

**A Message from Soo Wong,**  
**Executive Director**

March 9<sup>th</sup> marks a special anniversary at the Bennett Centre Long-Term Care. It was a year ago when the Home enacted the COVID-19 Pandemic Plan, that continued to evolve during the past year. As I reflect on the past year, I am inspired by the dedicated, hardworking and determined staff from all departments at the Home, in ensuring COVID-19 did not enter the Home. I am particularly proud and grateful to all staff for supporting, collaborating, caring, and making personal sacrifices to ensure our residents, families and one another were safe during the past year. I am especially thankful to the staff and families for believing in the Leadership Team and supporting the policies and actions taken throughout the Pandemic.

There were many unforgettable lessons learned during the past year. Especially those of Staff and families reaching out or stepping up to support one another throughout the Pandemic. Bennett families came together to celebrate the 2020 Nurses' Week. Every day during that week, families honoured all Bennett staff. We saw families and the community's kindness and generosity toward Bennett staff by regularly sending thank you cards, providing lunches, coffee and donuts to the Home, school age children performing Christmas Carols outside during Christmas, an antique car show, and First Responders visit. Staff also came together to create the monthly Spirit Day, where staff have an opportunity to have fun, laughter and sing!

Finally, the COVID Pandemic produced a significant gratitude to all front-line healthcare and essential workers, for keeping our most vulnerable citizens and community safe!



Long Term Care at Bennett Village

## Family Friendly

### March 2021



Laura, Hazel and Nettie enjoying an afternoon in the Library

The Home welcomes suggestions, comments, and feedbacks/complaints. Please feel free to contact our Executive Director at [swong@bennettvillage.ca](mailto:swong@bennettvillage.ca) or 905-873-0115 ext.8185. Alternatively, you can drop your comments/suggestions in the Home's Suggestion Box, located at the front reception desk.

You can also forward your complaints to the Ministry's hotline by contacting 1-866-434-0144.

### Covid-19 Bi-monthly Conference Call

**By: Leadership Team**

Please continue to join us for our bi monthly family conference call every other Thursday at 5:30 pm. To join please call 1-855-331-8822 or 416-933-3851  
Conference ID: 7933152#

Thank you



Rose enjoying delicious cookies generously donated by a current board member from Terra Cotta Cookies!





**Ted and Mindy!**

**Mindy, Our new Social Robot  
By: Sonia Fedele**

We have a new and interactive “staff” member in our home! Please join me in welcoming Mindy, our Social Robot!

Mindy is part of an 8 week long pilot project in which we are testing Robot Companions in Long Term Care.

She can do things like speak, sing, dance, and even play videos on youtube and Netflix.

She has had both residents and staff laughing away all day long! Above you can see a picture of Mindy singing happy birthday to our resident Ted!

**Rosslyn Dowell Education Fund**

This month, our home launched a new fund dedicated to supporting the furthering of staff education. With the help of generous donations we will be raising money to allow our staff to complete education related to long term care.

This fund is names after our past Chair of the Board of Directors Rosslyn Dowell, who also happens to be the first donor of this education fund. Please see below for some pictures of last weeks kick off event for staff!



**A Message from our Family Council**

In these uncertain times, we as family members continue to have limited access to our loved ones at any given time, as was the case, Pre-Covid. New Guidelines, Rules and Restrictions from the Minister of Health and other jurisdictions that are in the best interests of many are challenging at best for us and our loved ones.

We (as family/friends) may have common questions or concerns. Together, we may be able to ask questions in such a way as to gain maximum benefit from answers/solutions - for all.

The POTENTIAL commitment from you would be:

- 1 meeting a month (FAMILY/FRIENDS/INTERESTED PARTY of RESIDENT - some Residents have varied interested parties) for 1 – 2 hours depending on what needs to be discussed.
- Assisting with fundraising for staff appreciation, event planning/execution
- Input on general needs/changes for Residents/Staff/Bennett programming, etc.
- Discuss/request Bennett to utilize a GOOGLE DOCS calendar (or other format - for scheduling visits - to ease the process)
- PRIVATE Facebook page/group (discuss/join/be made aware of, pros/cons)
- ZOOM call
- Introduce [www.fco.ngo](http://www.fco.ngo) (Family Councils of Ontario) what they do, how they can help.

Hope you are all staying safe and well

Regards,

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