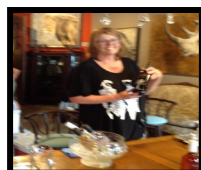


## *Celebrating 20 years Moog & Friends Hospice House*



*There was a good turnout and a great time had by all who attended our anniversary celebration on June 10th at the Martin Street Gallery. Past and present board members, staff, volunteers, politicians, media and general supporters in attendance enjoyed stories, sipped wine, listened to music and shared memories about Hospice.*



# Annual General Meeting

November 28, 3 - 4 p.m.

Shatford Centre.



## Chair Report

**Bill Everden, Chair of the Penticton & District Hospice Society**

It has been a busy summer with meetings to organize new kitchen as well as ordering some new furniture and having artwork updated to bring the house up to date. The kitchen renovations were scheduled to start in September and be completed by end of year but I just received word that they have been postponed until end of January for the start. The Sovereign Order of St. John is still on board for funding the new kitchen. New dining room furniture and chairs for patient rooms have been purchased for Hospice House.

We have also spent many hours in meetings with Interior Health about some office issues that still have not been resolved. Hopefully soon!

Patti Skinner is leaving our board but will continue to be our representative on the care closet board. We thank her for her 30 some years involvement with the society as well as being a volunteer for many years. We also bid farewell to Debra Huck, our hard working treasurer.

We want to thank the care closet for the increasing donations we receive from them as one of 3 partners. I also want to thank all of our volunteers, Linda and Catey, as well as staff at hospice house. The board has been a great support to the Society - thank you all - see you at the AGM on November 28th.

## Hospice Harmonization Plan

The Hospice Society has been advised that Interior Health wants to create equity of funding across hospices starting in 2019. This will not lower amount of funds already granted, rather to add funding to hospices that are not currently receiving grants from IH. They are also looking at revising the wording of contracts to be more consistent amongst the various hospice societies that are already receiving funding.

## News from Interior Health

Interior Health has scheduled the implementation of a community hospice bed at Trinity Care Centre and two in Oliver at McKinney Place during the 2018/19 fiscal year.



# Celebrate a Life

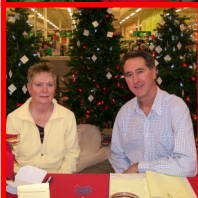
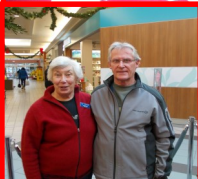
**Honour the memory of a loved one by  
writing a memorial card and lighting  
our Christmas trees**

*November 30 - December 6, Cherry Lane Shopping Centre*

Three Christmas trees will be decorated with strings of red lights and members of the public will be invited to write the name of a loved one who has passed away on a card which will be attached to one of the trees. One of the red bulbs will be replaced by a white one. Each participant will then be given a snowflake to hang on their own tree at home in memory of their loved one. While donations are gratefully accepted, the event is not designed as a fundraiser, but

rather as one of  
remembrance.

**To volunteer for this event,  
please call Catey:  
250-490-1107 or email  
info@pentictonhospice.com**



*In memory of Shirley Moog  
Feb.4, 1934—June 25, 2017*

Supporter & avid Celebrate a Life volunteer



## The CARE CLOSET

Greetings and thank you  
from everyone at the  
Care Closet. If you

haven't dropped by recently, please do. Shop,  
donate, volunteer or come to see our new  
beautiful mural on our south outside wall,  
painted by Laura Morrow.

The Care Closet continues to break sales  
records, almost daily. Our Fall changeover saw  
sales of over \$16,000 in the first week; over  
\$6,000 on the Monday alone!

We recently presented Hospice, and our other  
two partners with a profit sharing cheque of  
\$13,000 each. In 2018, we distributed a total of  
\$144,900 to our three partners.

We are open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday -  
Saturday. Drop in anytime to see our wide array  
of nearly new products. Donations accepted  
and welcomed during working hours.

Thank you all for your ongoing support.

