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Annual Report

April 1, 2015 ~ March 31, 2016

Chilliwack Hospice Society once again set two new fundraising records this fiscal year.

The **November Night Gala** on **November 7, 2015**, raised over **\$110,000**; an achievement made possible by volunteers that contributed almost **300** hours. This spectacular 'Vintage Hollywood' themed event featured a live and silent auction, entertainment from Chilliwack Players' Guild, fantastic themed décor including a classic Soda Bar and Photo Booth, and was MC'd by Fred Lee; CBC Radio's 'Man About Town' and columnist for The Province and Vancouver Courier.

Our fifth annual **Hometown Hoedown for Hospice** on **March 5, 2016** was also a huge success, with more than **\$52,000** raised for Hospice, with the essential contribution of more than **91** volunteer hours making this possible. With live music from Concrete Jungle and Horse Power, entertainment from MC Cliff Prang, and delicious food from Smoke & Bones, it was another hometown highlight for the community.

In addition, an extra **97.5** general volunteer hours went towards assisting in the hosting of other events in the community.

Our sixth **Memorial Evening** was held on **November 25, 2015** at the Vineyard Church, and was once again a beautiful event. Keynote Speaker Angelo Rea provided a wonderful speech that helped guide the attendees through grief and loss, and of course the event was made possible by the contribution of more than **30** volunteer hours by **9** volunteers.

Chilliwack Hospice's client and patient volunteers were also very active in homes, the hospital, and care facilities this past fiscal year. Our **Hospital Visiting Team** gave **93.8** hours of support to patients in local facilities, and **Bereavement** volunteers also provided **61.25** hours of support to the families of those that had passed.

The Chilliwack Hospice **Vigil Team** of **29** volunteers completed **43** shifts at a total of approximately **129** hours, providing support to **10** patients and their families in the final **72** hours of life. In addition, the Cascade Hospice Visiting Team, over the course of **493** shifts, spent an incredible **3027** hours with **227** patients in Cascade Hospice.

Our **Relaxation Team** has also been particularly busy this past year, with a team of **14** volunteers providing **821.5** hours of relaxation treatments in our Hospice residence, at hospital, at our centre, and in the community. We began offering treatments at our Hospice centre (main office) on Wednesday evenings as well as Monday mornings, resulting in **192** treatments being provided by volunteers at this location, while **74** were provided at Cascade hospice.

99 people attended the **First Step Grief Support Group** this past year, with **144** volunteer hours contributing to making this program a success once again. Around **20** attendees continued to seek support through the **Second Step Grief Support** program, with **88** volunteer hours going towards assisting people in this healing journey.

We ran another successful **Teen Grief Peer Support Training** course this fiscal year, designed and delivered in partnership with School District #33. This 20-hour course provided **16** Grade 11 and 12 work experience students with a basic introduction to grief and loss, as well as enabled them to develop practical hands-on skills, and knowledge and strategies to provide peer bereavement support to grieving children and teens.

Over the past fiscal year, we provided **102** Hospice volunteers with **1,344** hours of hospice palliative care education and bereavement support training. These training courses included our annual **Basic Hospice Training**, **Spiritual Care Training**, **Facilitator Training**, **Vigil Training**, and **Advance Care Planning Training**.

Over \$110,000 raised at our 12th annual November Night Gala

And \$52,000 at our 5th annual Hometown Hoedown for Hospice

Volunteers provided over 400 hours to make these events happen!

Our Film Series was attended by a record number of 640 people

And 102 Hospice volunteers developed their skills through training

On **April 21, 2015**, we provided our annual one-day **Journey Forward** workshop. With multiple speakers and seminars, this workshop was designed to provide volunteers, social workers, counsellors, teachers, healthcare providers, and families with practical tools to deal with grief, trauma, and loss, and was attended by **110** people.

We also provided a one-day **Grief and Loss Workshop** titled **Understanding the Challenges and Fostering Resiliency**. This was attended by 16 people, providing 120 hours of training.

As part of our on-going commitment to inform the community about hospice care philosophy, goals and issues, we once again presented the **Chilliwack Hospice Film Series**. This was attended by **640** people, who enjoyed four outstanding films this fiscal year; *The 100 Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out of a Window and Disappeared*, *Elsa & Fred*, *St. Vincent*, and *The Darjeeling Limited*. The final two films in this series, *Hector and the Search for Happiness*, and *Seymour: An Introduction*, took place in the beginning of the current fiscal year.

The **Thrifty Boutique** continues to be a huge source of revenue, with donations coming from all over our community. Over **60** volunteers worked hard sorting and selling the many items that come into the store, contributing an amazing **13, 876** hours to support Hospice. Special events at the store throughout the year included a **Retail Therapy Evening**, a **Mothers' Day Sale**, and a **Waffle Breakfast** fundraiser.

Our office volunteers provided essential administrative support to our organization in the form of **860** hours over the past fiscal year, with our small team fielding calls, greeting clients, and welcoming **1028** visitors to our Centre. As well as this office support in the building, our grounds and maintenance volunteers spent **215** hours keeping our Centre looking its best, and making sure everything remains in fine working order! Our Board of Directors also volunteered **391.25** hours to ensure the smooth operation of our organization, and offer their guidance in how we achieve our mandate in the community.

