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FEBRUARY 2026



DRDH HOLDS RECOGNITION EVENT TO CELEBRATE EXTRAORDINARY TEAM

DRDH proudly brought team members together to celebrate excellence, dedication, and years of service at our annual recognition event, held on February 20, 2026. *See pages 3-7 for more information.*



UPDATES AHEAD FOR DRDH EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

DRDH is pleased to announce that renovations to our hospital's Emergency Department have begun, bringing important upgrades to enhance the experience for patients, families, and care team members. *See page 8 for more information.*

+ CEO'S CORNER

CONNECTING WITH OUR DRDH TEAM AND COMMUNITY



As February comes to a close, I want to take a moment to thank everyone for the continued dedication you bring each day to caring for our patients, residents, and one another. While a very cold winter continues to present challenges, the strength of our teams and the way we consistently support each other remains a defining part of who we are at DRDH.

This month, I would especially like to recognize and thank our Social Committee. Your ongoing work to create opportunities for connection and engagement makes a meaningful difference across our organization. From bringing teams together to helping us celebrate moments of joy (including far too many sweets over Valentine's Day), your efforts help foster the positive culture that supports both our team and the care we provide.

February has also been a month of progress as we prepare for the launch of our new electronic scheduling system. This fully electronic platform will enhance timely access to schedules and help streamline processes to ensure shifts are filled when needed. This initiative reflects our commitment to innovation and the thoughtful use of technology to enhance both the team member experience and the care experience for those we serve. Thank you to our scheduling team for the significant work underway to implement this important improvement.

We have also continued to advance important infrastructure improvements with the exciting start of our Emergency Department renovations. This project

represents a meaningful enhancement that has been many years in planning and reflects extensive collaboration with both our patients and our teams. I would like to thank the Emergency Department, Diagnostic Imaging, and Registration teams for their support and flexibility as workflows evolve throughout this process. Your adaptability has been essential, and we are grateful for your patience as this important work progresses.

At the same time, we continue to look ahead to the future of our new Long-Term Care Home. Thank you to everyone who enthusiastically responded to the recent call for input into staffing planning for the new building. Your engagement reflects the strong sense of ownership and teamwork that will be essential as we transition into this next chapter. I am very much looking forward to the conversations ahead as we collectively plan how we will work together in our new space with future team members. If you are interested in participating in upcoming sessions, please reach out to Michaela to find a date and time that works for you.

February also gave us the opportunity to come together for our annual Employee Recognition Event. The evening was a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the dedication of our team members, recognize retirements, and honour years of service across the organization. A highlight of the night was presenting our peer-nominated Essential PIECES Award. It was truly my pleasure to present this year's award to Sue, at the heart of our Emergency Department team, who embodies our values of caring, excellence, safety, and partnership each and every day. While Sue's 35 years of service at DRDH are remarkable, what makes her such an essential piece of our organization is the deep care she shows for her team and patients, and the way she supports those around her.

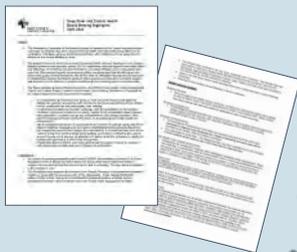
Even as winter continues, it is the energy, collaboration, and forward focus across our teams that keeps momentum moving. Thank you for everything you do - your dedication to one another and to those we serve continues to shape the future of DRDH in meaningful ways.

Sincerely,

Janna Hotson
President and
Chief Executive Officer
Deep River and District Health

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Click [here](#) to read the latest edition of our Board Meeting Highlights.



DRDH HOLDS RECOGNITION EVENT TO CELEBRATE EXCEPTIONAL TEAM



Sue, Registered Nurse, was presented with the 2026 Essential Pieces Award from Janna Hotson, DRDH President and CEO, and Meagen Boisvenue, VP of Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Executive, in recognition of her outstanding dedication, leadership, and compassion to all those we provide care for.

Deep River and District Health (DRDH) proudly brought team members together to celebrate excellence, dedication, and years of service at our annual recognition event, held on February 20, 2026. The event honoured peer-nominated excellence, service milestones, and retirements, recognizing the individuals who bring DRDH's values to life each day.

Janna Hotson, President and CEO of DRDH, reflected on the significance of the celebration. "Our annual recognition event is a special opportunity to pause and celebrate the extraordinary people who make DRDH what it is," said Hotson. "Every day, our team members demonstrate compassion, professionalism, and a deep commitment to the patients, residents, and families we serve. It is a privilege to recognize their contributions and thank them for the difference they make."

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Essential Pieces Award, DRDH's peer-nominated recognition award, which honours an individual who exemplifies the organization's values through their actions and impact.

