



Annual General Meeting

April 1, 2017 ~ March 31, 2018

President's Report

The 2018 fiscal year has been another busy year for the Chilliwack Hospice Society.

After having come to the realization that we had outgrown our old home on Hodgins Avenue last year, we started off the new year in the midst of completing the purchase of a new building for our offices and program space. By May the deal had closed and plans started to take shape for the much anticipated move to a new location on Vedder Road.

In June, at the AGM, we announced this exciting news to our members. We also welcomed four new board members: Gerry Enns, Sarah Mouritzen, Ben Latimer and Ralph Jones. These new members brought our board compliment to eight and added a vast range of experience and skill sets.

It wasn't long after this meeting that we moved into our new location on Vedder Road. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our Executive Director, Sue Attrill, all the staff and many, many volunteers, every room was transformed into a lovely, tranquil and homey space. We showcased our new home at the ribbon cutting ceremony and open-house in August. Everyone who attended was thrilled and impressed with the result.

The effectiveness of the Society's fundraising efforts were evident once again this year in the success of the Moulin Rouge themed Gala in September and the Hometown Hoedown in March. I would also like to applaud the success of The Thrifty Boutique which saw 9% growth in sales revenue this year.

The positive impact of our programs within our community can be seen by the number of patients and clients we have supported during the year. It makes me very proud to be part of such a wonderful organization.

I would like to thank Sue Attrill, our energetic and fearless Executive Director, for all her efforts this year. Sue has been in the role for less than 2 years and has already been a very positive influence on the organization. She has consistently provided excellent leadership to the team at the Chilliwack Hospice Society over the last year.

I would also like to thank all the amazing staff and volunteers for their time and dedication. The Society would not be the success it is without you. Many of you go above and beyond and we so appreciate it.

To my fellow board members, thank you for your commitment and support through out the year. It has been my absolute pleasure to have worked with you and to have gotten to know you.

Jeannine Walsh
President, Chilliwack Hospice Society



Welcome to our new home! Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - August 24, 2017



Chilliwack Hospice Society is a community based volunteer organization which accepts death as a part of life. We support individuals and families during the dying and grieving process.

Executive Director's Report

This year has been filled with **many exciting changes** for Chilliwack Hospice Society. Our year began in April 2017 with negotiations in full swing to purchase a new larger space for the Society. We closed the deal on 7112 Vedder Road in May of 2017 and preparations began for our move. If you have ever had to move after more than decade in the same place you know it can be a daunting project. With the help of all of our Board, Staff and dozens of Volunteers we packed up, purged and planned for a beautiful new space. On July 4th we began painting the inside of our new office with an army of volunteers and staff. Who could have imagined how much painting 6500 square feet would really be. We moved on July 11th and 12th in the middle of an intense heat wave. The real work began the next day as we continued to paint and tried to organize and unpack. Our ribbon cutting arrived on August 24th and by some incredible miracle we were all unpacked and ready to show off our gorgeous new home!

The **14th Annual Chilliwack Hospice Society Gala on September 16, 2017**, raised over **\$91,500**. Volunteers contributed over **364** hours to help make this event a success. This year's event was titled "Moulin Rouge, an Evening in Paris" and featured a Paris Street Stroll, sweet shop, Dress shop and Deli. Cambree Lovesy sang like an angel. Can Can Dancers performed just as if they were in the world famous Moulin Rouge Night Club and we even enjoyed a Saxophone Solo by. Our silent and live auction items were a huge hit with our guests. MC's Sue Attrill and Damian Brennan had the quest laughing. It was a fantastic evening for everyone.

Our **8th Annual Memorial Evening** was held on **November 29th, 2017** at the Vineyard Church, and was once again a beautiful event. Guest panelists: Cathy Preibisch, Franceska Hills and Joe Palmer provided an amazing panel discussion. A musical performance was provided by Chilliwack Secondary School Vocal Jazz Choir. Guests were invited to write a message of love on a rock and place it in a vase that is proudly displayed at our office.

