

Pioneer Manor
City of Greater Sudbury

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Manoir des pionniers
Ville du Grand Sudbury

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October 15, 2025

To: All Pioneer Manor residents, families, substitute decision-makers and staff

Decisions About Care

Any changes in treatment require consent from either the resident or their substitute decision maker. Regulated professionals, including nurses, occupational therapists and dietitians have ethical and professional responsibilities to ensure the resident, or if the resident is incapable, their substitute decision maker, is informed and capable of providing consent for each treatment.

For consent to be legally valid, the person providing it must be able to understand the information given and appreciate the reasonably foreseeable consequences of their decision or lack thereof. The capacity to consent is decision-specific; a resident may be capable of consenting to one treatment but not another. Factors such as the complexity of the decision, the resident's current condition, pain, fatigue and other variables can affect capacity. According to the Health Care Consent Act (1996), it is the responsibility of the care provider to assess the resident's capacity.

If the provider proposing treatment and verifying consent believes the resident is not capable to make that decision, they advise the resident of their finding and turn to the substitute decision maker in keeping with the *Substitute Decisions Act* (1992). The substitute makes the decision in keeping with the resident's personal wishes and beliefs. For more information, visit <https://www.ancelaw.ca/legal-topic/health-care-consent-advance-care-planning/>.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nicole Leclair'.

Nicole Leclair

A/Director, Long-Term Care Services

c.c.: Councillor René Lapierre, Chair, Community & Emergency Services Committee
Tyler Campbell, General Manager, Community Well-Being
Dr. Maurice St. Martin, Medical Director
Dianna Foster, Family Council
Residents' Council Leadership Team

