

Brucelea Haven News

Together we *make* a difference!

February 2026

A Message from Huib Quist - Director of Nursing

Brucelea Haven is committed to advancing evidence-based practices and improving the quality of care for our residents. In an effort to achieve this goal, we have partnered with the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) to improve many of the processes in the home through the Clinical Pathways Program. We anticipate significant benefits to both the staff and Residents we serve.

This is part of a three-year journey as we work through the various Clinical Pathways. In some cases, there may be small changes to the services we provide, some other areas will see more significant adjustments as we move to improve the application of evidence-based best practice guidelines. The first three areas that we will be focusing on is Admission, Delirium, and Resident and Family Centered Care. This project looks forward to collaborating across our disciplines to foster a culture of excellence and continuous improvement.



Deer Hunting

In the New Year when we take our Christmas decorations down, one of our favourite activities to do before we put those trees away is 'Deer Hunting'. Residents enjoyed a playful and engaging activity using Nerf guns to safely mimic a deer hunting experience, sparking laughter, movement, and meaningful reminiscence. This activity offered a fun way to connect with past hobbies and traditions, especially for residents who once enjoyed hunting or spending time outdoors. It encouraged gentle physical activity, hand-eye coordination, and friendly social interaction, while also creating opportunities for storytelling and shared memories. Most importantly, it honored residents' life experiences in a lighthearted, safe, and person-centred way that brought joy and a sense of familiarity to the day.



Paint by Number

Participating in painting activities offers seniors in long-term care a meaningful way to express themselves while supporting overall wellbeing. Painting encourages creativity and self-expression, which can boost mood, reduce stress, and foster a sense of accomplishment. It also helps maintain fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and cognitive engagement, while providing opportunities for social connection and conversation. Most importantly, painting allows residents to focus on their abilities rather than limitations, promoting confidence, joy, and a continued sense of purpose.



Celebrating January Birthdays

Residents enjoyed Entertainment by James Skarnikat to celebrate our January Birthdays!



A Message from IPAC Lead - Jena March

As we welcome 2026, we are very happy to not have any Outbreak updates to report. With that, please continue to be diligent with hand hygiene throughout the day and throughout your visits, as well as wearing a mask when appropriate.



Music in January

Throughout the month of January residents enjoyed music from a variety of performers including Brent Meidinger, Helen Stewart and a new group - The Ramblers.



Winter Olympics - February 6-22

We are excited to cheer on our Canadian Athletes in the 2026 Winter Olympics. We will be watching closely, and joining in some fun and games throughout the month to celebrate the Olympics. Please wear your Canadian clothing on Friday, February 6th as an Olympic Spirit Day!



Chinese New Year February 17-21, 2026

The Year of the Horse gallops in with vibrant and fiery energy, symbolizing adventure, vitality, and momentum. Residents will have the option to participate in a take-out Chinese Food Luncheon on February 17th to celebrate. Residents who want to participate in the luncheon can RSVP to their Recreation Team member by February 11th.



Sweetheart Meal

On February 14th, we are hosting a 'Sweetheart Meal' for all of our Brucelea Haven couples to celebrate Valentine's Day. If you are a spouse to a resident, please RSVP to Maia in Reception by Monday, February 9th if you are able to attend the meal. We will be serving Vegetable Cocktail, Bi-Colour Heart Tortellini in Marinara Sauce with Shaved Parmesan Cheese, Caesar Salad and Garlic Knot. Red Velvet Cake or Strawberry Cream Pie for dessert. Please also note any dietary restrictions during your RSVP with Maia. The cost of the meal is \$10 for non-resident guests.



Welcome Jesse - Social Service Worker Student

Hello! My name is Jesse! I am a Social Service Worker student from Northern College. I chose this program because I am interested in supporting people through advocacy, communication, and person-centred care! During my placement at Brucelea Haven, I hope to build my SSW skills, learn how to support residents in meaningful ways, and gain experience working as part of a team. I am grateful to my preceptors for their guidance and support during this placement. Fun Fact about me, I own a Mainecoon cat named Toby!"



Welcome Sara - Registered Nursing Student

Hi! My name is Sara; I am a registered nursing student at Georgian College in Owen Sound. I have always had a passion for helping others, and I decided to pursue the RN program after completing a co-op at the Walkerton Hospital. I really enjoyed my learning experience as nursing offers a balance between critical thinking and meaningful human connection. Through my clinical placement at Brucelea Haven, I hope to strengthen my assessment skills and build upon therapeutic relationships. Thank you so much to the Brucelea Haven team for welcoming me and supporting my learning journey.

**New Monthly Caregiver Support Group**

Brucelea Haven is excited to host monthly caregiver support groups on the last Thursday of each month from 2-3pm, with Lauren Kieswetter, MSW. You are welcome to attend these groups if you are someone who loves and cares for a resident residing at Brucelea Haven.

**Booking Appointment's with the Hairstylist**

We would like to remind families and residents of the available options for booking hairstyling appointments with our on-site stylist.

To schedule an appointment, the *power of attorney or substitute decision maker* may use any of the following methods:

- Call Kimberly's salon directly at 519-881-1570 ext. 122.
- Contact Brucelea Haven's reception and speak with Maia to assist with forwarding booking inquiries at 519-881-1570 ext. 105.
- Speak with a Registered Nurse (RN) on the unit, who can also forward requests to reception or the hair salon.

If you have any questions regarding the booking process, please contact: Jessica, Administrative Supervisor, at extension 156.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Celebrating Recreation Professionals Week

During Recreation Professionals Week, we proudly celebrate the incredible impact of our recreation team, physiotherapy, social work, and the students who support our long-term care community. Together, you bring energy, compassion, and creativity into everyday moments—supporting mobility, emotional wellbeing, social connection, and meaningful engagement for residents. Whether it's through purposeful programs, therapeutic movement, heartfelt conversations, or fresh ideas from our learners, your teamwork helps residents continue lifelong interests, build new connections, and feel truly seen and valued. Thank you for the dedication, collaboration, and heart you bring to your roles each day—you make our home a more vibrant, supportive, and joyful place to live and work.



Happy Family Day! February 16th

Happy Family Day to the families who are such an important part of our long-term care community. Your love, presence, and ongoing support bring comfort, connection, and joy to our residents each and every day. Whether near or far, your involvement helps create a sense of home, belonging, and continuity for those you care for. Today, we celebrate families in all their forms and thank you for the compassion, partnership, and trust you share with us. We wish you a warm and meaningful Family Day filled with moments of togetherness and love.



Special Events in February...

2nd – Groundhog Day

5th – February Resident Council Meeting

6-22 – 2026 Winter Olympics Begin!

6th – Red & White Team Canada Spirit Day!

7th – Brent Meidinger Entertains in the CAA

8th – Super Bowl Sunday!

9th – Grandfriends Valentine's Visit

11th – February Birthday Party with Dave the Piano Man in the CAA

13th – Valentine's Day Show with Joe Passion in the CAA

14th – Happy Valentine's Day – Wear Red & Pink Spirit Day!

14th – Sweetheart Meal - Couple's Luncheon

16th – Happy Family Day!

17th – Shrove Tuesday

17th – Happy Chinese New Year! Chinese Food Luncheon in the CAA

17th – 2 South Birthday Party with Al Crawford

18th – Ash Wednesday Service in the CAA

18th – The Ramblers Entertain in the CAA

20th – Music with Ray Richards on 3 South

23-27 – Happy Recreation Professionals Week!

25th – Celebrate Recreation Professionals Week Tea Social in the CAA

25th – Pink Shirt Day in support of Anti-Bullying

27th – Happy Retirement June!

