

Hospice Happenings

December 2022

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Chair— Gerald Tracey

Amid another Christmas season, our thoughts turn to gift-giving, festive gatherings and spending time with family and friends.

As youngsters, we all anticipated the coming of Santa Claus and the gifts he brought with him and left under the Christmas tree. It is a magical time of year for many people as hearts are filled with joy and love to share with others.

However, as we get older, the importance of Christmas in our lives change. Yes, we all love receiving gifts, but many of us just look forward to the reason for the season – the birth of our Saviour. The importance of receiving gifts is no longer first and foremost in our minds, but rather gift-giving, helping out a local charity or a service such as Hospice Renfrew. Pausing time to be able to enjoy the company of family and friends becomes more of a priority in our lives.

As the world slowly returns to normal after nearly three years of COVID-19, society and the healthcare system continue to face challenges. While fewer people are dying from COVID, our hospitals, particularly children's hospitals, are under great pressure right now because of respiratory attacks on children, the rising number of serious flu cases and the continuing spread of COVID.

Christmas is also a sad time of year for many who have lost loved ones around this time of year, or who have lost a dearly loved family member or close friend throughout the year. For some people it will be their first Christmas alone. For others, they may be spending the festive season visiting a loved one in hospital or in Hospice. If we know people who are living this experience, we can help by reaching out and offering our assistance, even if it is only in some small way.

Hospice Renfrew continues to provide compassion, comfort and care to those who require it throughout the holiday season. Our dedicated staff and many volunteers work to ensure our residents and their families are provided with the best level of care possible.

So, to all our staff and our many volunteers who give freely of their time to make sure we maintain the high level of service Hospice Renfrew has become known for, please accept my wishes for a blessed and joyful season. You are an awesome group of people.

To my fellow board members -- Bill McMahon, Donna Anderson, Leo Hall, Jamie Cybulski, George Wade, Karen McEwen, Kevin Cherry and Danielle Thomas – and the many individuals who sit on various committees, you truly are a special group of people. I treasure our friendships and thoroughly enjoy working with each of you for something that is near and dear to all of us – Hospice Renfrew.

May you be blessed with the spirit of the season, which is peace,

The gladness of the season, which is hope,

And the heart of the season, which is love.

Merry Christmas!



*Wishing You
A New Year
Filled With Peace,
Love and
Happiness*



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DONATE A CAR CANADA PROGRAM

Looking for a simple and free car removal?

Hospice Renfrew is partnering with Donate A Car Canada to accept your car donation! You will be provided free towing, or you can drop off your vehicle to maximize your donation.

When you donate your car, truck, RV, boat or motorcycle to Hospice Renfrew through Donate A Car Canada, it will be either recycled or sold at auction (depending on its condition, age and location). Donate A Car Canada will look after all the details from car removal to the disbursal of your gift, making it easy for both you and Hospice Renfrew to benefit. You will receive a tax receipt after your vehicle donation has been processed!

www.donatecar.ca



EDUCATION TRAINING FOR STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Hospice Renfrew is committed to providing continuous training to our staff and volunteers. Every month offers a different training opportunity to learn something new, review new and/or updated policies and to enhance their skills. The past few months we have provided many different opportunities for education.

Some of the workshops and training, that have taken place are: The Art of Tender Conversations, Annual Skills Lab, Rural Community Hospice Day, GHS training, Infection Prevention Week and CPR Re-certification.

Due to overwhelming demand we held two sessions of The Art of Tender Conversations Workshop. The week of October 16th in recognition of Infection Prevention Week, staff had the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, these were set up as workstations so they could perfect their infection prevention skills, their skills were practiced by completing quizzes, and working their way through a variety of exercises. In November and December staff took CPR Re-certification.



