

Hospice House To Celebrate It's 20th Anniversary

On Sunday June 10, 2018, Moog and Friends Hospice House will have a special celebration to mark its 20th anniversary at the Martin Street Gallery from 2-4pm.

"This will be an opportunity to invite former staff, volunteers, donors and others to attend the event", said hospice board chair Bill Everden.

Hospice House opened its doors officially on May 19, 1998 in a ceremony attended by about 200 people including Murli Pendharker, chair of the Okanagan Similkameen Health Regional Board, Mayor Beth Campbell and Ron Parker, chair of the Penticton and District Hospice Society building committee who said the completion of the building "was a dream come true".



Moog and Friends Hospice House in 1998

A Blast From The Past.....

Below are pictures and excerpts from the original press brochure of the grand opening in 1998



"Truly giving means giving without anything in return."

Ron Parker, Building Committee. Chair, and Janice Dockman (later Perino), fund raiser



".....There were patients in the hospice program who were dying who came out and said to me, 'go for it, you get this, this is important to patients.' 'A year later it's done and not one of those patients has lived to see this building. They were wanting this for everyone else who would come down the path behind them. Truly giving means giving without anything in return and that's what they gave to us, the spirit to go on. This building is about living life the way it ought to be lived to the very last second and it's just, wonderful.'"

"The \$1.8 Million, one-story structure was designed and built by the Penticton Regional Hospital after a successful two-year fund raising campaign by the Penticton Regional Hospital Medical Foundation and the Penticton & District Hospice Society. Its name comes from a charitable foundation started by NHL goalie Andy Moog."

You Are Invited!

....To the 20th Anniversary of the opening of Moog & Friends Hospice House. The reception will be held at the Martin Street Art Gallery. There will be appetizers and wine served, as well as some jazz music and good conversation. *We hope you will join us!*

20th Anniversary of Moog & Friends Hospice House

Sunday June 10, 2018

2:00-4:00pm

Martin Street Gallery

Looking back in Time.....Hospice Celebrates 20th Anniversary On May 19

Its hard to believe that Moog and Friends Hospice House is now 20 years old .

When Hospice House opened on May 19, 1998 Penticton became a leader in palliative care with the first free standing hospice in the Okanagan.

Several hundred dignitaries, guests, volunteers and staff applauded as a ribbon was cut to open the 12-bed facility. The \$1.8 million structure was designed by Nick Bevan-da, a noted local architect following a successful two-year fund raising campaign by the Penticton and District Hospice Society and the Penticton and Regional Hospital Foundation. The Hospice House name was selected because of financial support from former NHL star goaltender Andy Moog.

The first patients were accepted at Hospice House on June 1, 1998 and since that time hundreds of patients have spent their final days in the beautiful home-like setting offered by Hospice House.

Regional cancer care process leader Sandra Broughton led a CCSI delegation to the ceremony. The team included Gillian Fyles, M.D., a palliative care researcher; Vera Gibault, South Okanagan Health Unit Palliative Home Care Coordinator; and Janice Dockman (later Perino), the centres resource development officer.

Others in attendance were Hank Shaver, Chair of the Hospice Board; Ron Parker, chair of the building committee; Murli Pendharker, chair of the Okanagan and Similkameen Health Region and Penticton mayor Beth Campbell.

Congratulations also came from Dr. Jack Critchley head of the BC Cancer agency communities oncology program, and Ruth Ritchie coordinator of the Hospice Palliative Care Program.

Dr. Critchley said:

I think that you, the Hospice board and the special committee that conceived and brought the project to its completion should be intensely proud of the accomplishment. I am not aware of any other BC community which actually planned, designed and fund-raised and constructed their own free-standing hospice house. This house is a marvelous symbol of the community's commitment to provide the best and most compassionate care to its cancer patients. Penticton's citizens should be very proud of their accomplishment. Your health care community leadership has ensured that patients will always receive a full continuum of health care support.

Congratulations on the occasion of the grand opening of your hospice house.



Hospice House on Opening Day

The Care Closet Thrift Store 574 Main Street



Open Mon-Sat
10am to 4pm

Donations always accepted



Hospice House Vision Of Dr. Jack Critchley By Patti Skinner

The first Hospice workshop took place at the Naramata Centre, during a 1982 May weekend.

Hospice in Penticton was a vision of Dr. Jack Chritchley and Stewart and Jean Thompson.

