From the CEO's desk

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Tree Of Giving 2025

I am honoured to share the wonderful news about our annual **Tree of Giving** fundraiser! In an incredible display of community spirit, all wishes were snatched up in less than four hours on Saturday, November 15th, 2025! This cherished tradition has been a staple for many years, bringing together our long-term care/Territorial dementia residents and staff to craft their Christmas wishes.

"It is not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving"

Mother Teresa

As we embrace the holiday season, it's important to remember that many of our seniors don't have family members nearby or may have loved ones who are unable to travel to Yellowknife.

This can make the holiday season feel particularly lonely for them. That's where the **Tree of Giving** comes in—this program invites our community to step in as family and friends,

spreading warmth and joy to those who might otherwise feel isolated.



Year after year, we are blessed with many repeat families, businesses, and even classrooms who come together to select a special wish from our **Tree of Giving**.



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The actual Tree of Giving with wishes hanging!

They then create delightful baskets filled with goodies for our residents. The wishes are often simple yet meaningful—think of cozy new slippers, warm mitts, or even a classic DVD of *Die Hard*! I've always admired the creativity of our community, as many donors include chocolates and even pictures of their families or classrooms in the packages. It's incredibly touching to hear residents refer to those pictures as their "Christmas family." Moments like these truly warm your heart!







Our very own famous Chief People Officer, Lindsey Dwojak, who goes by the alias "Bacon Betty" is seen showcasing her incredible cookie talent!

In addition to this wonderful celebration, AVENS also hosts a creative craft sale and professional pictures with Santa. A big thank you goes out to Don Finnamore for stepping in as our AVENS Santa while the "real Santa" was likely lounging

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with a margarita somewhere in the Arizona desert (inside information)!



Thank you, Santa (Don Finnamore), for stepping in for this day to help out!

With plenty of laughs and the joy of sitting on Santa's lap, what more could you ask for as we enter the homestretch of this holiday season?



Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Tree of Giving**, and for making this time of year so special for our residents. Together, we are creating lasting memories and spreading love throughout our community.

Monetary donations in support of the Tree of Giving can be done directly and easily by visiting our website. All money raised goes directly into resident programming used throughout the year. Receipts are issued immediately. Thank you for your support!

Laundry Made Easy-Welcome to AVENS SPIN

I'm very excited to announce the successful launch of our third aging in place support service: **AVENS Spin!**



With the formal introduction of our other aging in place services, **AVENS Eat** (our delicious meal program) and **AVENS Touch** (your trusted home cleaning experts), **AVENS Spin** completes our trilogy of offerings, bringing express laundry

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services to our Pavilion, Court, and Ridge residents.

This new program is designed to provide greater options for our seniors, allowing them to live in their homes longer while maintaining their dignity and respect.

Sometimes it's the little support services that make a big difference, and we're proud to offer these value-added services at AVENS.



Whether it's a fresh set of linens or a favourite outfit ready for an outing, **AVENS Spin** is here to lighten the load and add a little more convenience to our residents' lives.

If you want to know more about **AVENS Spin** or any of our other aging in place services, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help make life a little easier and a lot more enjoyable for our wonderful seniors' community!



AVENS Spin drop off and pick area, located on the lower level of the Aven Pavilion

Community Corner

