



March 2017 Newsletter

Looking Forward



Board member Margaret Hinton wrapped up our January Looking Forward session with a fabulous summary of both the volunteer meeting in December, and the workshop she facilitated with the Board in January. What became clear is a) Hospice is a group of very caring people who are committed to volunteering and helping; b) In the last year, Hospice has gained a higher profile in the community but continued publicity is needed; c) more volunteers are needed for every aspect of what we do; d) good communication is essential at all levels; d) bridging the hospital & hospice is important; e) long term financial viability and fundraising is still a priority. We would hate to lose the momentum we have achieved in the last year and a half, thanks to the efforts of our administrator.

Calendar of Events



For the purposes of planning (for staffing and organization) we are busy working on a calendar of events for the remainder of 2017 & going in to 2018. Events will be broken down in to a) Creating Awareness (to include our photo booth, newsletters, etc.); b) Fundraising (coupon books, quilt raffles, Fernie Brewing Company Charity on Tap, Dancing in the Dirt, lantern festival, gift baskets, Christmas cards, etc.); c) Education (5 sessions per year); d) Volunteer Appreciation, and e) AGM. This calendar will be posted on our website and facebook page. If you can help at any of these events, please be sure to let Sandra know!

Client intake

We had 2 very last minute calls for sitting, and unfortunately, both potential clients passed away before we could be of assistance. Thank you to all who volunteered to step up in their hour of need!

Sandra's Snippets

Sandra has been hard at work on a variety of projects:

1) Website development: www.elkvalleyhospice.com

The website has had many updates in term of organization, content & imagery. It is still a work in progress, but feel free to look at it & offer us your valuable feedback!

2) Quilt raffle: The Quilt is now on display at the TD bank and raffle tickets are on sale there. Please help put out the word and & share the Facebook post.

<https://www.facebook.com/Elkvalleyhospice/>

3) The Sharing and Learning Session Feb 20th was well received by the 6 attendees. The topic of the session was Dying at Home: Enabling caregivers' determination. The attendees confirmed that the information shared was applicable to learning more about Hospice care and had some good discussions. The Webinar and information shared at this session can be found on the Hospice webpage under Resources - learning and sharing

<http://elkvalleyhospice.com/links/learning-and-sharing/>

3A) Sandra is now organizing the next session, entitled "Good Grief" scheduled for **April 25th at 4:30pm.**



*Elk Valley Hospice presents "Good Grief"
a short documentary & discussion about grief
Tuesday April 25th, 2017 from 4:30PM to 6PM
at the Fernie Heritage Library
Free admission*

4) Passport to the Kootenays Coupon Book: the Fernie Chamber of Commerce has graciously agreed to sell the books with proceeds of \$8 of every book going to Hospice. These books make good gifts for birthdays and hostesses, and pay for themselves when using just one coupon to play golf! Help spread the word!

5) Lift systems – A contractor will be here on April 4th to assess the room & provide us with quotes.

6) Other – Sandra has made a number of grant applications, written a variety of Free Press articles & Facebook posts, managed the kiosk scheduling, recruiting & training of new volunteers & worked there as well; attended 3 meetings on our behalf & is coordinating a Hospice Information Session at the Anglican Church which will be presented by Carol Holden & Pat Moore on April 30th. She is one very busy woman!! ☺ And we appreciate all her efforts!!

AGM

Annual General Meeting



The date for our AGM is now set! It will be held at the Park Place Lodge on **May 16th at 6pm**. Food & refreshments will be served, so please plan to attend so that we make quorum and vote in next year's Board of Directors!

Donation for Palliative Care Room 45

Nancy Demaniuk has donated one of Gord Demaniuk's paintings for the Hospice room at the Elk Valley Hospital in memory of her late husband. The beautiful landscape painting is on display in the Elk Valley Hospice display case at the Hospital for the public to appreciate for the next several weeks. The hanging of the painting in the Hospice room will be attended by close family in remembrance of Gord who passed away September 15, 2016.

