging population combined with the lack of long term care beds makes wait times increasingly long. Wait times have tripled since 2005 with the provincial average being 105 days. In the Champlain LHIN, the wait time for beds is the second highest in Ontario. At the Grove you can wait between 18-30 months before getting a bed.

The LHIN is currently focused on creating alternatives for people who need assistance but don't require long term care. The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MoHLTC) has committed to redeveloping the Grove, thus adding more beds. But we'll have to wait until 2014.

We would love to hear the communities comments, feedback or experience on this issue!



Administrative Clerk, Sunskyyne Mason poses with Marie Neumann, the Grove's oldest resident at 107 years old.

Please send your mail to the hospital address, attention Wendy Knechtel or email wknechtel@arnpriorhospital.com