This year's Essential Pieces Award was presented to Sue, Registered Nurse. Nominated by several of her colleagues in the Emergency Department, Sue was recognized for her dedication, advocacy, and unwavering commitment to both patients and team members alike. Peers described her as a trusted and respected leader whose passion for nursing is evident in everything she does. With 35 years of experience, Sue is known for patiently mentoring colleagues, generously sharing her knowledge, and supporting others in their learning and practice.

Continued on next page...

“Sue truly represents the heart of DRDH,” said Hotson. “She is a steadfast advocate for what is right, safe, and in the best interest of all those she cares for. Sue leads with integrity, compassion, and professionalism, and her commitment to excellence has a lasting impact on those around her. We are proud to honour Sue with this year’s Essential Pieces Award.”

A total of eight nominations were received for the 2026 award, reflecting the many remarkable contributions happening across departments throughout the organization.

In addition to celebrating peer-nominated excellence, DRDH recognized team members who reached important service milestones in 2025. This year, 13 team members received 5-year service pins, 2 received 10-year pins, 1 received a 15-year pin, 3 received 20-year pins, 1 received a 30-year pin and 1 was honoured for 35 years of service. The organization also recognized 3 retirees, each of whom made a lasting impact through their years of dedicated service.

“Service milestones represent more than years worked, they reflect relationships built, challenges overcome, and countless moments of compassionate care,” added Hotson. “To our long-serving team members and retirees, thank you for your dedication and for the meaningful contributions you’ve made to our patients, residents, and community.”

The annual Employee Recognition Event continues to offer an opportunity to come together in gratitude and celebrate the people who strengthen the organization each and every day. DRDH extends sincere thanks to all who attended and helped make the evening a memorable celebration of teamwork and excellence.



Nominees for the 2026 Essential Pieces Award were recognized for exemplifying DRDH’s Mission, Vision, and Values through their outstanding teamwork, dedication, and compassion. Congratulations to team members Heather, Sue and Rebekah (as well as Tara, Marjorie, Phillip, Mandy, and Rachael, who are not pictured) on this well-deserved recognition.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

5 Years

- Melissa
- Sarah
- Katie
- Scott
- Abbie

Chantalle

Mary

Oleg

Jessica

Phillip

Jenny

Rachel

Nikki

10 Years

Madison

Corina

15 Years

Nicole

20 Years

Alana

Ian

Mike

30 Years

Bev

35 Years

Sue

Retirees with 10+ Years of Service

Janet

Pierrette

Sue



Katie (5 years)



Abbie (5 years)



Mary (5 years)



Jenny (5 years)

+ SERVICE MILESTONES



Corina (10 years)



Nicole (15 years)



Alana (20 years)



Ian (20 years)



Mike (20 years)



Sue (35 years)



Pierrette (Retiree)



Janet (Retiree)



ESSENTIAL PIECES AWARD NOMINEES

Below are some of the thoughtful and kind words shared by colleagues about each of this year's Essential Pieces Award nominees:

	<p>Sue 2026 Essential Pieces Award Recipient</p>	<p><i>“Sue kindly and patiently supports her colleagues in their learning and practice. Working alongside Sue has been an ongoing inspiration and has made me a better nurse - she’s a rare and precious asset.”</i></p>
<p><i>“Tara never misses a beat to help a fellow colleague in every situation, to ensure proper staffing and safe standards of care. Tara is the definition of teamwork and collaboration.”</i></p>	<p>Tara 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	
	<p>Marjorie 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	<p><i>“Marjorie’s kindness has made a huge difference to me, not to mention her infinite patience!”</i></p>
<p><i>“Rachael has been nothing but helpful and easy to work with. Her expertise make her an excellent resource and source of knowledge. She’s always open and receptive to answering questions, and flexible when things change.”</i></p>	<p>Rachael 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	
<p>Phil 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	<p><i>“Phil is always happy to help with any concerns and takes the time to explain things, allowing us to better understand the systems we rely on every day.”</i></p>	
<p><i>“I am both grateful and impressed with the level of care that Mandy applies to her job, and it has elevated my own knowledge and care.”</i></p>	<p>Mandy 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	
	<p>Heather 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	<p><i>“The kindness and compassion Heather shows patients surpasses anything I’ve seen. She knows everyone by name, and is an integral part of our community and team.”</i></p>
<p><i>“Rebekah’s approachable nature and genuine willingness to listen create a safe and supportive environment for all. Her open-door policy and calm approach to every situation make her someone people trust and feel comfortable turning to.”</i></p>	<p>Rebekah 2026 Essential Pieces Award Nominee</p>	

UPGRADES AHEAD FOR DRDH EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



Deep River and District Health (DRDH) is pleased to announce that renovations to our hospital's Emergency Department will begin the week of February 9, bringing important upgrades to enhance the experience for patients, families, and care team members. These important upgrades will improve accessibility, privacy, and overall flow, while ensuring the Emergency Department remains fully open throughout the renovation period.

