



Yaletown House: Family and Friends Update Spring 03.30.07



EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

An introduction to RAI-MDS

The BC Government has implemented a standardized comprehensive assessment form to assess the health status and care need for all residents in care facilities. It is called a **Resident Assessment Instrument, or RAI**. RAI is an internationally recognized tool to support individual care planning as well as contribute data to health care policy and decision making. The data collection tool used to make the assessment is called **Minimum Data Set, or MDS**. MDS is a core group of 500 pieces of information used to document each resident's unique physical, function, cognitive, emotional and psychosocial abilities. Once an initial full assessment is complete (usually upon admission), this information will be reviewed every three months and annually for every residents.

How does RAI-MDS affect my family member at Yaletown House?

Each current resident will be assessed using the full MDS assessment and then every three months the information will be reviewed and updated. Residents and their families will work in collaboration with caregivers to set goals, develop care plans and monitor changes.

Why is the Government implementing this?

RAI-MDS was selected to provide a multi-disciplinary approach that ensures standardized residential care practice across the Province. It is used globally as a standardized assessment tool.

When will it start?

All care facilities have been mandated by the Government to implement RAI-MDS by March 31, 2009. Yaletown House is currently training care staff and expects to be in full operation by mid 2008.

If I have more questions, who do I talk to?

You can speak to Lorraine Wentland, Director of Resident Services at 604 806-4203 or Wanda Murphy, Manager Clinical Practice at 604 806-4207. Additional information will be provided in future Family and Friends Updates.

Quality of Life Starts at Home Update

Thank you to the many families that attended our monthly Family and Friends Events in February and March to learn more about Yaletown House's renovation/fundraising project, **Quality of Life Starts at Home**. Now that we have shared our vision and received your feedback, we are developing fundraising strategies to help us realize this important facility wide project. Later this Spring/ Summer members of the Management Team will again be present at Family and Friends Events to share our progress and success stories for **Quality of Life Starts at Home**. Please visit our web site www.yaletown.org for the next Event or watch the elevator board for notices. We are committed to our renovation project and welcome your participation.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns relating to Yaletown House, please contact me at 604 806-4202 or cacrichton@yaletown.org
Carol Crichton, Executive Director

Yaletown House Web Services

Wonder what is for Dinner tonight at Yaletown House?; Did you need the minutes of the last Resident and Family Council meeting?; Can't find the Winter 2006 copy of the Family and Friends Update; Is there bowling today? You can find out all this information and much



much more by logging on to

www.yaletown.org, which is packed with details to assist new and current members of the Yaletown House community.

Vancouver Chamber Players

Yaletown House is pleased to be hosting two more concerts by the Vancouver Chamber Players. The Vancouver Chamber Players are a group of elite, classical musicians arranged by Peter Lang. Please join us for our 2007 performances. All concerts are on Mondays starting at 10:30 until 11:30 am. Next dates: April 23, May 21. Everyone welcome!



Volunteers Grow Community



In honour of National Volunteer Week, we are pleased to present the following events for our tremendous and dedicated

volunteers:

1) **The Joy of Giving** Thursday April 12, 6:30pm-8:30pm. During this night of laughter and celebration, the residents, staff and family members will have an opportunity to thank the volunteers for the tremendous joy and love they bring to our residents. Everyone is welcome.

2) **Milestone Luncheon** Tuesday, April 17, 12pm-1:30pm. Volunteers who have dedicated over one year of service will be invited to join us for a luncheon.

3) **Tea and Tranquility** Thursday April 19, 5:30pm – 7pm. During this evening, the volunteers will be treated to a night of aromatherapy, manicures, herbal tea and desserts.

If you would like to help out with any of these events during Volunteer Appreciation Week, please contact Cori Witvoet, Volunteer Coordinator at 604 806-4206.



Please take a moment during April to thank our wonderful 60 plus volunteers who dedicate their talent and time to the benefit of our residents!



Wedding Bells

In **June is Wedding Month** at Yaletown House and we will be celebrating in style with several Wedding themed events. As part of

the preparation, we ask if anyone has wedding photos (we will scan and return immediately), wedding gowns, veils, etc. that they would be willing to lend for a display, please contact Nina at 604 689-0022 local 328 or nromanow@yaletown.org. Dates and activities for Wedding Month to be announced in April/May.

Resident/Family Survey May 2007



Please watch your mailboxes for the Annual Resident and Family Survey which will be sent out in May. Your responses are vital to ensuring we are meeting the needs of residents and their families as well as addressing any

concerns. Yoying Orosa, Manager, Social Work, will be overseeing the survey result. Yoying can be reached at 604 806-4201 yorosa@yaletown.org



BUILDING SECURITY

Yaletown House is a part of the congested and sometimes transient downtown community and we need to be diligent in ensuring that only authorized visitors are allowed into the facility. Because we have casual staff and new family members on a regular basis, we ask for your cooperation keeping Yaletown House safe and secure:

1. Please always be prepared to identify yourself if approached and requested by a staff member. This request includes advising who you are visiting, which room they reside in and your relationship to the resident. Visitors may be asked these important security questions anywhere in the facility (main lounge, courtyard or a resident's room) as well as at the main entrance when entering through the buzzer system.

2. When entering the facility after hours, especially during the evenings and weekends when there is no receptionist on duty, please watch the door close behind you before leaving the area. This ensures that no one is able to follow you into the building or that residents at risk of elopement are not able to leave unescorted.

3. If you are arriving and become concerned that someone has followed you into the facility (after you have pressed the entry code), please contact a staff member immediately and advise them of your concern. If you cannot locate a staff person, there is a phone near the TV on the main floor and **dial 370** for a nurse. As well, if you are visiting and you suspect someone in the building is not an authorized visitor, please again, contact a staff person immediately who can assess the situation and deal with the individual. Thank you for your assistance.



MOVING?

Please let Sharon, Receptionist, know as soon as possible if you change your contact details. Send information via email reception@yaletown.org or call 604.689.0022 local 300.

Also, if we do not have your email address, please forward this to Sharon for our records.

Yaletown House Society

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