



Four Tides
Hospice Society

Annual Report 2023/24



Mission

Four Tides Hospice Society provides compassionate support to individuals at the end of their life, to their family and friends, and to those who are grieving in Powell River, qathet Regional District and Tla'amin. We provide community education and advocacy regarding end-of-life issues.

Vision

A community where all people are accompanied and supported on their end-of-life or bereavement journey.

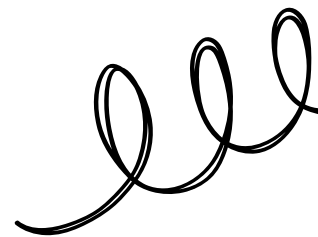


Tla'amin Grief Group 2024



Four Tides
Hospice
Society

President's Report



Transition: We are in transition from a working to a governing board. The board's responsibilities now are three-fold: providing oversight – ensuring the society is compliant in meeting regulatory requirements and the society's mandate; providing foresight – looking to the future, determining need, setting the path forward to meet the need; providing insight – developing capacity to intuitively and accurately understand complex situations and how to best resolve them. In this structure, the board envisions the future; the staff operationalize that vision. Three years ago, a board whose work was predominately operational, voted to make that transition. It was the right decision, born of insight, and needed for the society to grow. Implementation of that transition began in January of this year.

Looking forward: The board members will participate in a governance training program, tailored to the FTHS context. We are excited about this learning opportunity!

Hospice House Fundraising/Society Finances: Successful and heartfelt, funds were raised for the Hospice House 'Sanctuary Garden'. Thanks to the Birdhouse Auction crew, the Garden Club, and the Garden Tour Committee. We produced a beautiful promotional video with filmmaker Claudia Medina to support future fundraising initiatives. Thank you to Leslie for executing treasurer tasks and guiding operational finances while the board worked on transition. I'm happy to report that the society is financially stable and as you will note during the auditor's report, we are on budget.

Looking forward: Inducting a new member to the board who will serve as treasurer is an objective of this year's AGM.

Strategic Plan: The past year we completed a strategic plan refresh, as we were in the fourth year of a five-year plan. Identifying objectives through the lens of a governing rather than an operating board, was a good learning opportunity.

Our strategic priorities:

1 - Excellent hospice programs and services that meet the community's evolving needs, 2 - Secure the resources our vision requires - now and in the future, 3 - A stable, inclusive, progressive & high-functioning organization, 4 - Moving the community's Hospice House from vision to reality.

Looking forward: We will begin to set the path forward through another round of strategic planning in 2025.

Hospice House: I am pleased to confirm that Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH) and FTHS now have a signed agreement to work collaboratively together in the development of Hospice House. This document is intentional in nature; a more comprehensive agreement with discrete responsibilities will be developed as the project progresses.

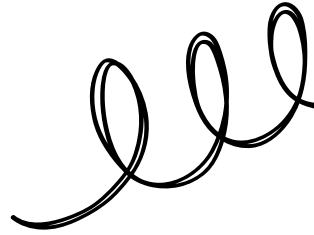
Looking forward: Now that we have a joint agreement in place, we can launch the formal Hospice House project campaign. Upcoming tasks include: hire a Resource Developer, draft a project plan, and re-start our community project committee. Identifying property and securing new architectural plans and cost estimates will follow. Our Hospice House partnership with the Tla'Amin Nation is solidly in place; we look forward to connecting with our other community partners.

Jump in: Are you wondering how you might be involved? There are multiple ways to contribute. Fundraising and promotional events require volunteers, watch for requests for help in our newsletters and emails. Interested in committee work such as policy and governance, or fundraising? Please let me know. "It takes a village..."

Thank You: Professional, respected throughout the community, knowledgeable, committed, and skilled ... our staff is exceptional! Thank you to Regina, Anna, and Leslie! Another exceptional group – client volunteers. "Making a difference and knowing that you do ... what could be more fulfilling." I trust that is the truth for you. Finally, I have been privileged to work on a board of passionate and compassionate individuals who have inspired me all year long. My sincere thanks to you all.