Planned improvements include new private and accessible areas for triage and registration, expanded seating for patients and families, as well as redesigned spaces to support better movement and workflow for both patients and care teams. Together, these changes will help improve confidentiality and efficiency for everyone who visits the department.

A portion of the funding for the renovations has been made possible through the tremendous support of the Deep River and District Health Auxiliary, who have a longstanding history of strengthening healthcare services at DRDH through dedicated volunteerism and generous financial contributions.

Renovation work will be completed in stages to minimize disruption as much as possible. The Emergency Department will remain open, and patients and visitors are asked to follow posted signage and temporary wayfinding as construction progresses. DRDH team members will be available to assist anyone who needs help navigating the space.

DRDH would like to thank our community for their patience and understanding over the coming months and we look forward to sharing updates as the project moves forward.



INTRODUCING OUR REFRESHED STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

We are pleased to share with you our refreshed DRDH Standards of Behaviour.

Our previous Standards were developed back in 2017, and since then, a great deal has evolved; our organization has grown, our services have expanded, our partnerships have deepened. Most importantly, our culture, focus, and the makeup of our team have continued to evolve.

As DRDH continues to grow and develop, it is essential that we remain grounded in who we are.

These updated Standards of Behaviour were developed with input from team members and leaders from across our organization to ensure they reflect not only who we are today, but who we aspire to be tomorrow.

Our Standards of Behaviour are more than a policy. They define how we show up for one another, for patients and residents, and for our community. They are part of the shared language that shapes our culture and guides how we work together. As we grow in size and complexity, these shared expectations help ensure we remain anchored in our values, our identity, and our commitment to people-centred care.

At DRDH, these Standards apply to all of us - team members, physicians, volunteers, leaders, learners, and directors. They are a core part of who we are and how we live our PIECES values every day.

While the refreshed Standards remain grounded in the familiar PIECES framework based in our values, there are some important shifts in our new Standards that reflect our continued evolution:

- A greater focus on person-centred approaches in all interactions
- Clearer expectations around collaboration, feedback, and shared learning
- An expanded commitment to transparency, stewardship, and accountability
- Stronger emphasis on psychological safety – specifically on creating environments where everyone feels heard, supported, and safe
- Recognition that innovation includes not just change, but continuous improvement and openness to new ideas
- Reinforcing that safety includes both physical and psychological wellbeing

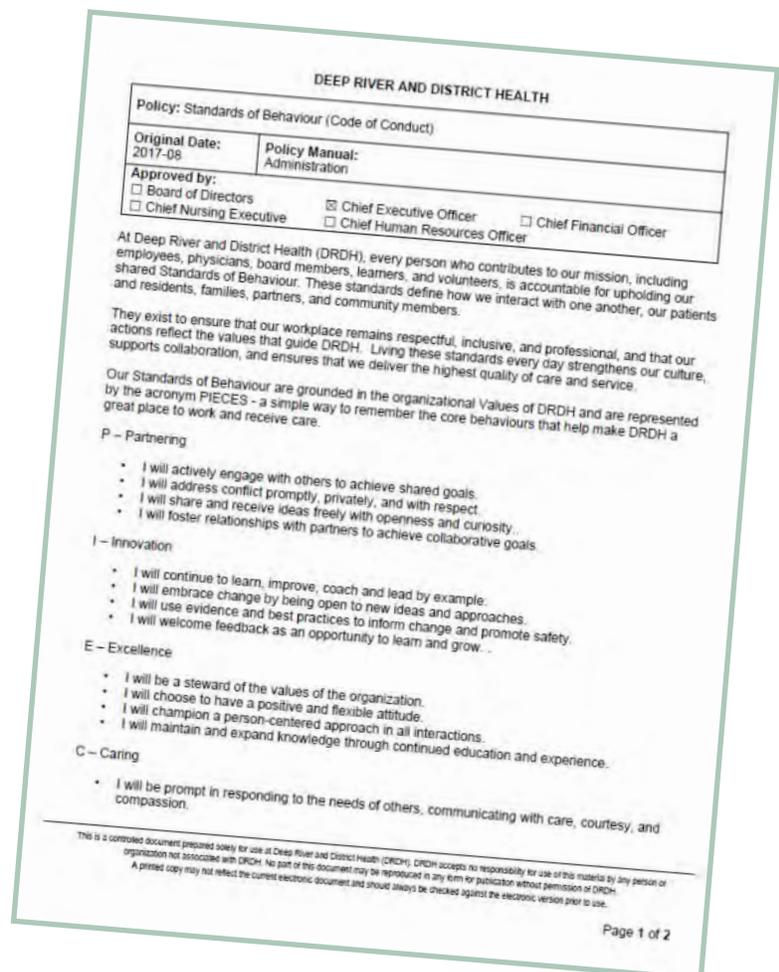
In short, the refreshed Standards move beyond professionalism alone to more fully reflect our commitment to compassion, teamwork, growth, and belonging for everyone at DRDH.