Taking part in this workshop were Dr. Jack Chritchley, Oncologist ; Phyllis Bentley, Social Worker/ Counsellor; Marion Best, Spiritual advisor; Eileen Tymm, Pharmacist; Ofelia Ploner, Dietitian; Claire Davidson, Oncology RN; Dr. T. Nyhus, Physician; Gail Patterson, RN, who became the first volunteer coordinator, an unpaid position at that time.

Dr. William Lamers was the guest speaker and Stewart and Jean Thompson also shared their vision and experiences with Hospice/ Palliative Care.

This workshop consisted of a day and a half of intense information sharing to the dozen or more potential Hospice volunteers, in attendance. Della Volden, an active community volunteer and the "founder" of what would evolve into the very popular, busy and profitable Care Closet was in attendance. Of the dozen or so who signed up as the original group of volunteers, there are only two still involved...Gail Patterson and I.

The group of volunteers received training held at PRH. Many others joined in at various times and became active volunteers. We were very much a community based group. We visited referred people in their homes within Penticton and area, and within the hospital under the direction of Gail Patterson and then, Janet Stobie, our first paid, Volunteer Coordinator.

These formative years were very special and memorable ones, to all involved including patients and their families and volunteers. We were all especially pleased when Moog and Friends Hospice House opened in 1998.

Our commitment and dedication continues within our community and area. The Hospice program currently has over 70 active volunteers who give approximately 3000 hours of their time to the program every year.

(Patti Skinner has been a Penticton and District Hospice Society volunteer for 35 years and currently serves as the Care Closet representative on the Hospice Board).

New Kitchen Facility Thanks To Generous Donation

Thanks to the donation of \$80,000 by the Sovereign Order of St. John's, Okanagan Commandery, Moog and Friends Hospice House will be receiving a new kitchen facility this year. The present kitchen facility at Hospice House is outdated and no longer meets the needs for patients, families and staff who use the facility.

The new kitchen will feature a secured area for use by staff and a separate area for families and volunteers to prepare food for patients.

"We wish to extend our sincere thanks to the Order of St. John for their generosity in helping us to update our kitchen facilities at Hospice House," said Hospice Society Chair Bill Everden.

"Without the financial help from organizations and individuals in the community we would not be able to deliver the many extra comforts that make Hospice House a home rather than a medical facility", he said.

This year, Hospice House celebrates its 20th anniversary since it opened its doors officially on May 19, 1998. There has been no updating of the kitchen since the opening of the facility.

The Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller is a Christian chivalric, ecumenical and international community order with a 900-year tradition of helping the sick and poor of all nationalities, races and creeds. The modern day order is divided into 27 commanderies with its international headquarters in Vancouver.

Established in 1914, the Okanagan commandery raises funds to support local organizations in the Okanagan Valley from Osoyoos to Vernon.

The two projects being funded by the order this year are the Hospice House kitchen and a family room for JoeAnna's House in cooperation with the Kelowna General Hospital.

"The Order of St. John will match dollar for dollar any organizations and individuals who may wish to make a donation to the Hospice House kitchen project up to a maximum of \$40,000", said Joy Zsombor commander of the Okanagan order.



Joy Zsombor, commander of the Sovereign Order of St. John, presents a cheque for \$10,000 to Bill Everden, Penticton Hospice Association chair, as the first installment of an \$80,000 pledge to build a new kitchen facility at Moog and Friends Hospice House. Others in the photo from left to right are Ruth Sawyer, PDHS director; Debra Huck, PDHS treasurer; Mike Zsombor, SOSJ; Sharon Lindstrom, PDHS director; Randy Brown, Angela Brown, Lisa Lalonde, Harry McWatters and Tracey Harrop-Printz, all SOJC members.

National Hospice Palliative Care Week 2018

Towards a more compassionate Canada, Eh!



This year, National Hospice Palliative Care Week runs from May 6-12. The theme for 2018, "Towards a more compassionate Canada, Eh?" encourages Canadians to consider ways community involvement can support the dying and bereavement process.

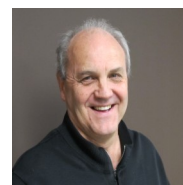
For National Hospice Palliative Care Week 2018, Penticton and District Hospice Society and the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association is calling on Canadians to answer these questions:

What makes a compassionate community?

How can compassionate communities support end of life care?

"When we think about death and dying we often imagine a hospital setting, and that can be a very frightening image for people," says CHPCA Executive Director Sharon Baxter. "When individuals are actively engaged in their communities they surround themselves with a network of caring allies who can support their end of life wishes and contribute to living well. Within a compassionate communities model, living and dying well becomes everybody's business."

