

February 11, 2026

Management Response to Family Council Questions – February 11, 2026

Mallory Yeager, Therapeutic Programs and Services Manager

1) Can you tell us a bit about how recreation activities are planned and what's working well right now?

The recreation programs are created and implemented based on each resident's individualized care plan. For every new admission, the Recreation Therapist completes an intake assessment based on those assessments residents' needs and goals are determined, these goals guide the recreation team in selecting appropriate programs and support program placement.

If no suitable program exists, or if residents' needs are not being met, new programs are developed to address those needs. All recreation programs are designed with the five core therapeutic domains in mind: social, physical, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual. The recreation manager and staff continually evaluate and update programming to ensure residents' needs are being effectively supported.

2) If families wanted to help out, what kinds of support would actually be helpful, especially on weekends or holidays?

Volunteering is the most meaningful way for family members to contribute. Licensing and George Derby Centre Policy requirements mandate that all volunteers complete a formal process, including a background check. Volunteer paperwork can be obtained from Mallory in paper format or via email at MYeager@georgederby.ca.

Any family member wishing to assist the recreation team must complete the official volunteer process, Volunteers are supervised by recreation staff during their volunteer hours.

The recreation department also welcomes assistance with the gardens. Families are encouraged to adopt a greenspace and tend to it with their loved one.

- If gardening only with their own loved one, formal volunteer status is *not* required.
- If Family Council wishes to adopt and maintain a greenspace without resident involvement, formal volunteer status is not required.



- If assisting residents other than their own loved one, formal volunteer status is required.

3) Is it possible to have more large group activities in the afternoon (around 1–3 p.m.), and where is the best place for families to see what’s coming up?

The recreation department carefully balances large group, small group, and one-to-one programming across the home. Large group activities are not appropriate for all residents. To ensure that the needs of all residents are being met not just the same group of approximately 30 residents programming is intentionally varied in size and format.

Regular large group programs include bingo, pub socials, birthday parties, special events, music groups, and more.

Families can view upcoming programming in the following locations:

- Recreation calendars posted on each unit (near dining rooms and recreation boards in hallways)
- Main Street (near the bathrooms)
- The George Derby Centre website

Residents who are able to independently choose and attend programs may also request a personal recreation calendar for their room.

4) Is there an update on partnering with local schools to have students come in and volunteer?

George Derby Centre has been partnered with Cariboo Hill Secondary School for several years. Through this partnership, high school students participate in a work experience program at the Centre. Because students attend outside of regular school hours, they are typically onsite in the evenings and on weekends.

Additionally, several local elementary schools visit throughout the year for special programs and events. All students, like volunteers, are supervised by the recreation staff during their time at the Centre.