

Newsletter

Spring 2026



TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS & COMMUNITY



Spring is here! It is so lovely that the days are getting longer, the birds are out chirping, and the trees and flowers are blooming. We are so fortunate to live in a place with 4 distinct seasons.

As we dig our hands into the dirt, dust off the lawnmower, and pull out our Spring coats, we are reminded of the season passed and reflect on the work that brings our community together. The compassion that emanates from our little part of the world is unique and truly beautiful.

Our volunteers, donors, community partners and members all play an important role in ensuring that individuals and families in our community can receive hospice care grounded in empathy and understanding. Together, we move closer to our vision of a community where every person is supported through the final chapters of life and in the grief that follows.

We have been busy applying for grants and fundraising to continue offering support to our community through Hopsice care. Please keep reading to find out what we have been up to!

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Hospice.

– Elk Valley & Area Hospice Board
& Coordinator



NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK MAY 3-9 2026



Palliative Care Everywhere

Many people in Canada still face barriers to accessing palliative care due to factors such as age, location, diagnosis, race or ethnicity, and housing instability.

Every family facing the challenges of a life-limiting illness deserves the best possible care and support. Whether in hospice, at home, in long-term care, or in hospital, palliative care can and should be available in any setting to meet individual needs.

National Hospice Palliative Care Week, is an invitation to come together to call for equitable access to quality palliative care for every community, everywhere.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION APRIL 19-26 2026

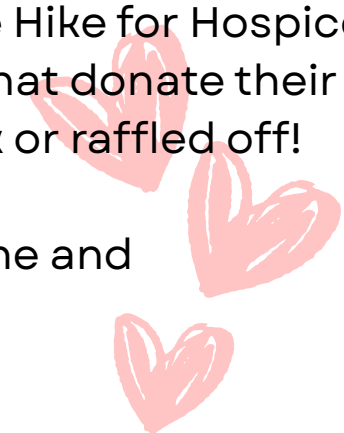


We are who we are because of our Volunteers!

A BIG THANK YOU to our Elk Valley & Area Hospice Society Volunteers - you make our world go 'round.

You can meet our Lovely volunteers at the Kiosk, the Hike for Hospice, events and local fundraisers! We also have people that donate their time to make quilts - whether to be sold at the Kiosk or raffled off!

Thank you to our Volunteers for their dedication, time and commitment to Elk Valley & Area Hospice.



3RD ANNUAL HIKE FOR HOSPICE

Please join us for our 3rd Annual
Hike for Hospice!
Hikers of all ages and abilities are
encouraged to participate.



Hike for Hospice

Join as an individual, or as a team with family, friends or work colleagues!
We invite you to hike in honour, memory or support of a loved one in your life.

Hike for Hospice is an opportunity to raise much needed funds for End-of-Life care, and Grief support for our community.

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER!



Saturday
May 23rd 2026

Hike for Hospice is a lovely opportunity for our community to come together to support one another, and learn more about death, dying and grieving.

to register and for more information please email elkvalleyhospice@gmail.com

Or check out our website elkvalleyhospice.ca



Hike for Hospice



We invite you to hike in honour, memory or support of a loved one in your life

Saturday May 23 2026

9:30 am

Montane Trailhead Parking Lot
1 Montane Parkway Fernie BC



All are Welcome!

ELK VALLEY & AREA



elkvalleyhospice.ca
chpca.ca/hike | #hike4hospice



for more details and to register
please scan here:





WIN THIS BEAUTIFUL QUILT

QUILT RAFFLE

Tickets are \$2 or 3 for \$5

to get your tickets please email

elkvalleyhospice@gmail.com

This quilt was generously donated by Louisa Poirier & is 58"x75"

Draw is May 23 at the Hike for Hospice

MAY 23RD 2026

WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS!

CAN YOU COME OUT AND HELP OUR
HIKE FOR HOSPICE
BE AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE?

PLEASE REACH OUT TO US
ELKVALLEYHOSPICE@GMAIL.COM

ELK VALLEY & AREA



Hike for
Hospice

COMPANIONING THE DYING COURSE



Jen has been busy behind the scenes applying for Grants to help us redesign our Companioning the Dying Course material. With immense gratitude, we inherited our current course when the previous instructor retired. After feedback from those who had attended the course it was determined that the course needed some updating! We heard you and are happy to announce that we will be hiring an education designer to take our current Volunteer and community Training Course for End of Life Companioning and deliver a truly impactful, efficient and dynamic course.



**We will be offering the
Companioning the Dying
Course at College of the
Rockies, Fernie Campus in the
Fall of 2026**

Our Companioning the Dying course prepares you to assist individuals, their families and caregivers with palliative and end-of-life support. The course is offered to those seeking personal empowerment on how to be more comfortable with death and dying, as well for those who wish to Volunteer with us.

for volunteer opportunities
please email
elkvalleyhospice@gmail.com
or visit our website
<https://elkvalleyhospice.com/>





Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held a little later this year. As soon as we have a date we will let you all know! Please consider reaching out to us if you are interested in serving on the Board.

We are excited to announce that the Board is participating in Governance Training over the coming weeks! This is exciting news as it will strengthen our ability to meet the needs of our communities and service delivery. There is no denying that there are infrastructure and financial stresses on our local hospitals. As the Province seeks out new ways to meet the needs of an aging population, we need to ensure we can support our community as effectively and efficiently as possible. As Bob Dylan famously stated - The Times, They Are A- Changing. And the Hospice wants to continue carrying out exceptional care.

FERNIE GHOSTRIDERS SECURITY & BEER ROOM - We were lucky enough to secure a few Ghost rider games at the end of their season! Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who make this possible!

This is a great and fun way to fundraise! Such a wonderful way to stay engaged with the public, and educate them on what we do here in the Elk Valley and surrounding Area.



Many thanks to Mike, President with the Fernie Ghostriders for inviting us! We look forward to working with you in the 2026/2027 Season!

WIND PHONE PROJECT BROCHURES



Many of you may already know about this meaningful project, but we're pleased to once again highlight the installation of three Wind Phones in the Elk Valley – quiet, unconnected telephones that offer a reflective space for anyone experiencing loss. By lifting the receiver, you're invited to speak to your loved ones and let your words drift into the wind.

Locations:

- Elkford: Boivin Peace Park
- Sparwood: Lions Park
- Fernie: Annex Park

[Donate Here](#)

Currently some of the Sparwood High School students, with the help of Mr. Larsen, are designing a brochure for people to know more about the Project! Keep an eye out for them.

This project was made possible through the collaboration and generosity of local organizations, community partners, and volunteers. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved and give special thanks Columbia Basin Trust & Steller Vista Credit Union for funding this project.

May these Wind Phones continue to offer gentle moments of healing, remembrance, and connection. To learn more please go to our website:

<https://elkvalleyhospice.com/the-wind-phone/>