These Standards will continue to serve as a shared guide for how we work together and support one another, helping ensure that as we grow, our culture remains intentional, respectful, and aligned with our values.

Thank you to everyone who provided input and feedback throughout this process. Your voices helped shape a set of Standards that truly reflect our organization today and will guide us into tomorrow.

Together, these help ensure DRDH remains not only a trusted place to receive care, but truly a great place to work and belong.

Check out this month's education, or PolicyMedical, for the full updated Standards of Behaviour.



LONG-TERM CARE BUILDING PROGRESS



Construction on the new Four Seasons Lodge Long-Term Care Home continues to progress steadily, with visible momentum both inside and out.

Exterior cladding remains underway across multiple wings, and more windows have been installed, further defining the building's exterior. Inside, crews are advancing wall framing, fire protection systems, and stair installation.

With each passing month, the structure becomes more complete and the vision for this 96-bed home comes further to life. We look forward to sharing more updates as we continue creating a welcoming, person-centred home for future residents.

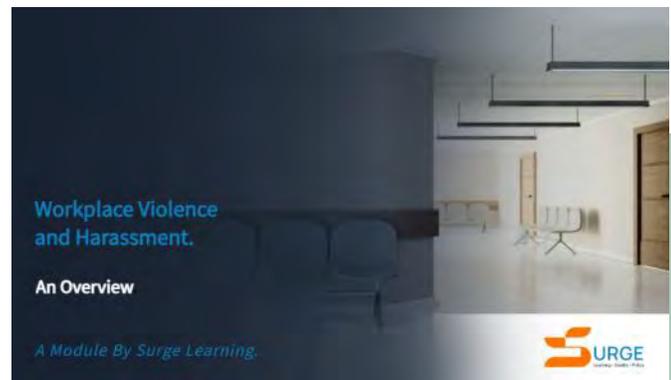


MANDATORY EDUCATION

MARCH 2026

Please see the assigned education for the month of March on Surge Learning. This is due to be completed by **Wednesday, March 25, 2026**. Please contact Rebekah if you are having any issues accessing the education.

Topic	Target Staff
Mission Statement & Standards of Behaviour	All
Workplace Violence and Harassment: by Surge Learning Inc	All
Shifting Focus-Tips for Communicating w/ People with Dementia	All
Cyber Security Bundle	All
Sick Note Policy	All
Environmental Cleaning – Module 3 – Routine Practices and Additional Precautions	Environmental Service
What is Gender Affirming care? We Are Allies	RN, RPN, PSW, DI, Rec, Physio, Medical Records, FHT
Care Considerations for Inclusion of Gender Diversity within Medical Laboratory Services	Lab
OPTidry™ - Cutting-edge OPL Over-dry Prevention Technology	Environmental Service
CLRI – Diet Report, Food Texture, and Fluid Consistency	RPN/PSW/Rec Worker
Guide to Dysphagia 3D animation of swallowing	Dietary
RESOURCE THICKENUP Clear Thickening Demonstration	Dietary
IDDSI Flow Test Instructions	Dietary
IDDSI Food Level Testing (Level 4 Pureed)	Dietary
IDDSI - Minced and Moist Sandwich (Level 5)	Dietary
IDDSI Food Level Testing (Level 6 Soft and Bite-sized)	Dietary
IDDSI Food Level Testing (Level 7 Easy to Chew)	Dietary
Dysphagia - pleasing presentation for Dysphagia diet	Dietary



Please contact Rebekah (rebekah.thompson@drdh.org) if you are having any issues accessing the education.



STAFF HAPPENINGS

NEW HIRES



Connor



Kaytie

WELCOME!

This month, we are pleased to welcome two new members to our team. Connor has joined us as Communications Assistant, and Kaytie is a Dietary Aide. Please join us in extending a warm DRDH welcome to all our new team members.



HAPPY RECREATION THERAPY MONTH

February is Recreation Therapy Month, and we're proud to celebrate our dedicated Recreation Team at the Lodge!

Recreation therapy is an essential part of person-centred care in our home, creating meaningful opportunities for residents to connect, stay active, express themselves, and experience joy each and every day. From music and movement to games, special events, and one-to-one visits, our team thoughtfully plans programs that support residents' physical, cognitive, social, and emotional well-being.

This month, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our team and volunteers who bring creativity, compassion, and enthusiasm to everything they do - including Robin, Recreation Worker, and Jenny, Director of Care, pictured here. Your commitment helps make the Lodge a vibrant, engaging place to call home!



