

Contents

- 01: Together For Seniors- AVENS & YKSS Collaboration
- 02: Accreditation Canada- AVENS Path To Continuous Improvement
- 03: Introducing NWT's Future Nurses
- 03: Community Corner

Together For Seniors- AVENS & YKSS Collaboration

Hello AVENS family, this past week, we had the pleasure of hosting a productive meeting with the board members of the **Yellowknife Seniors Society (YKSS)** and our very own AVENS Board members, in our Pavilion Dining Room on January 19, 2026.

“Great things in business are never done by one person: they’re done by a team of people.”

Steve Jobs

I'm pleased to say it was a wonderful gathering, filled with laughter and a shared commitment to enhancing the lives of our mutual senior community base.

During our discussions, we focused on various advocacy issues affecting our community. These annual meetings are essential for fostering collaboration and ensuring we are aligned in our goals. It's inspiring to see how both organizations are dedicated to improving the well-being of our seniors.



(Top photo) John Soderberg, President of YKSS and (Bottom photo) Ron Allen, long time serving AVENS Board Member, both sharing some sage words

For those who may not know, **YKSS** is a separate non-profit agency that operates on the AVENS campus. They offer a wide range of wellness activities for over 400 members, benefiting our community and fostering connection among our seniors. **YKSS** leases the

Baker Centre from AVENS for just one dollar, along with a monthly stipend to cover repairs and maintenance costs. AVENS also manages the reserve fund for the building. This partnership allows us to maintain a cost effective and welcoming environment for everyone.

Together, AVENS and **YKSS** work toward common goals, advocating for seniors' choices, health, and overall well-being. Our collaboration strengthens our efforts and ensures that we are providing the best possible support for our beloved seniors and elders.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with **YKSS** and exploring new ways to enhance your experience and to providing you with more choices, here at AVENS!

Accreditation Canada- AVENS Path To Continuous Improvement

As we continue to provide exceptional care for our residents, I want to take a moment to shine a light on an important aspect of our organization – our commitment to **Accreditation Canada**.



ACCREDITATION
AGRÉMENT
CANADA



What is Accreditation Canada?

Accreditation Canada is a national body that evaluates health and social service organizations to ensure they meet rigorous standards of quality and safety. With over 60 years of experience, they empower organizations like ours to continuously improve and adapt to the ever-changing landscape of long-term care. Their programs help us identify areas for enhancement, ultimately leading to better outcomes for our residents.

The Role of Our Amazing Care Team

Our incredible team of **Resident Care Aides (RCAs)**, **Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs)**, **Registered Nurses (RNs)**, and our **Wellness and Recreation Team** play a key role in this process.



AVENS Chief Nursing Officer, Frances Marshall is walking our Management Team, during our recent Monday morning meeting, through what is expected with our upcoming HSO (Health Standards Organization) Global Workforce Survey in support of our accreditation requirements

Together, we diligently follow the detailed and dynamic standards set forth by Accreditation Canada. Since COVID-19, these standards have evolved significantly, and our team has risen to

the challenge, embracing changes to enhance the quality of care we provide.

Continuous Improvement

Accreditation is not just a one-time event; it's a continuous improvement journey. Every four years, we undergo a comprehensive evaluation by Accreditation Canada, which helps us reaffirm our commitment to the highest standards of care. To support this effort, we will soon be launching an **HSO Global Workforce Survey**. This specific tool will gather crucial data on our workforce experiences, work environment and safety culture. Your insights will be invaluable in navigating our path forward and ensuring we all contribute to our accreditation goals.

I encourage everyone to participate in the survey and share your thoughts. Your feedback is essential to our success, and I look forward to seeing how we can collectively enhance our practices and care standards.

Introducing NWT's Future Nurses

Beginning on Thursday, January 22, 2026, we welcomed an enthusiastic group of **19 first-year Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) students from Aurora College**. They'll be joining us every Thursday until April 13, 2026, as part of their two-year program.

At AVENS, we take immense pride in being a teaching facility, and this partnership allows us to shape the care of tomorrow, today!

The students will be guided by two dedicated Aurora instructors. **Jennifer Pitt** will primarily focus her time in **Aven Manor**, complementing

our residents' experiences with her expertise. Meanwhile, **Keelie Warren** will be working in the **Territorial Dementia Facility**, ensuring that our residents there receive "extra" specialized care and attention.

Each LPN student will begin their journey by working closely with one resident, gradually increasing to two as they progress through their practicum. Our committed care team members will be alongside these students, providing invaluable one-on-one teaching and support.

After all, some lessons are best learned through hands-on experience!

We're excited about the energy and fresh perspectives these students will bring to our community. Let's extend a warm AVENS welcome as they embark on this important journey in their nursing careers!

A HUGE thank you to this LPN class for your ongoing learning, support and engagement.

Together, we are shaping the future of care, one step at a time.



Our AVENS Management Team being introduced to Aurora College first year LPN students on Thursday, January 22, 2026

Community Corner