The Penticton and District Hospice Association (PDHS) is the volunteer organization dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in care for persons approaching death at Moog and Friends Hospice House, Penticton Regional Hospital and in their homes so that the burdens of suffering, loneliness and grief are lessened. The PDHS also provides for patient comforts by providing equipment and other necessities not normally provided by hospitals.



Chair Report *By: Bill Everden - Chair of Penticton and District Hospice Society*

Another busy time for our board. We are busy working with the Sovereign Order of St John to get a new kitchen at Hospice House. They have agreed to raise \$80,000.00 for this cause. It will make things easier at Hospice House for staff, volunteers and families. This renovation is to be completed by the end of this year. Thank you Order of St. John.

Susan Kast our counsellor for the youth bereavement program has resigned as she is taking on more hours with her job with the palliative care program. We wish her well. Our board is having discussions on plans for this program.

We are hosting a barbecue for staff and volunteers at Hospice House on May 23rd to show them how much we appreciate them.

This is the 20th anniversary since the doors at Hospice House was opened. There will be a reception to honor this occasion on Sunday June 10th from 2 to 4 at The Martin Street Gallery on Martin Street, Penticton. There will be wine, appies and music so please drop by to help celebrate. When Moog and Friends opened it was the second free standing hospice in BC. We thank those board members, the Moog Family and the donors in our community for making this happen.

Thank you to the members of this board, the staff at hospice house, the donors, Linda Brooks and all the volunteers for all you do.

**Palliative Massage Training
For New Team Members**
By Linda Brooks, Volunteer Coordinator

Our volunteer program remains very strong which is not surprising based on this group of people. Their dedication and endless giving of themselves never ceases to amaze me. The palliative nurses and social workers often come to me with special requests for our patients whether it be in house or in the community. Examples of some requests are: rides to appointments, needing help with various errands, walking a patients dog and the list goes on. We had a lady last week who was bed bound and wanted some books..... I no sooner put the request out to our volunteers, and within the first hour I had 5 volunteers who stepped up to help.

We have hosted two separate palliative massage training sessions to add new members to our team. The first was in March and the second in April. Both were very successful and we now have new members mentoring with our existing team to hone their skills. Pam Westwood is our trainer and has been with us since 2005. The volunteer palliative massage program exists completely because of Pam. She was the original volunteer to take the training and has been with us ever since. She has a wealth of knowledge and passion for this program. Pam developed our training and training manual. She does such a great job with the trainees. Our patients often refer to her as an "angel". We are extremely fortunate to have her on the team.

National Volunteer week was from April 15-21 this year. There were 15 volunteers in attendance at the Barley Mill on April 19th for our annual luncheon. They were very accommodating and gave us our own little room for this function; it was an afternoon full of laughs and great companionship. The volunteers were so appreciative. It seems like such a small token of appreciation for all they do for us in Hospice House and in the community.

Within the last two months one of our volunteers has taken it upon herself to bring in baking for Hospice House. Sylvia LOVES to bake and comes in every two to three weeks with at least 5-6 dozen assorted squares and cookies. The response from family and residents has been so positive and they constantly comment on how nice it is to have something home made to munch on. Family and friends of residents often think of themselves last at times like this, so it is gratifying to see how this small gesture brings joy at such a difficult time. I am extremely excited to grow the volunteer program with the renovation of our kitchen and addition of a separate area for family and volunteers to bake or make a snack.

I am looking forward to our annual staff and volunteer BBQ here at Hospice in May. It is always such a nice gathering and wonderful opportunity for staff, volunteers and board members to get together in one place. This is the only opportunity we have. I would like to thank the board for continuing this tradition; it is very much appreciated by everyone.

How Your Hospice Donations Are Spent

The Penticton and District Hospice Society recently purchased small refrigerators, bed comforters and floor lamps for all the patient rooms.

Cushions are currently being made for window seats, new patio furniture has been purchased, DVD players for patient rooms, new fans and recliners as well as new blinds.

Cost of these items was \$35,000. Donations also provide for the very successful volunteer program and Child and Youth Grief Counseling Program at an annual cost of \$80,000.

Become A Life Member

For a donation of \$100 you can become a lifetime member of the Hospice Society.

Make your donation today at
www.pentictonhospice.com
Or call 250-490-1107

Contact Us: Penticton & District Hospice Society

Mail:
P.O. Box 1105
Penticton, BC,
V2A 6J9

Phone:
250-490-1107

Email:
donations@pentictonhospice.com

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www.pentictonhospice.com