A MESSAGE OF THANKS

Below is a message of thanks received from a grateful family member:

My family cannot thank each and every one of those involved in my [loved ones'] care. Dr. Quenneville was her doctor and she truly is the most compassionate and caring physician. Each of the staff helped her with a peaceful and pain free [experience]. You will never know how this eased our burden as any family. Words cannot describe our gratefulness. Blessings to all who restored my faith in our healthcare.

- Thank You -

HAPPY RESIDENT DOCTORS APPRECIATION WEEK



This week, we're proud to celebrate Resident Doctors Appreciation Week at DRDH!

We're so grateful to have incredible resident physicians like Dr. Sypes and Dr. Ritchie, pictured here, training with us here in Deep River this week. Whether they're providing care in the Emergency Department, supporting our Medical Inpatient Unit, or learning about rural medicine, their dedication and compassion make a meaningful impact across our organization every single day.

We also love seeing the connections built beyond the clinical setting - like this recent photo of residents and physicians enjoying a bowling night together! These fun experiences are part of what makes training in a rural community so special.



Thank you to all the residents who choose DRDH to complete rural or emergency medicine blocks as part of your residency journey. We're honoured to be part of your training and proud to support the next generation of physicians. If you're interested in coordinating a future block with us, we'd love to connect — reach out to learn more about training opportunities in Deep River.

Please join us in recognizing our resident doctors for the meaningful contributions they make to our patients, our team, and our community.

WE ♥ OUR
RESIDENTS!

CODE RED RESPONSE

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our team for their professionalism and calm response during the Code Red that took place on February 21, 2026.

A special shout-out goes to Jessica, Sarah, Bonnie, and Jennifer for their remarkable teamwork in a high-pressure moment. From quickly extinguishing the fire to supporting one another and safeguarding patients and residents, their actions were steady, decisive, and purposeful. Thanks to their swift response and strong collaboration, the situation was contained quickly. We are grateful to share that there were no injuries as a result of the incident.

The fire incident was contained to a single circumstance and did not reflect broader safety concerns. Our team's preparedness and adherence to established safety protocols ensured the situation did not escalate. Moments like this reflect the strength of our training, teamwork, and commitment to maintaining a safe environment for everyone in our care.

We are also grateful for the support of the Deep River Fire Department, who shared the following message with us:

“On behalf of the Deep River Fire Department, I am writing to express our deepest gratitude and admiration for the exceptional response of your staff during the fire incident on Saturday, February 21. Specifically, we would like to acknowledge Sarah and the Nursing and Clinical Team for their quick response to extinguish the fire. It is clear that DRDH prioritizes emergency preparedness. The professionalism displayed by your staff undoubtedly prevented a difficult situation from becoming a tragedy. We are proud to serve alongside such a dedicated group of professionals. Please extend our thanks to your entire team for their bravery and cooperation. We look forward to our continued partnership in keeping our community safe.”



We are incredibly proud of our team. Your composure, courage, and commitment to safety make a meaningful difference every day - especially in moments that matter most.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW PIECES IN PRACTICE AWARD—NOW LIVE!

We recently introduced our refreshed Standards of Behaviour, which outline our shared commitment to how we show up for one another, for patients and residents, and for our community. These Standards reflect our culture and reinforce what it means to live our PIECES values every day.

Now, we're excited to officially launch a new way to recognize those values in action.

As voted on by our team, our new ongoing peer-to-peer recognition program is officially called **Pieces in Practice**, a name that perfectly captures the spirit of this initiative. This program is designed to celebrate the everyday moments when our colleagues demonstrate our values of **(P) Partnering, (I) Innovation, (E) Excellence, (C) Caring, (E) Ethics & Integrity, and (S) Safety**, in meaningful ways.

Pieces in Practice builds on the foundation of our annual Essential Pieces Award by extending that recognition throughout the year and creating even more opportunities to celebrate one another.

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INTRODUCING OUR NEW PIECES IN PRACTICE AWARD—NOW LIVE!

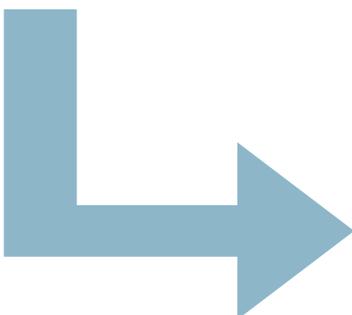
Here's a reminder of how it works:

- Team members can nominate a colleague who exemplifies one of our six organizational values at any time. Six recipients will be selected every three months, one representing each value
- Recipients will receive a custom recognition pin in our brand colours, engraved with the value they were recognized for
- All nominees will be considered for our annual Essential Pieces Award
- All recipients will be featured on a special recognition bulletin board, and both nominees and nominators will be entered into a draw for cafeteria vouchers
- Recipients will also be celebrated in the Zinger newsletter and on social media

Nominations for our first recognition cycle are officially open now, and nominating someone is easy. Simply head to the Microsoft form linked *[in Janna's email from March 1 or on posters around the organization]* and share who you would like to recognize, which value they have exemplified, and what inspired you to nominate them – that's it!

