

April 16, 2012

## The Top 5 Questions to Ask About Long-Term Care

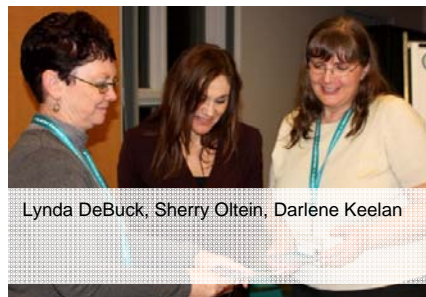
When choosing long-term care (LTC), there are many decisions that need to be made. The first step to making an informed decision is to learn about your options for care. Windsor Regional Hospital is hosting their second long-term care fair on April 25, 2012, and thanks to the popularity of the first event, they have chosen to locate this event at the Tayfour Campus, Malden Park Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rehab Meeting Room.

The goal of the fair is to give patients, families, and caregivers an opportunity to get answers to their questions first-hand from Windsor and Essex County LTC experts.

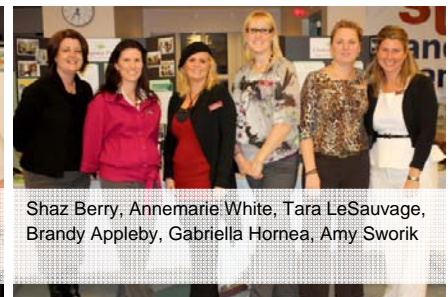
“Most families, and patients, hear about homes by word of mouth where misinformation is given about standard of homes. The fair gave representatives of the various long-term care homes the opportunity to reduce the myths associated with level of home care.” - Ron Foster, Vice President Public Affairs, Communications and Philanthropy, Windsor Regional Hospital

### Top 5 questions to ask the LTC experts:

- 1) What is the application process?
- 2) What are the accommodation fee co-payments (costs)?
- 3) What services are included in the fees, e.g. personal supplies?
- 4) For what services is the resident/family responsible?
- 5) Are special needs and preferences recognized by the facility?



Lynda DeBuck, Sherry Oltein, Darlene Keelan



Shaz Berry, Annemarie White, Tara LeSauvage, Brandy Appleby, Gabriella Hornea, Amy Sworik

*Windsor Regional Hospital held their first long-term care fair, “Bringing Home to You” on January 17, 2012. The second is scheduled for April 15, 2012.*



Amy Sworik, Chateau Park LTC Home

It is also recommended that families take time to tour some LTC homes to see the facilities, meet with the administrators, and chat with the staff. This will help best match the home with your needs and better ensure a positive experience.

Two of the most common LTC myths are about cost and access to services. In both cases, there is a common misbelief that hospitals are a less expensive option than LTC, and yet provide more services. The facts are that hospitals and LTC cost patients the exact same, but LTC is able to offer a far greater range of services including:

- Socialization opportunities
- A range of activities
- Mental and physical stimulation

Most importantly, LTC can offer residents the chance to live more independently with a significantly higher quality of life.

For more information about WRH's long-term care fair, contact Diana Roberts at [Diana\\_Roberts@wrh.on.ca](mailto:Diana_Roberts@wrh.on.ca) or call 519-257-5441.

For more information about LTC, contact your local CCAC at 310-CCAC (2222)

For more information about the Erie St. Clair LHIN, please visit: [www.eriestclairhin.on.ca](http://www.eriestclairhin.on.ca).

*“The monthly cost to a patient for a basic accommodation in long-term care is exactly the same rate charged by the hospital as an ALC co-payment for those patients waiting for placement from hospital - there is no price difference.”* - Pam Roth, Client

Services Manager, Erie St. Clair  
Community Care Access Centre

## About the ESC LHIN

The Erie St. Clair LHIN is a Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care agency that plans and pays for health care services totalling a billion dollars a year in our region alone – everything from hospitals to Meals on Wheels.

The Erie St. Clair LHIN strives to make the health care system better by understanding and responding to local needs and by getting services to work together more efficiently. That's how we'll all get better health care while saving money and making the system sustainable for our children and grandchildren.