# Living Classroom Readiness Checklist
## Long-Term Care Partner

## Introduction

The Living Classroom is a model of learning and practice for healthcare education alongside residents, families and team members in long-term care (LTC). Students build confidence and gain hands-on experience to grow their skills. Residents, families and team members enjoy the extra support, and often become mentors themselves. Everyone benefits from this vibrant and collaborative environment. For more information about the Living Classroom, visit our website.

If your Long-Term Care Home is interested in implementing a Living Classroom, the following questions will help you reflect on various factors that can contribute to a successful implementation. Completing the Readiness Assessment supports your planning and decision-making.

### How to use this document

Complete the checklist portion individually, and then use the discussion questions to guide a group reflection on strengths and challenges and to determine where more preparation may be needed. For each point, add whether you think it is a strength or challenge for your organization. If you do not know, add "unsure."

## Living Classroom Fund

The Living Classroom program is funded by the Government of Ontario and led by the Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging (RIA), in partnership with the Ontario Association of Adult and Continuing Education School Board Administrators (CESBA). The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Province.

If you have questions about this resource and the Living Classroom program, please contact livingclassroom@the-ria.ca.

## Critical Mass and Diversity Services

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care (LTC) home has enough residents with diverse needs to provide students with experience in a range of care services designed for older adults.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your community has enough population of potential students to sustain a Living Classroom and/or you would be able to implement a different delivery model to support the demand.

**Notes:**

## Human Resources to Support Teaching and Learning

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has preceptors who can provide clinical training.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Team members welcome student participation in care plans and delivery.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home wants to collaborate with an education provider.

**Notes:**

## Leadership Support and Engagement

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Senior leadership is convinced of the value of the Living Classroom in addressing workforce education and recruitment challenges.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: The Living Classroom is aligned with organizational, regional, and system goals.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Senior leadership is willing and able to lead the planning process.

**Notes:**

## Partnerships

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has or willingness to create a positive relationship with an educational institution that trains personal support workers.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has a strong commitment to working collaboratively with other organizations based on shared values.

**Notes:**

## Organizational Culture

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your organizational culture reflects a commitment to learning and innovation.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Team members understand what evidence-based practices are and hold positive attitudes towards their use.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has a collaborative relationship with residents and families based on trust, communication, and participation in decision-making.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home embodies a positive model of resident-centred care.

**Notes:**

## Physical Infrastructure and Resources

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has sufficient space to accommodate a LC.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: The LC will not conflict with other high-priority initiatives that are already happening in your long-term care home.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: You have sufficient resources to implement and administer the LC.

**Notes:**

## Quality Assurance and Change Management

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has a robust quality assurance program and meets industry accreditation and regulation standards.

**Strength/Challenge/Unsure**: Your long-term care home has a history of successfully managing change and/or implementing new programs.

**Notes:**

# Discussion Questions

**What do you anticipate will be your greatest implementation challenge?**

**What is your long-term care home's greatest strength?**

**Where do your responses differ from those of your colleagues?**

**What readiness factors are important to address early in the planning process?**

**Where would more information or data be helpful?**