Our refreshed Standards of Behaviour set the expectations for how we work together. Pieces in Practice gives us the opportunity to pause and recognize when we see those Standards - and our values - brought to life in real, tangible ways.

Thank you for helping us celebrate the many "pieces" that make our organization so special.



DEEP RIVER & DISTRICT HEALTH

PIECES IN PRACTICE

Peer-to-Peer Recognition Program
NOMINATIONS OPEN NOW!

NOMINATE
Scan the QR code to access the nomination form:

See Janna's email or posters for the QR code

SHARE

1. Share **who** you would like to recognize
2. Select **which value** they have exemplified
3. Tell us **what inspired you** to nominate them - that's it!

CELEBRATE

Six winners will be chosen every three months - one for each value.

Winners will receive a custom pin, be recognized internally and publicly, and both nominees and nominators will be entered into a draw for cafeteria vouchers!

All nominations will also be considered for our annual Essential Pieces Award

Let's celebrate the amazing people who bring our values to life every day!

STAFFING PLANNING FOR OUR NEW LONG-TERM CARE HOME

- INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE -

As we continue planning for the opening of our expanded Long-Term Care Home in 2027, we are beginning the next phase of important work: staffing pattern and workforce planning.

We are inviting any interested team members to participate in a series of in-person engagement sessions in early March. These sessions are designed to hear directly from you about what is most important as we develop a robust, sustainable, and supportive staffing plan for the new home.

Your insight and experience matter. The way we design staffing patterns, supports, and workflows will shape how we work together, how we support one another, and how we deliver care in the new space. These sessions are an opportunity to share what works well today, what could work better in the future, and what you believe is essential to making the new home successful for residents, families, and our team.

The goal of these sessions is to:

- Gather input to inform staffing patterns and scheduling approaches
- Identify key supports needed to work effectively in the expanded home
- Ensure the staffing plan reflects both care needs and work experience
- Build a strong foundation for recruitment, orientation, and retention

Session Details:

Format: In-person engagement sessions

Location: DRDH Classroom

- Wednesday, March 4 – 2:00 - 3:30 pm
- Friday, March 6 – 11:30 - 1:00 pm
- Monday, March 9 – 2:00 - 3:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 11 – 11:30 am – 1:00 pm & 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
- Thursday, March 12- 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

To help us plan appropriately, RSVP is required.

Please confirm your intention to participation in one of the above sessions by contacting Michaela at mvaclavinek@drdh.org or extension 7100.

We are genuinely excited to hear from you and grateful for your willingness to contribute your ideas and perspectives. Your participation will help ensure the staffing plan, and the supports that go with it, truly work for the people who will bring our new home to life every day.

Thank you for your continued engagement and commitment as we plan together for this next chapter.



NON-VIOLENT CRISIS INTERVENTION INTRSUCTOR TRAINING

Our team is always learning and strengthening the skills that keep everyone safe.

This month, DRDH hosted Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Instructor Training with our partners at St Francis Memorial Hospital and Renfrew Victoria Hospital. This important training equips our care team to share practical tools to prevent, de-escalate, and safely respond to challenging situations with confidence and compassion.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this instructor training so we can continue to foster a safe, respectful environment for both our patients and our team members.



INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TRAINING

Working together to strengthen our community's emergency preparedness!



DRDH was pleased to host Incident Management System (IMS) 200 training by Emergency Management Ontario ON February 18 and 19, welcoming participants from a broad range of community partners, including Miramachi Lodge, North Renfrew Long-Term Care Services Inc., Valley Manor, County of Renfrew, Town of Petawawa, Marianhill, Groves Park Lodge and others. Bringing leaders and responders together in one room strengthens coordination, communication, and clarity when it matters most.

We are proud to support ongoing learning opportunities that help keep our patients, residents, team members, and community safe.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS



This Valentine's Day, members of our Social Committee spread the love across DRDH, delivering **more than 150** candy grams sent between colleagues! A big thank you to everyone who participated, and to our Social Committee for making the day a little sweeter for all!

ACCREDITATION SURVEY—ONE YEAR COUNT-DOWN!

Accreditation Canada Survey 2027 An Opportunity to Showcase our Excellence!

We are very excited to share that our organization will once again be participating in the Accreditation Canada survey process in early 2027. With one year (12 months) until our survey begins, preparation is already underway, and this is a wonderful opportunity for us to highlight the exceptional care and services we provide every day at DRDH.