Our **7th Annual Hometown Hoedown for Hospice on March 10, 2018** was also a huge success, with more than **\$57,225** raised for Chilliwack Hospice Society programs and services. Volunteers contributed over **185** hours of their time, helping with planning, setup, tear down and at the event itself. The evening featured a delicious BBQ buffet catered by Smoke and Bones and amazing live and silent auction items. "Gals That Like to Dance" gave our guests some line dancing lessons and MC's Leanne Adderley and Luke Zacharias kept us entertained with games and activities. Local bands, Horsepower and Concrete Jungle, kept everyone on the dance floor for the rest of an amazing evening. Yeehaw!!! .

Chilliwack Hospice Society's **Client and Patient** volunteers helped tirelessly in homes, the hospital, and care facilities this past fiscal year. Our **Hospital Visiting Team** gave **71** hours of support to patients in local hospitals, **142** hours at local homes and close to **3532** hours at Cascade Hospice Residence. **96** hours were spent providing comfort and support to patients in the final 72 hours of life.

Our **Relaxation Team** continues to be busy. Our team of **15** volunteers providing **767** hours of relaxation treatments in our Hospice residence, at hospital, at our centre, and in the community. We offer treatments at our Hospice centre (main office) on Monday mornings as well as Wednesday evenings, with **165** treatments provided at this location, and an additional **92** at Cascade Hospice Residence.

79 people attended the **First Step Grief Support Group** this past year, with **134** volunteer hours contributed to the continuing success of this program. Up to **20** attendees continued to seek support through the **Second Step Grief Support** program, with **47** volunteer hours going towards helping people with their grief.

We have increased our **programs for younger children** this year. In the Spring of 2017, Fall of 2017 and the Cheam First Nations community in 2018 we provided **62** kids with grief support programming and **486** volunteer hours. Our **Horse Whisperer Grief Camp** included **29** kids and **108** volunteer hours.

We also held another successful **Teen Grief Peer Support Training** course this fiscal year. This program, designed and delivered in partnership with School District #33, provides students in Grades 11 and 12 with practical skills to provide peer bereavement support to grieving children and teens. **22** students took part in the 20 hour course with many of the students coming back to help with our Children's Grief Support Group.

This past fiscal year, we provided **40** Chilliwack Hospice Society volunteers with **196** hours of hospice palliative care education and bereavement support training. These training courses included our annual **Basic Hospice Training and Relaxation Therapy 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** beginning in January, 2017 and ending in June of the current fiscal year. Films shown at Cottonwood 4 Cinemas for this series were: The Intern, A Little Bit of Heaven, Snow Cake, The Boys Are Back, The Fault In Our Stars and Dad. All films were well received by attendees and attendance was way up this year.

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(con't from page 2) The **Thrifty Boutique** continues to thrive, providing quality items to the community through generous donations from the community. More than **60** volunteers help out at the store with customer service, item pickups and sorting through the huge volume of items that are dropped off at the donations area. An incredible **14,940** hours of time have been given by volunteers to help our store continue to be a significant revenue contributor to Chilliwack Hospice Society. Special events at the store throughout the year included a Kids Christmas Shopping Day, Mothers' Day Tea and our immensely popular Fashion Show held every year in May.

Our **Office** volunteers continue to deliver valuable administrative support, ranging from fielding calls, to greeting and welcoming clients to card making for volunteers and clients. There were over **1259** volunteer hours given over the past fiscal year, and **1599** visitors welcomed to our Centre. Our office move volunteers spent **177** hours making our new location a home. Our Board of Directors volunteered a significant amount of their time to ensure the smooth operation of our organization, and offer their guidance in how we achieve our mandate in the community. It was a particularly busy year for them with all of the Real Estate negotiations and responsibilities added to the mix.

Overall the **2017/18 fiscal year** has been incredibly successful and challenging. There have been many staffing changes and other challenges but the staff and volunteers have stepped up and continued to offer valuable support to our community. The success of our organization is a combined effort of **compassion, dedication and service by our volunteers, our board and our staff.**

Sue Attrill
Executive Director



Walking the Catwalk at the Thrifty Fashionista Fashion Show.