**~ Patti Skinner - Hospice board  
member & Director for the Care Closet**



*Life is what you celebrate.*

*All of it.*

*Even its end*

~ Joanne Harris





## *In memory of former board members who passed away in 2017*

*All the love you created is still there. All the memories are still there.  
You live on in the hearts of everyone you have touched and nurtured while you were here...  
Death ends a life, not a relationship.*

### ***Laurie Sylvester***



July 5, 1941 - August 27, 2017

Laurie was a nurse prior to starting a successful financial company. She spent much of her time volunteering and was a cheerful and valued member of the board. She was an advocate for Advanced Care Planning and participated in public presentations with the Hospice Society to support this important cause.

Laurie passed away after a courageous battle with cancer.

*Our condolences to Laurie's husband Ted, sons Scott and Craig, and their families.*

### ***Nick Bevanda***



May 10, 1962 - May 7, 2017

Nick was a devoted family man, avid volunteer and an extraordinary architect. He leaves behind a legacy in the Okanagan for his work in designing beautiful buildings here, including Moog & Friends Hospice House, where he later passed away after a ten month battle with cancer. Nick served on the Hospice Society board of directors and is warmly remembered.

*Our condolences to Nick's wife Sandy and his children Branko, Luka, Carolina and Domenic & his other family members.*



### **Penticton & District Hospice Society hires new Administrator**

Catey Brenton has accepted the position as Administrator for the Penticton & District Hospice Society.

This position involves everything from public relations, marketing and fundraising to event planning, donor retention and everything in between. "We are pleased to have Catey back with the society as we know what she has to offer due to her past position at the Bereavement Resource Centre as Manager of Client Services & Communications" says Lan Thi Bray, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors.

"I'm excited to work with the board of directors for the Hospice Society" says Brenton "as they are a very passionate, supportive and caring group who are keenly focused on the mission of the society, which is to provide the highest standards of comfort and care so people can live with dignity and die in peace". She says they are in the planning stages of partnering with businesses in town who support the vision of the Hospice Society. "We want to raise awareness about what we do and with the increasing population and aging demographic, what we are striving for."

Brenton's background includes administration, promotional work and management at Global Television, as well as some previous experience with the society in various capacities. She is currently a director with the South Okanagan Loss Society, a grassroots non-profit society whose goal is to provide access to anyone in need of grief support.

"Our next event is the annual 'Celebrate a Life' event Nov. 30 – Dec. 6 at Cherry Lane Shopping Centre. This is for anyone wishing to honour the memory of a loved one by changing the colour of our Christmas trees, one light at a time."

Brenton encourages interested businesses in town to contact the Society to discuss partnership possibilities.

[info@pentictonhospice.com](mailto:info@pentictonhospice.com)



## *The Dash*

*I read of a man who stood to speak  
At the funeral of a friend.  
He referred to the dates on her tombstone  
From the beginning...to the end.*

*He noted that first came the date of her birth  
And spoke of the following date with tears,  
But he said what mattered most of all  
Was the dash between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time  
That she spent alive on earth  
And now only those who love her  
Know what that little line is worth.*

*For it matters not, how much we own,  
The cars...the house...the cash.  
What matters is how we live and love  
And how we spend our dash.*

*So think about this long and hard;  
Are there things you'd like to change?  
For you never know how much time is left  
That can still be rearranged.*

*If we could just slow down enough  
To consider what's true and real  
And always try to understand  
The way other people feel.*

*And be less quick to anger  
And show appreciation more  
And love the people in our lives  
Like we never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect  
And more often wear a smile...  
Remembering that this special dash  
Might only last a little while.*

*So when your eulogy is read  
Wish your life's actions to rehash  
Would you be proud of the things they say  
About how you spent your dash?*

~ Linda Ellis

**Be brave  
enough to start  
a conversation  
that matters**

~ Dau Voire

## **Advance Care Planning**

Advance care planning is making a plan for your future health care while you're still able to make health care decisions for yourself. Even if you're doing well now, it's a good idea to prepare in case you're badly hurt or develop a serious illness. As long as you can still make your own decisions, your advance care plan won't be used. You can say "yes" or "no" or change your mind about treatments, including changing or cancelling your advance care plan at any time.