For those who may be unfamiliar, Accreditation Canada is an independent nongovernmental organization that evaluates healthcare organizations against best practices and standards of excellence. We participate in the process every four years as part of our commitment to quality, safety, and continuous improvement. The survey allows us to celebrate what we are doing well, learn from one another, and identify opportunities to further strengthen the care we deliver to our patients, residents, and community.

During the survey, Accreditation surveyors will visit our organization to learn more about how we work, observe care in action, and speak with staff, physicians, patients, residents, and community members. This is our chance to share our stories, demonstrate our expertise, and showcase the dedication and professionalism that define our teams.

Preparation activities have already begun, and over the coming months you will receive additional information, education opportunities, and ways to provide input and feedback as we move forward together.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Meagen Biosvenue or your manager.

Thank you in advance for your engagement and participation in this valuable process - your contributions are what make our organization exceptional.



ACCREDITATION
CANADA

PARTNER NEWS

Below is a summary of the accomplishments of our amazing on-site partners at the Deep River and Area Food Bank from the 2025 year:



Deep River and Area Food Bank Inc. ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025

117 Banting Drive, P.O. Box 1015, Deep River, ON K0J 1P0
Phone: 613-584-3333 ext. 7910

CLIENTS AND USAGE	2024	2025	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Households served ○ Total visits ○ Average visits per household ○ Children helped ○ Adults helped ○ Households on file (3 years) ○ Households on file with children 	<p>181</p> <p>1,136</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>118</p> <p>227</p> <p>276</p> <p>76 (28%)</p>	<p>192</p> <p>1,115</p> <p>5.8</p> <p>131</p> <p>259</p> <p>268</p> <p>63 (24%)</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Total visits each year</p> </div> <p>The Food Bank receives about 100 visits per month.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deep River ■ Chalk River ■ West </div>
<p>Origin of clients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deep River ○ Chalk River ○ West of Deep River 	<p>58%</p> <p>23%</p> <p>19%</p>	<p>61%</p> <p>24%</p> <p>15%</p>	
FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS			
<p>Total boxes of food provided</p> <p>Sources of food:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boxes grocery reclamations ○ Boxes donated food ○ Boxes purchased food 	<p>~3,900</p> <p>891 (23%)</p> <p>~980 (25%)</p> <p>~2,030 (52%)</p>	<p>~3,850</p> <p>805 (21%)</p> <p>~725 (19%)</p> <p>~2,300 (60%)</p>	<p>In 2025, monetary donations to our Food Bank continued to be generous. Our bank balance remains in good shape.</p> <p>While the amount of food donated by individuals decreased in 2025, individual monetary donations increased more than enough to compensate.</p>
FINANCIALS			
<p>OPERATING INCOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individuals ○ Churches ○ Organizations & clubs ○ Businesses ○ Bank interest ○ Government 	<p>\$156,505</p> <p>\$95,182</p> <p>\$5,215</p> <p>\$26,330</p> <p>\$8,636</p> <p>\$6,141</p> <p>\$15,000</p>	<p>\$152,372</p> <p>\$107,956</p> <p>\$3,294</p> <p>\$32,027</p> <p>\$5,237</p> <p>\$3,231</p> <p>\$625</p>	<p>An issue for 2026 is that there will no longer be surplus food donated by out-of-town grocery stores ("reclamations"). However, assuming the current generosity of our donors continues, we expect to be able to purchase food to replace this loss.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donations of funds or non-perishable foods are equally welcome.</p>
<p>OPERATING EXPENSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food purchases ○ Facility & rent ○ Administration & insurance ○ Extra support services (taxi, supplemental food) ○ Cash spent per client visit 	<p>\$108,801</p> <p>\$97,928</p> <p>\$2,256</p> <p>\$2,022</p> <p>\$6,595</p> <p>\$96</p>	<p>\$110,889</p> <p>\$94,380</p> <p>\$3,758</p> <p>\$2,200</p> <p>\$10,551</p> <p>\$99</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Food ■ Facility & Rent ■ Admin & Insurance ■ Support Services </div> <p>The vast majority of our spending was on food. We spent almost \$100 per client at each visit, and supplemented this with donated food.</p>
VOLUNTEERS			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of volunteers 	<p>21</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>Our volunteers take responsibility, work hard, and enjoy each other. The Food Bank runs on 100% volunteer effort (no payroll).</p>

+ FOUR SEASONS LODGE NEWS

Travel and Taste



Residents enjoyed a vibrant Travel & Taste dinner, exploring Chinese cuisine and culture right from their dining room. From delicious dishes to beautifully themed décor, it was a feast for the senses!

Creativity continued in Art for Beginners, where residents explored new artistic skills and enjoyed a fun, hands-on experience together.

+ RESIDENTS' COUNCIL CORNER



The Residents' Council continues to play an active role in shaping programs, celebrations, and life at the Lodge.