Thrifty Boutique

The Thrifty Boutique hosted several events throughout the year including Kids Christmas Shopping Day, Season Changeover Event Sale and our inaugural Thrifty Fashionista Fashion Show!

Donations coming in from all parts of our community help our store contribute to the programs and services of Chilliwack Hospice Society as well as offer much needed items to our shoppers.



The Gold Spike Can Can Dancers entertaining our guests at the 14th Annual Gala

Children's Grief Support Group

Our eight week **Children's Grief Support Group** was held twice this year, once in the Spring and again in the Fall. We also ran a group at Cheams First Nation in the Winter. The group is for children, ages 4-13, who have experienced the loss of a family member or friend through death. Our group is based on an expressive arts model which gives the children a chance to work on art projects while learning about grief and loss.



Making 'memory lanterns' at our Spring Children's Grief Support Group.



Playing 'Heads or Tails' at the 7th Annual Hoedown for Hospice



Members of our Second Step Grief Support Group meet on the first Friday of the month at a local restaurant for lunch, and on the third Friday of the month at the hospice office for a meeting, light snacks, laughter and friendship.

Grief Support Groups

Chilliwack Hospice Society continues to provide bereavement programs for those who feel the need for support. Our eight week First Step Grief Support program ran three times this year and our Second Step Grief Support program continues to meet twice a month.

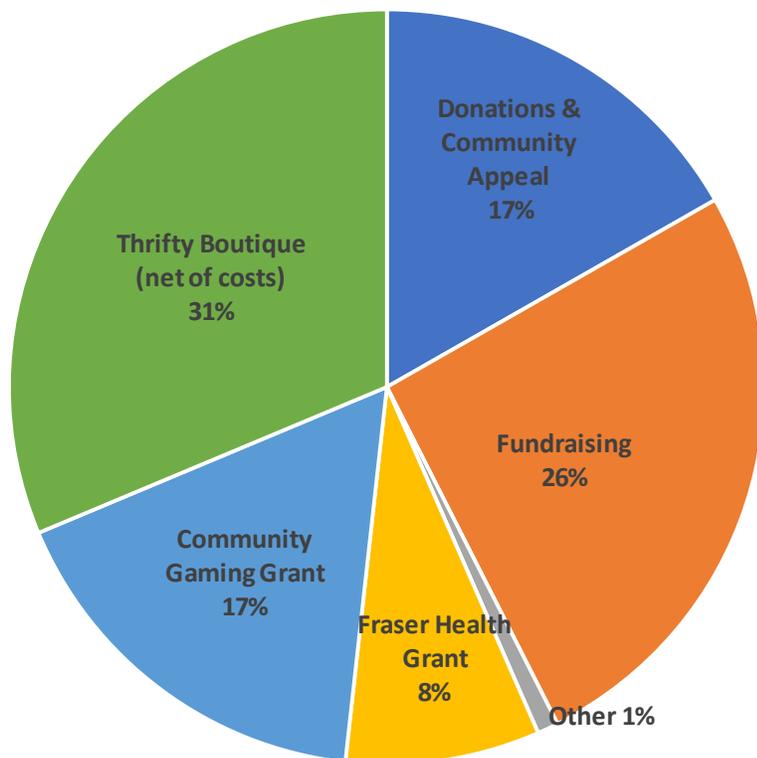
This year, we also ran a Traumatic Loss Support Group for those whose lives have been impacted by a sudden death, such as homicide, suicide or accident.

Our Relaxation Team continues to provide treatments at the Centre, at Cascade and in the community.



Having fun at our annual Children's Horse Whisperer Grief Camp

Chilliwack Hospice Society Revenue Sources 2017/2018



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

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



Quilts donated by the Chilliwack Quilter's Guild and the the Chilliwack Peacemaker's Quilting Guild for use by our Cascade Hospice patients.



Hospice Volunteers, Ardis and Hans, providing information about Chilliwack Hospice Society at the Chilliwack Connect Event.

Board Of Directors

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