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Our Celebration of Life Ceremony was held on September 17, 2022. “Our annual Celebration of Life provides an opportunity to reflect upon and remember those whose lives came to their completion in the loving care of Hospice Renfrew. Each Resident and family that we serve is etched in the memory of our staff and volunteers. It is our hope that this ceremony brings comfort to those left behind knowing that their loved ones continue to be thought of fondly and will never be forgotten.” Julie Keon, Grief & Bereavement Counsellor

Special thanks to our Grief & Bereavement Counsellor, our staff and the many volunteers who participated in this event with our families.

“Have a conversation with your family about your end-of-life wishes while you are healthy. No one wants to have that discussion... but if you do, you’ll be giving your loved ones a tremendous gift, since they won’t have to guess what your wishes would have been, and it takes the onus of responsibility off of them.” – Jodi Picoult



GRIEF & BEREAVEMENT DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Grief is challenging at the best of times. The onslaught of festive décor, holiday music, merriment and cheer can feel like an assault on the heart of a mourner. If all is well in life, the holidays are a magical time for families to gather, memories to be shared, eggnog to be toasted and gifts to be exchanged. For the bereaved it is perhaps, the hardest time of the year because it is just one day, it is an entire season that begins the moment the jack-o-lanterns go into the compost heap and continues for weeks there after. To survive the holidays after devastating loss, one needs to first acknowledge that in no way, shape or form will this holiday resemble past holidays. Everything has changed and so how could it? Aside from locking yourself in a room for the duration of the holidays, there really isn't any one way to avoid it however there are ways to survive it. Thinking about what you anticipate being the hardest part of the holidays is a start. What traditions will you need to adjust, keep or pack away until next year? Make a plan as to how you will best care for yourself which may include permission to change your mind last minute. You cannot anticipate how you might feel at any given moment and so accepting an invitation only to cancel is perfectly acceptable. Along with that, practice the art of saying “No” without having to explain. Your reason is that you are grieving. That is reason enough. Check in with yourself often to determine what your needs are and then focus on taking care of yourself. Some days you may wish to be with others while at other times you may want to crawl under the covers. Both are acceptable. Lastly, think of ways to include your loved one in the holidays. The good thing about holidays is they come around every year. For more information on Hospice Renfrew’s grief support services or to receive a handout on ways to remember your loved one during the holidays, contact Julie at 613-433-3993 x. 2237 or jkeon@hospicerenfrew.ca



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director — Marjorie Joly

As 2022 comes to an end we want to take this time to reflect on all the amazing things that have happened throughout the year at Hospice Renfrew. In this newsletter you will see that we have highlighted so many of the great things that have been going on since our last edition.

We have recruited some incredible new staff and volunteers to add to our team so that we can continue to provide the care, comfort, and compassion that Hospice Renfrew is known for. None of this would be possible without the support of our community, our board members, staff, physicians, and volunteers. We are so fortunate to have such an incredible team.

Christmas brings family and friends together. It helps us to appreciate the love in our lives that we often take for granted. May the true meaning of the holiday season fill your heart and home with many blessings.

Happy Holidays!



ACCREDITED PROGRAMS 2022-2025



Hospice Renfrew has successfully achieved Hospice Palliative Care Ontario (HPCO) Accreditation for its Hospice Residence Program with an impressive score of 92.8 percent.



Hospice Renfrew Executive Director Marjorie Joly described the recent accreditation as an amazing accomplishment. “We are so pleased to receive this formal recognition of the high standard of care our team delivers at Hospice Renfrew,” she said. The feedback from the Accreditation process will be incorporated into the organization’s quality improvement plan as part of the commitment to continuous improvement.”

The goal of HPCO’s Accreditation Program is to ensure the delivery of consistent, high quality hospice palliative care services throughout Ontario. Completing an Accreditation review with HPCO is an efficient and effective means of continuous learning and improvement -- a provincial benchmark for Ontario hospice palliative care programs.

Hospice Renfrew Board Chair Gerald Tracey said achieving accreditation is a testament to the dedication and commitment of the staff and volunteers at the end-of-life facility. “Hospice Renfrew has long had a reputation for providing wonderful care to the residents and their families and this accreditation confirms that,” he said. “Our motto is *Care, Comfort and Compassion* and on behalf of my fellow board members we salute everyone who delivers these three important elements. We are very proud of our team and can’t say enough about the care they provide.”

