



Valley Hospice Foundation
Annual General Meeting – June 14, 2017

A Year in Review – 2016/17

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BUILDING HOSPICE

We begin this 2016/17 annual report by reporting that our hospice is a go!

It is difficult to understand all the reasons why there is not yet a hospice operating in the Valley, but in the past year there have been significant changes in the situation.

This time last year we reported that the Valley Hospice Foundation was in the middle of redefining an agreement with the Nova Scotia Health Authority. Now completed, the agreement outlines our collaboration in the establishment and operations of a residential hospice, and does so in the spirit of an earlier agreement with the former Annapolis Valley District Health Authority.

In July 2016 the agreement was made final. In August we joined Premier Stephen McNeil to publicly announce the residential hospice for the Annapolis Valley.

In the fall of 2016 a Project Advisory Committee was formed to plan the construction of our Hospice. Diana Patterson, Chair, and Don Wells, Vice-Chair of the Hospice Foundation are on the committee, which also includes Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) engineers and senior staff, noted members of our community and front line staff who deliver palliative care every day in our community. The Hospice will be built by NSHA with the funds we raised within our community. This Project Advisory Committee has been meeting regularly since the end of September.

The first phase of the committee has been to complete a “Functional Plan” that includes outlining the many special features of the Hospice and the specific spaces required to support the unique services that will be provided there. The goal of this phase is to be as detailed as possible to avoid additional costs later. The input from those working in palliative care has proven to be invaluable in this process, as they know firsthand the complex issues that might arise for the patients and their loved ones who will be served in the Hospice setting.

The shared vision for our Hospice is starting to take shape. It has been confirmed that the Hospice will be located near Valley Regional Hospital next to Beacon House. We look forward to completing the next phase of the work which will result in designs on paper.

In July 2017 Dr. Jim Perkin provided a report to the Board of Directors that captures our history. In that report he noted that the first Annual General Meeting was held on 28 August 2000. Since then there have been four changes of government and seven Ministers of Health. He noted that many changes have taken place in the community related to health care, most notably in matters relating to Nova Scotia’s aging population. Seventeen years is a long time for a volunteer body to work on a single project, and the Directors, along with our donors deserve heartfelt thanks.

While we are proud that our hospice in the Valley is one of the two approved projects to move forward in Nova Scotia, we are also pleased that a new provincial policy framework now exists to support future options for hospice care in other communities.

A NEW CHAPTER

The Hospice is becoming a reality because of generous community support and partnerships. As the Board works towards the start of our Hospice, we also enter into a new chapter of supporting enhancements that will ensure the best care possible for those coping with end-of-life in our community. In November 2016 the Board approved interim statement of funding priorities for fundraising under the following concepts. The items outlined are meant to represent needs over and above what is considered NSHA operational responsibilities.

- 1. Enhancing clinical care of patients with special therapies and specialized equipment**
- 2. Supporting hospice palliative care volunteers**
- 3. Enhancing the Hospice setting for family and patient comfort**
- 4. Creating educational opportunities for families and patients, professional staff and the community**

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Valley community continues to be generous with their support of Hospice and Palliative Care. The total received this year from donations and special events is \$178,257.

On May 1 our 4th annual Hike for Hospice was a great success. More than 100 hikers join us and \$13,000 was raised. Thank you to the staff and partners of Grant Thornton, LLP Kentville for presenting and hosting the Hike for Hospice.

In July we were honored to be invited to be part of the Annual PC Joseph Memorial Golf Classic. The Joseph family host a day of golf with friends and family to celebrate the memory of their father. The Hospice received \$5000 in donations from the event.

November marked the date of our 1st annual Holiday Gala. Over 17,000 was raised while guests relived the magic of the historic Cornwallis Inn in Kentville.

A SPECIAL GIFT OF ART

In January 2017 the Valley Hospice Foundation received a special gift of art. It is a sculpture entitled "Gathered" by Brad Hall. It will be place on the grounds of the hospice. It can be viewed at Harvest Gallery in Wolfville, where it is being held until the Hospice is completed. The gift has been made in memory of Dr. Benjamin Raxlen.

SERVING OUR MANDATE

Two grants were approved aligning with our objectives:

1. A grant in the amount of \$9,085 supported The Friends in Bereavement Support Grief Groups (open) throughout the Annapolis Valley and a Grief Recovery Program(close 8 week sessions), both facilitated by Jennifer Longley.
2. In February 2017 a grant in the amount of \$25,000 was approved to support a new Hospice Palliative Care Volunteer Program under the umbrella of NSHA/Annapolis Valley Palliative Care Program.

The Valley Hospice Foundation's participation on various committees serves to continue their mandate of public education/awareness, communication and partnerships.

Sub-group of Chronic Disease Management & Palliative Care

This is a committee of NSHA and community partners. Advance Care Planning has been a major focus of the group. Sessions have taken place in the community lead by trained volunteers using "Speak up Nova Scotia" resources and workbooks provided by NSHPCA.

Hospice Palliative Care Volunteer Working Group

Lead by Susan Miles, this group of community partners and NSHA staff have provided a plan for implementing a new volunteer program that will serve clients and families in their homes, hospital and in the hospice once operational. The aim is for the program to start by fall 2017.

Integrated Hospice Palliative Care Advisory Committee.

Valley Hospice Foundation Directors serve on this is the committee to collaborate in the planning and implementation of the Hospice project and will continue to function as advisors to operations and policy concerning the Hospice and the Palliative Care Program once the hospice is open.

Diana Patterson

Chair

FINANCE REPORT

The total assets as of March 31 2017 for Valley Hospice Foundation are: \$3,531,683.

Investments:	3,011,179
Cash	517,660
Accts. Receivable	1,527
Pre Paid Expense	1,317

It is noted that \$3,157,622 reflects the net of gifts & payments towards multi-year pledges received through the Our Community Our Health Capital Campaign as of March 31, 2017.

Other specified funds as of March 31 2017 are: Grief & Bereavement - \$16,424, Education - \$762 and Hospice Palliative Care Program - \$25,000.

Funds are invested using a low risk asset mix of: 80% Fixed/20% Equities. A joint bank account remains open in the name of Valley Hospice Foundation and Valley Regional Hospital Foundation to facilitate the remaining cash payments to be made towards multi-year/month pledges to the Capital Campaign.

The Valley Hospice Foundation's audited statements are available to the public for review.

Motions:

1. Approval of Statements: It is moved that the 2016-2017 Financial Statements prepared by Morse Brewster Lake be accepted.

2. Appointment of the Auditors It is moved that the auditing firm of Morse Brewster Lake to be reappointed as the auditors for this fiscal year 2017 - 2018.

Wayne Woodman
Treasurer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee proposes the following appointments for membership on the Board of Directors:

Director	David Acton	31 March 2020
Director	Robbie Harrison	31 March 2020

Note: Directors shall be eligible for re-election in accordance with Article 26 of the By-Laws of the Valley Hospice Foundation. There is no Term Expiry date for the Past Chairman since the term is dependent on the stepping down of the current Chairperson.

Further, the Committee recommends, on behalf of the Executive of the Valley Hospice Foundation:

If these recommendations are approved, the Board for 2017-2018 will be:

Name	End of term on Board
David Acton	31 March 2020
Robbie Harrison	31 March 2020
Diana Patterson	31 March 2018
James R. C. Perkin	as required (Past Chair)
Beverly Richardson	31 March 2018
Martha Stewart	31 March 2019
Brenda Wallace-Allen	31 March 2019
Don Wells	31 March 2018
Wayne Woodman	31 March 2019

Don Wells
Committee Chair