Members reviewed the newly launched Travel & Taste program, introduced in January, and shared very positive feedback. Residents especially enjoyed how the home transformed for the Chinese New Year celebration. The Valentine's Day décor was also a highlight, along with the fine dining experience, where residents chose between steak or stuffed chicken and finished the evening with red velvet layered cake for dessert.

Looking ahead, the Lodge will be marking several fun international food days next month, including Tortellini Day, Popcorn Day, and Cupcake Day. Plans are also underway for a takeout lunch from the chip truck, complete with a poutine bar. Future Travel & Taste

destinations will include Mexico and Ireland, bringing more opportunities to explore culture and cuisine together.

Residents shared their enjoyment of the morning Spa program and expressed interest in adding makeovers to the experience. Art for Beginners continues to be well attended, and there is growing excitement about creating crafts to sell at a Spring Bazaar in April ahead of Mother's Day.

Resident Gail also shared an update from a recent meeting on the new long-term care home, noting that the home remains on track to open in summer 2027. The top floor is now framed, which is another exciting milestone as the future Four Seasons Lodge continues to take shape.

+ FOUR SEASONS LODGE NEWS

Happy Valentine's Day



Residents at the Lodge spent time preparing sweet goodie bags for their loved ones, as well as floral centerpieces, for this Valentine's Day.



+ FOOD AND RECREATION COMMITTEE



The Food and Recreation Committee has been busy planning special moments and meaningful experiences for residents.

A petty cash box and process has now been established for the resident funds collected at the Holiday Bazaar. As their first purchase, the group discussed organizing a special take-out lunch from the Fry Truck in Chalk River — a special meal residents are looking forward to.

The Committee also reviewed the food and activity related questions included in the annual satisfaction survey. Members reflected on the many positive changes in recreation programming, including an increase in special events and the introduction of new offerings such as Arts and Crafts and Travel and Taste evenings. It was also shared that residents are pleased with the changes made to the menu based on their feedback, and appreciate the variety offered at mealtimes.

February was full of celebration. Travel and Taste took residents on a trip to China in honour of Lunar New Year, with festive décor and Chinese cuisine ordered in for everyone to enjoy. Valentine's festivities began with a Galentine's gathering on February 13, followed by a special steak and chicken dinner on February 14. Residents were also delighted to receive handmade Valentine's cards from kindergarten students in Pembroke and the Deep River Sparks. The month wrapped up with cake and celebration in honour of Robin during Recreation Therapy Month.

Looking ahead to March, plans are underway for a St. Patrick's Day meal featuring Irish stew and corned beef and cabbage. Residents are extending an invitation to DRDH retiree and volunteer, Marian, to visit and share stories about Ireland and maybe even bake Irish soda bread together. Drink suggestions for an upcoming Mexican-themed Travel and Taste evening were also discussed.

The Committee's thoughtful planning continues to bring variety, celebration, and connection to daily life at the Lodge!

BREAKFAST & BONSPIEL



BREAKFAST & BONSPIEL

Saturday, March 7th 2026

**REGISTER NOW @
DRDHFoundation.com/events**

Entry by Donation (minimum \$25/person)



Breakfast & Lunch Included

Deep River Curling & Squash Club
1 Grante Rd, Deep River

Musical Guests: Laurentian Hillbillies

Hurry hard and register now for the 4th Annual DRDH Foundation Breakfast & Bonspiel.

Saturday, March 7th

Pancake breakfast 8:00 AM
Curling 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM

Deep River Curling and Squash Club

Prepare for a fun-filled day with complimentary breakfast and lunch, live music, competitions, prizes, and.....curling!

We have space for 16 teams!

Registration is by donation with a minimum of \$25/person required. Anything above that will receive a charitable tax receipt.

REGISTER NOW
@ DRDHFoundation.com/events

So dust of those brooms, and let's curl for a cause!





Join us for a pancake breakfast! The amazing DRDH Dietary Team, along with some special volunteers, are hosting a delicious community breakfast at the Deep River Legion and we'd love to see you there.

Date: Saturday, March 7th
Time: 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Location: Deep River Legion

Adults: \$12
Kids (12 & under): \$6
Bonspiel Participants FREE

All proceeds from this event will go towards the Get On Board: Connecting Community campaign. Helps us provide safe and accessible transportation for our residents at the Four Seasons Lodge!

RUN FOR HOME—REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

**RUN FOR HOME
IS NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION
JUNE 27 | 2026**

For more information, and to register today, please visit:

<https://drdhfoundation.com/RFHRegistration>

Register Before **May 29th,
2026 To Guarantee Your
Race T-Shirt!**



CALL FOR CONTENT

Is there something you would like to see appear in the next issue of The Zinger newsletter? Please submit your photos and information to Connor at cbunn@drdh.org.

*Deep River and District Health receives funding from Ontario Health.
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