

## Menno Place Family Council

### Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2026 – 7 to 8 pm

Virtual Meeting

#### Agenda

Time	Discussion Item(s)
7:00 – 7:05 pm	<p><b>Call to Order (Chair)</b>  <i>First Nations Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Stó:lō peoples, specifically the Sumas and Matsqui First nations. We admire the community-of-care and respect of Elders prevalent in First Nations culture and acknowledge that the Family Council aspires to be a meaningful and effective community-of-care.</i></p> <p><b>Review Agenda</b></p>
7:05 – 7:10 pm	<b>Introductions of Meeting Attendees</b>
7:10 – 7:15 pm	<b>Review Minutes from June Meeting</b>
7:15 – 7:45 pm	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gerry App Survey results</li> <li>• Presentation from Menno Place Recreation Manager &amp; Volunteer Coordinator regarding upcoming activities</li> <li>• Discuss the grief support process for families whose loved ones are near death and dying</li> </ul>
7:45 – 7:55 pm	<b>Round-table discussion of questions into the family council</b>
7:55 – 8:00 pm	<p><b>Schedule next meeting</b>                      Proposed Date/Time: April 2026 (Date and Time TBD) – Virtual &amp; In Person</p>

#### Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
<b>Attendees</b>	Rob Schulz, Marlee Groening, Leah Savage, Grant McMillan, Sarah Browne, Linda Weatherly, Pooja Mishra, Janet Isaac	
<b>Regrets</b>	Kathleen McMillan	
<b>Call to Order</b>	<b>Call Meeting to Order</b> – Rob (Chair)	
<b>Review Agenda</b>	<b>Land Acknowledgement</b>	
<b>Introductions</b>	<b>Introductions of Meeting Attendees:</b> See list of attendees	
<b>Review Previous Meeting</b>	<b>Reviewed the previous meeting's minutes</b> - Rob	

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<b>Minutes</b>	<p>These minutes can be found on the Menno Place Life website in the Family Council section: <a href="#">Family Council – Home and Hospital – Menno Place Life – For Residents and Families</a></p> <p>The Interaction Tracker is also on the website now.</p>	
<b>New Business</b>	<p><b>Gerry App Survey Results presentation</b> - Sarah</p> <p>Menno Place Executive Director of Care would like to leave the survey open longer. Menno will send a message out that the survey is still open. Ideally we'd like 30% response rate, which is about 104 respondents. Currently at 41 respondents.</p> <p>Will also look into having notices on the units and possibly a QR code that family members can use to access the survey when onsite at Menno.</p>	<p>Send the presentation to Executive Director of Care.</p> <p>Post on Menno Place Life webpage, QR code on units with extension of the survey</p>
	<p><b>Presentation on upcoming activities</b> - Linda</p> <p>Menno Place Recreation Team: 11 full-time Recreation Aides and 7 casual staff</p> <p>What's happening?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mother Goose – intergenerational – pre-school kids come to visit residents in the LTC units. Apartment residents are also welcome to join.</li><li>• Concert in Care - Health Arts Society. Last Tuesday of each month.</li><li>• Multicultural Month – New activity – For February celebrating four countries that are part of the residents' heritage (Germany, Mexico, Italy and Russia). Each week is a different country. The Thursday menu features food from that country.</li><li>• Chomp Saw – New activity – It's a safe tool that mimics the use of the jigsaw. Primarily geared to men to give them a safe tool to use.</li><li>• Sensory Rover – multisensory experience that helps residents relax. The grand opening is in the assisted living apartments. Rec Aides can bring</li></ul>	<p>Send the presentation to the Family Council for posting with the meeting minutes.</p>

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	<p>people over to the apartments to try it. It has given the Rec Aides some ideas of sensory things to do on a smaller scale for the LTC units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bus Trips – variety of destinations</li><li>• Puppy visits – A breeder brings their mini-schnauzer puppies in to visit residents. The event is in the chapel and then they take the puppies to Menno Home to reduce the need to porter residents to the chapel.</li></ul> <p>Summer Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Butterfly Release – June 12th</li><li>• Canada Day Celebration – June 24<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Summer Beach Party with Elvis – July 30<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Ice cream social – Aug 13<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Grandparents Day – Sept 12<sup>th</sup> (last year about 750 people attended)</li></ul> <p>Therapeutic Rec Appreciation Month – created an appreciation board with stickies for co-workers and others to add notes of appreciation for the Recreation staff.</p> <p>The team takes team photos at each event.</p> <p>Comment about being appreciative for all the work that the team does to host events for the residents and their families.</p>	
	<p><b>Discuss the grief support process for families whose loved ones are near death and dying</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chaplain is a key resource and the social workers. They are trained to stay updated in their field of practice.</li><li>• Have recently partnered with the Hospice Society to have joint webinars for staff.</li><li>• Chaplain team is available to family after the death of their loved ones. No defined timeline.</li><li>• See people dying alone without family by their side. Recently a family</li></ul>	<p>The Executive Director of Care offered to take the topic offline with the family member raising the question.</p> <p>The Executive Director of Care will have the team develop a resource sheet. Family Council to work with Menno on this.</p>

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	<p>member was asked not to return to Menno to connect with the staff to bring gifts to the team. Some concerns about how Menno is supporting grieving families. People grieve differently as do various cultures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We also want to understand the processes for when a loved one dies, such as the logistics.</li></ul>	
<b>Round-table discussion of questions for the Family Council</b>	<p>Expressed appreciation to the Menno staff and Sarah for their presentations. Very informative.</p>	
	<p>Enjoyed grandparents' day...it was great! Their Mum really enjoyed the day as well and talked about it the next day.</p>	
	<p><b>Dementia Series</b> – Second session is on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am at the Menno Hospital Chapel.</p>	<p>Menno will ask for the session to be recorded for those who can't attend since it's during the day.</p>
<b>Schedule Next Meeting</b>	<p>Date/Time: April 2026 (Date and Time TBD) – Virtual &amp; In Person</p>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm</p>	