



Elk Valley HOSPICE

(Fernie & Area)

September 2016 Newsletter

Board Update

Hopefully you have all had a terrific summer and are getting back in to the Fall swing of things!

In August, the photo booth made an appearance at Wapiti, and we made close to \$300 and received some great exposure in the process!

Our board meeting's agenda this month was packed due to not having had an August meeting. It included items such as an update on the Kiosk, setting a new date for the Volunteer appreciation night, a discussion on supporting Bill C277, discussing a glass plaque for the Palliative Care room (thanks to Stephanie Rogers!) thanking people for their donations, the Sept. 14 Hospice Working Group Meeting that Sandra attended, grant applications, upcoming fundraising events, and so much more! Our meetings are productive and we are excited at all the energy & enthusiasm of all the Board participants!



Sandra & Diane went to Lilac Terrace in August to donate some books and to preview their Palliative Care Room & adjacent apartment for family. We were very impressed with the facility and encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the space. They have a ceiling lift to envy and the whole space has a great feel.

To read the full article on the Free Press website go to Elk Valley Hospice Facebook and click the image.

Eleven people signed up for the latest Hospice Course at the College of the Rockies, so we are very excited to have some new volunteers on board at the end.

Lastly, we have been nominated for the Spirit of Fernie award at the Chamber's Business Excellence Awards, so great work everyone!

Financial Update

For the 5 months April through to the end of August of 2016, we had revenues of \$12,252.25 and expenses of \$10,737.59 leaving us a net income of \$1,514.66. We have had a number of donations in memorium (Doug Anderson & Claire Wilson), and the purchase of the commode chair and the new recliner have gone forward. Telus has very generously donated another \$1,875.00 in conjunction with their Fibre Optic Program, so watch for that Press Release in the Free Press. The leftover funds from the Kiosk grant went to purchasing a new display case, a new chair for the volunteers, the Carnival Cart, and now we are looking at a new photo printer for the photo booth as our current one no longer works.

Website Update

Sandra is investigating options for integrating the new website with an open source data base management system as well as a higher security features. We are always looking for history, good stories, testimonials, and any suggestions or assistance that you may wish to offer these can get added to the new website under development.

Client Intake Update

Elke & Sandra are working to collaborate on a shared calendar, much like the one being used for the Kiosk volunteers to make life easier for our volunteers to sign up.

Upcoming Things in the Works

The date for the Lantern festival has been set for November 19th, and our director, Elizabeth Ritchie-Bailey has generously agreed to manage the fundraiser. Anyone wishing to assist, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We are also planning a Christmas Family Portrait Fundraiser, so stay tuned for that, and discussions are under way with Cherished Memories for another Christmas celebration of life, as well as a Butterflies in Memorium fundraiser in the Spring/Summer.

Sandra's Snippets

A Volunteer appreciation event is planned for November 1st. Contact elkvalleyhospice@gmail.com if you have been volunteering with Hospice and have not yet received an invite.

The Hospice course is in full swing; Carol and Darcie are doing a great job explaining what is involved in providing compassionate companioning Hospice care for end of life clients and their loved ones.

Each class focuses on a different topic, allowing for open discussions and providing opportunities for personal reflection. A great example of this is the collage activity during the first class which helped all participants to get to know each other a bit more to create an environment for sharing.



Last week the new Elk Valley Hospice policy for Medical Assistance in Death was discussed and accepted by the board. If you currently volunteer to sit with clients with Elk Valley Hospice and have not seen this new policy contact the client volunteer coordinator to get the overview. Further information on this topic can be found on the Interior Health site: www.interiorhealth.ca/YourCare/MAiD

A new display cabinet has been installed next to the Kiosk.



This purchase was made possible from grant funding for the Kiosk provided by Columbia Basin Trust. The display case will show a selection of hospice related information and gifts. The new Kiosk high chair and the carnival cart have arrived as well.

The location of the cart is currently under review. Once the location has been confirmed the setup and process to use of the cart will be rolled out over the next few weeks.

Elk Valley Hospice shared a table at the craft fair the October 1st and hope to have presentation at the November 26th fair as well

It would be great to have more crafted toys or other unique gifts added to the selection of the Kiosk and the craft fair. If you are a crafter or know of crafters willing to share your donations would be much appreciated!

Check out the Pumpkin fundraising event

Information is available on Facebook and at fernierestate.com/news/carve-cause-pumpkin-fundraiser

The event is being organized by the Fernie Real Estate Company with 50% of the proceeds going to Elk Valley Hospice.



Anyone can come and admire the pumpkins on October 27th at the Fernie Real Estate office.