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

***“None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful”
- Cicely Saunders***

Each and every year we continue to be amazed and thankful for our community and the many different ways that they continue to support us. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone has donated over this past year. Your kindness & generosity demonstrates what the Renfrew County community is all about.

A few of the fundraisers that took place this fall. This represents only a portion of the amazing amount of donations we have received, many single donors give annually, one time donors, along with third party events that contribute to us.



***“Never Underestimate The Difference You Made and The Lives You Touched”
- Unknown***

SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARDS

Hospice Renfrew is committed to honouring staff and volunteers for their long term commitment and supports the recognition of dedicated and engaged employees and volunteers.



Volunteers: Gloria Bruce ~ Rosemary Stringer ~ Barbara Duncan ~ Maureen Brennan
~ Nancy Berkhout ~ Darlene Meleskie

Staff: Sabrina O'Reilly



Volunteers: Carolyn Gendron ~ Catrina Van Lindenburg ~ Gladys Curry

Staff: Aimee Sinclair

Board of Directors: Bill McMahon

HOSPICE RENFREW

MISSION * VISION * VALUES

Our Mission:

To assist terminally ill individuals to live as fully as possible while maintaining their dignity and comfort, as well as providing support to family and friends.

Our Vision:

Hospice Renfrew will provide and maintain a freestanding residential hospice to provide end-of-life care to terminally ill people and their families throughout the County of Renfrew.

Our Values:

We at Hospice Renfrew strive to achieve our Mission and Objectives by living our Core Values which drive how we operate across every level.

Respect, Empathy, Passion,
Hospitality, Stewardship, Honesty,
Learning and Celebration



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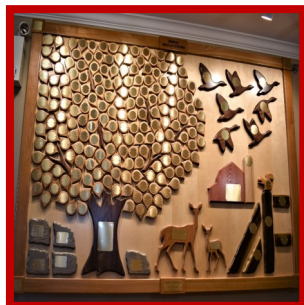


@Hospice_Renfrew

WAYS OF GIVING

Hospice Renfrew is a not-for-profit organization and registered charity. It is through the support and donations from our community that we are able to bring care and comfort to the terminally ill and their families. We provide all services and programs free of charge, but we encourage donations.

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care provides just enough funding to cover about half of our costs. Please consider contributing to our compassionate community.



RURAL REFLECTIONS LEGACY WALL

We want to remind you about our 'Rural Reflection Legacy Wall' that has been installed. These funds will continue to sustain Hospice programs, services and support future projects. If you are interested in more information email: info@hospicerenfrew.ca. Visit our website for more information www.hospicerenfrew.ca

LEGACY ESTATE PLANNING

Did you know that you can arrange future monetary gifts through your estate planning? You can leave a set cash legacy, or bequeath a share of the residue of your estate to a charity or charities of your choice. You can also consider a Charitable Remainder Trust, upon your death the remainder will pass directly to the charity you name as your beneficiary.

GENERAL DONATIONS

We have available a variety of donations options , you can choose the one that best suits your needs. A one time donation, a donation in memory of, and you can request to have donations sent to Hospice Renfrew in lieu of flowers. Sponsor an event or fundraiser. If you have any questions please call: 613-433-3993

Your Donation Makes A Difference

Only 50% of Hospice Renfrew's operational funding comes from the government. The remainder of the more than 1.6 million we need to operate yearly comes from the generosity of people like you. Please consider making a donation today or including Hospice Renfrew in your will or estate planning. Hospice Renfrew is a registered charity #864058839RR0001.

Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____ in the name of: _____

If you would like the recipient and/or family notified of your gift, please fill in their address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov. _____ P.C. _____

Please send receipt to: (a complete legible address is required for income tax receipt):

Name: _____

Address: _____

You can also donate online at hospicerenfrew.ca Click on the "Donate Now" button on the front page.

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