



Eastholme's Newsletter



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Community
Engagement
needed.
Your talent can lift
someone up!

EASTHOLME'S WINTER WONDERLAND

-By The Administrator & The Manager of Recreation



Winter Wonderland is a truly special Event. The event is held the weekend before the parade of lights in Powassan. This year it was held on December 5th 2025 and was a magical event.

It joins members of the community, residents and their families to kick off the holiday season.

New this year was a (mini) train for anyone who wanted to take a ride around the front of the building to see the light displays. An indoor market was held in the auditorium and residents had their own table of sewing and other crafts which they had prepared during the year.

Behavioural Support Ontario (BSO)

EXPANDED TEAM

- By BSO Support Worker

During 2025, through the benefit of one-time Local Priorities Funding funding, the BSO team was able to continue with two additional temporary positions for a total of 4 people.



“The basis of all good human behaviour is kindness.”

BSO HIGHLIGHTS

Gardening 2025



This past fall, residents—supported by our BSO Recreation team—enjoyed harvesting and pickling the vegetables they planted earlier in the year. Gardening is a familiar and meaningful activity for many, and this season’s new adventure in pickling carrots and beets brought residents from all four floors together to share music, memories, and laughter.

The common room was filled with the comforting aroma of boiling brine and the pride of colourful jars lined up as their finished creations. The project was such a success that residents showcased and sold their pickled goods at both the Fall Fair and Winter Wonderland events. All proceeds supported the Residents’ Council fund, helping create more life enriching experiences throughout the year.

Blood Work Support 2025



With the expansion of our embedded BSO team, the addition of BSO PSWs has greatly enhanced Friday blood work and ECG clinics with LifeLabs. BSO PSWs help identify residents, share insight on personal expressions, and guide technicians on the best times and approaches for each individual.

During procedures, staff use proven person centered strategies—such as reassurance, distraction, stop and go techniques, or simple advance notice—to ensure residents feel calm and supported. Having familiar staff present helps residents feel more comfortable, while LifeLabs technicians report greater confidence and smoother visits.

This collaboration has created a more positive experience for everyone involved—a true winwin for residents and care teams alike.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN DIETARY

Mealsuite Success Story

- By The Manager of Food and Nutrition

2025 saw a full year of the use of the software platform called MealSuite. This platform allows information about every resident’s food preferences to be displayed at the point of meal service. Waste reduction, better estimates for kitchen with food prep, and enhancing resident experience with more resident preferences.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Advancing Our Green Initiatives

-By The Manager of Environmental Services

Our team continues to make progress on Eastholme’s sustainability efforts with the ongoing conversion of fluorescent lighting to high efficiency LED fixtures. This upgrade not only brightens resident and staff spaces but also significantly reduces our energy

consumption and maintenance needs, while reducing waste and lowering operational costs.

This project supports our commitment to creating a more environmentally responsible.



NURSING DEPARTMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

-By The Director of Care

This year, we improved communication and care with the launch of Cliniconnex and the transition to the interRAI LTCF assessment. Staff also completed education in dementia care, person centered practices, and cultural sensitivity.

Our Skin and Wound Care Program advanced with full implementation of the PointClickCare module and SWAN training for our wound care lead, enhancing assessment and treatment.

We also strengthened our palliative care program through collaboration with the Nipissing Region’s Clinical Care Palliative Coach. Together, these initiatives support more consistent, compassionate, and high quality care for our residents.

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

-By The Director of Administration

We are pleased to share that our team has successfully completed the financial year end, ensuring strong accountability and a smooth transition into the new fiscal year. This milestone reflects the hard work and collaboration of staff across the organization. We are also excited to welcome the Human Resources and Information Technology teams into our administrative portfolio. Their addition strengthens our operational capacity and sup-

ports a more integrated approach to organizational planning and staff support.

Together, these developments position us well for continued growth, efficiency, and service excellence in the year ahead.



RECREATION SERVICES

-By The Manager of Recreation

The Recreation Department continues to offer a wide variety of engaging programs designed to meet the diverse interests of all residents. As we look ahead to spring, we are excited to expand our gardening initiatives following the wonderful success of our garden and canning programs this past summer and fall.

We are also working toward increased collaboration with other local homes to strengthen connections within the broader long-term care community across Northern Ontario.

In the coming months, stay tuned for the launch of our new online Family Portal -- an exciting new way to stay connected and informed about recreation programs and events.

A CALL FOR SUPPORT

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

-By The CSSP Program Coordinator

CSS hosts monthly luncheons in 10 different communities where seniors pay only \$10 for a hearty meal and enjoy socialization.

To stay active there are 11 locations of weekly senior exercise classes, and 3 locations of a specialized 12 week fall prevention program – all of which are free to participants.

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers we continue to provide affordable and accessible transportation to both local and out of town medical appointments, ensuring rural area clients have access to their medical needs.



In addition, we are delivering record numbers of hot & frozen meals ensuring that no matter where someone lives in the district, they have access to nutrition.

We are very much in need of more volunteers who can drive clients to appointments and deliver meals to them. Those interested in making a difference in their community can reach out to us at 705-724-6028 or email lprice@eastholme.ca or send us a message on our Facebook page.



WHAT'S NEW- ACTIVITIES THIS SPRING AND SUMMER!



Resident Family Council in collaboration with the Recreation department will be hosting two special events for the residents, May 27th Blue Jays Day and Sept 12th Fall Fair!



Be sure to check our website or activity calendars posted on the resident floors for more details and upcoming activities planned for residents.

RECRUITMENT INITIATIVES

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

- Competitive wage and benefit package with OMERS pension
 - Wonderful setting working with seniors and excellent staff
- To join our team, visit eastholme.ca/careers-at-eastholme