An advance care plan helps to make sure that your wishes are respected because your loved ones and doctors can use the information in your advance care plan to make treatment choices for you, if you can't make them for yourself. Having a plan eases the burden on your family so that they don't have to decide what is best for you. If you've done an advance care plan, share it with your loved ones and your doctor. Your plans will do no good if no one knows about them.

Learn about the options available to you outlined in the [My Voice: Expressing My Wishes for Future Health Care guide](#).

\* This information and more is found on the Interior Health website for Advance Care Planning.

Ways you can help the Hospice Society help others....

## **Donate Your Car**



Donate a Car Canada accepts vehicle donations for the Penticton & District Hospice Society. Free towing is provided in most areas across Canada, or you can drop off your vehicle to maximize your donation. When you donate your car, truck, RV, boat, or motorcycle to the Penticton & District Hospice Society through Donate A Car Canada, it will either be recycled or sold at auction (depending on its age and condition).

The residents, together with the owners of Regency Southwood Retirement Resort donated \$5000 to Moog & Friends Hospice House.

The employees of Summerland & District Credit Union raised \$792.00 for P & D Hospice Society by participating in "Comfort for a Cause - Jeans Days"





## Volunteer Report

What keeps our volunteers here varies considerably, however, they all say “we always receive much more than we give.”

We are proud of our low turnover – it shows us that this is a great place to volunteer. We have volunteers who have been with us for decades and some that have been with the society since before Moog and Friends Hospice House. That in itself speaks volumes to our program and the respect that the rest of our hospice team has for these people.

These special volunteers participate in a training program that prepares them to take care of practical tasks or simply extend a hand to hold to hospice patients and their families. Volunteers may run errands, help prepare a meal or feed someone, read to a patient, or just share some quiet time. Their presence can make it possible for a caregiver to take a needed break for a few hours. Our volunteer team is extremely important to Hospice House and the community program. They provide crucial help to patients and their families. These services offer patients and their families the chance to have trained volunteers visit them wherever they live, to offer companionship and a helping hand.

I look at our volunteers as ambassadors representing Hospice and the palliative program. They are used to the surprised reactions when people find out they are a hospice volunteer. The first thing out of most people's mouth is, “how can you do that?” Here are a couple of their responses:

“It's truly rewarding to deal with folks who really have a need for your help.”

“I'm providing something for them they can't get anywhere else. That's why I can do it, and love to do it.”

I am so moved by the level at which people show up: their commitment, their engagement for what we ask them to do and their love of the work. It's truly inspiring. Every day that I work with them I'm re-inspired; the enthusiasm and dedication is infectious. In the midst of it, they keep a light heart. There is always a fun side of this work; there is no exception to that. Volunteers find the lightness in it and it's quite magnificent. They bring joy and jokes and in a time when our culture perceives this as the most difficult thing we can all experience: death. There is no doubt it is difficult, but our volunteers find the joy and purpose in being there.

### Hospice Society Helps Habitat for Skinks

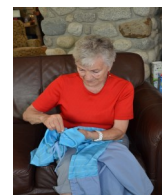
Habitat for skinks, little lizards with no neck and short legs, is being improved at Hospice House in cooperation with Interior Health. Due to construction at Penticton Regional Hospital, skinks, who make their homes in dry rocky slopes, are being displaced. A study recommends that new habitat be prepared on hospital and hospice property for the skinks who are at risk of becoming an endangered species.

In recent years, skinks have become popular reptile pets and are usually bred in captivity for this purpose. A unique feature of the skink is its blue tail which can become detached if attacked by a predator. The blue tail grows back again.



Many people are afraid to be around the dying, however these individuals are able to find the importance and value in being there at the end of this life's journey and not only support the patient, but their family as well. “Death is a part of life; they help to make it the best until the end.”

~ Linda Brooks, Volunteer Coordinator



Caring staff and volunteers at Hospice House



Contact us:

**Penticton & District Hospice Society**

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Phone: 250-490-1107

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