Overall the 2015/16 fiscal year has presented both challenges and highlights, with staffing changes, fundraising records, and success in our programs and workshops resulting in another exciting year for Chilliwack Hospice Society. One constant however has been the incredible contribution of our volunteers - their enthusiasm and selflessness continue to be a crucial asset to our organization.

Liz Lynch left Chilliwack Hospice Society on May 6, 2016 to spend more time with her family. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Liz for her dedication and tireless efforts as Executive Director with Chilliwack Hospice Society. We wish Liz well in her future endeavors.



On October 22, Chilliwack Hospice was thrilled to welcome Ian Bos to Rotary Hospice Centre

In May 2015, Ian set off from his home in Nova Scotia on a walk across Canada in memory of his father, who had recently passed away.

Ian's decision to walk across Canada was a way to bring awareness to the work of Hospices across the country, and particularly as thanks to the excellent care his father had received from the Aberdeen Palliative Care Society in Nova Scotia.

Ian walked for 159 days and approximately 6027km, reaching Victoria, B.C. on October 26, 2015.



Thrift Store Volunteers: Re/Max

A special thanks to the realtors at Re/Max for choosing to spend their community volunteer day helping us. These hard-working folks picked up all of our Christmas décor from our locker and brought it to the Thrifty Boutique, where they unloaded, sorted and priced everything. They even brought along a BBQ and provided a lunch for our shoppers and arranged for entertainment by Jeff Bowman!

Horse Whisperer Grief Camp

In June 2015, Chilliwack Hospice Society offered a special experience for children and youth experiencing grief. The Horse Whisperer Grief Group provides grieving children and teens aged 5 - 17 with the opportunity to work closely with horses and experience the unconditional love and support of their horse partner.



Teen Grief Peer Support Group

The Teen Grief Peer Support Training took place October 3 - 24, 2015. Volunteers Ian Kunitski and Kim Harder co-facilitated the training. Fourteen students successfully completed this course and have expressed interest in becoming teen mentors with our children's bereavement support groups.



"Our approach to care includes social support, advance care planning, caregiver education, and palliative and bereavement support."

Our Relaxation Team provided 821.5 hours of treatments to clients

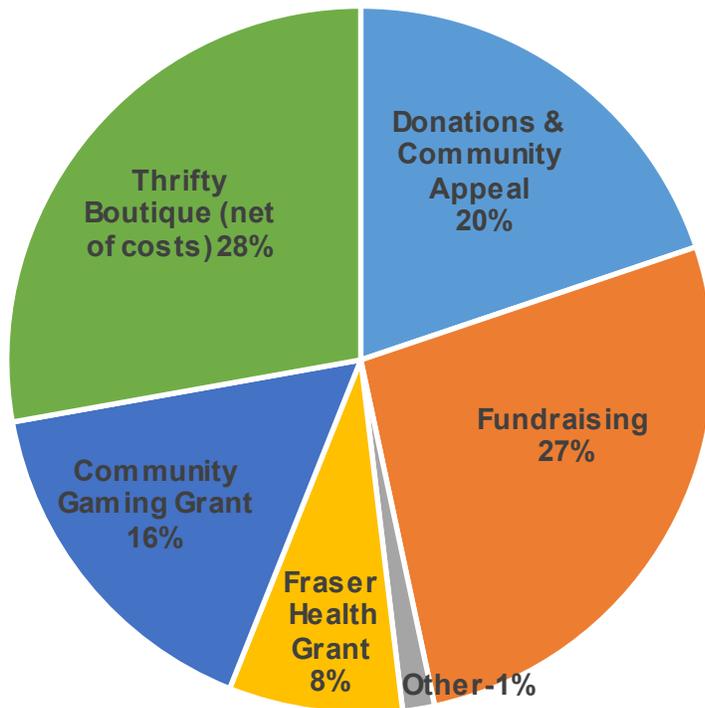
And our Vigil Team supported 10 patients in the final 72 hours of life

99 people attended the 1st Step Grief Support Group

And 20 went on to participate in the Second Step Grief Group

Over 60 volunteers provided 13,876 hours at our Thrift Store

Chilliwack Hospice Society Revenue Sources 2015/2016



“Our success is driven by the strength of our staff, volunteers, and generous donors.”



Cliff Prang & Darlene Koller during the Live Auction at The Annual Hometown Hoedown for Hospice

Programs at a glance...

Bereavement Programs

Services provided are:

- Bereavement Visitation Program
- One-to-one Support
- First Step Grief Support Group
- Second Step Grief Support Group
- Children’s Grief Support Group
- Horse Whisperer Grief Camp
- Relaxation Program
- Pregnancy & Infant Loss Grief Support Group
- Suicide/Homicide Grief Support Group

Palliative Support Services

Services provided are:

- Cascade Hospice Residence Visitation
- Music Program
- Hospital Visitation
- Home Visitation
- Respite
- Caregiver Support Group
- Vigil Services



CBC’s Fred Lee working the crowd during the Live Auction at the November Night Gala



Keynote Speaker Angelo Rea and Sumas First Nation Elder Dr. Ray Silver at the Journey Forward Workshop



Chilliwack Hospice Society’s newest Client & Patient Volunteers after completing Basic Hospice Training, winter 2016



Kids love shopping at the Thrifty Boutique, too!