Malerie Meeker, President

Executive Director's Report



This year was wonderfully busy for our society as we continued to provide essential end-of-life, bereavement and caregiver services to the community. The Volunteer Visitor program saw a 23% increase in clients served and group services was close behind with a 22% increase, highlighting the growing need for hospice support in our community. The additional service needs were adsorbed through the addition of fourteen new Volunteer Visitors to the roster and an overall increase in the hours volunteered by the entire volunteer base.

We continued to deliver our group programs including the grief groups, grief walking group, caregiver support group, music therapy group, advance care planning workshops and Celebrate-a-Life Memory Tree. The grief group delivered in partnership with Tla'amin was well received and a second session is now underway. Watch for a new program called Friendly Callers to be launched under the Volunteer Visitors program in the months ahead.

The society's programs and services are supported by a combination of grants and donations. Throughout the year, we actively sought funding from various sources. This year, we achieved a significant milestone by securing funds from the BC Gaming Grant for the first time. We recently completed a funding cycle with the New Horizons Seniors program, however, we were unable to continue this funding into the new year, having been a recipient for several years. Other key supporters include the Community Services Recovery Fund, qathet Regional District, The Hospital Auxiliary, and the Powell River Community Foundation.

We benefited from several fundraising events held in support of hospice programs and services, including the Hike for Hospice, the Burger & Beer Night, The Tim Hortons Cookie Campaign, and the First Credit Union Car Wash. Each initiative was volunteer driven and raised vital funds for our mission. We are also deeply grateful for the generosity of our individual donors, who contribute monthly, donate in-memoriam, and give at community events or spontaneously throughout the year. Their support is essential to sustaining our services and making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

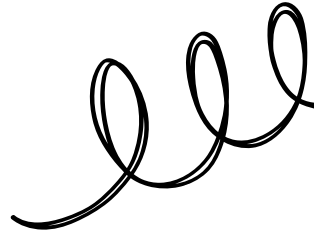
We are thrilled to share that office renovation is now complete, creating a more organized and welcoming space for clients, volunteers, and employees alike. The highlight of the renovation is a stunning live-edge conference table, which we envision will soon find a home in the new hospice facility. Crafted by Powell River Forest Products, this beautiful piece was generously donated to us, and we are truly grateful for this generous gift. Stop by to check it out!

This year, we bid farewell to two valued team members, Ciara Knapp and Sarah Joy Herzog, as they pursued new opportunities. We are truly grateful for their contributions and confident they will excel in their next roles. With a team of just three, their departures represent a significant change. However, change can also bring unexpected gifts. We're excited to welcome Regina Pfeifer to the team and to have Anna Byrne return. Both Regina and Anna bring exceptional skills and a strong commitment to their work, and we're thrilled to have them with us.

The work we do in community is vital work and it is heart-based work. While it can be intensely difficult it is also richly rewarding. No one knows this better than our dedicated team of volunteers who, day-in and day-out, provide palliative, bereavement and caregiver supports to community members. They step up to facilitate groups, organically organize around vigils, bravely take on complex cases and very eloquently offer their wisdom and care to people during times of great need. While its not possible to name people individually, we are aware of what you do and we're very grateful.

Leslie Emory, Interim Executive Director

Fundraising Committee Report



Successful fundraising is fun and it is a lot of work. It is about funding our programs and fulfilling our dream of a dedicated Hospice House. It is also about community engagement, elevating the profile of our organization and creating long lasting relationships in community. Over the past year, fundraising initiatives were both Board led and community sponsored.

As our profile and goals have become more well known, the community has stepped up to support our fundraisers and to hold fundraisers of their own (for Four Tides Hospice Society). Fundraising Highlights & Committee Initiatives:

The Whimsical Birdhouse Auction – led by Maureen Tierney & brownie, 20 builders, 28 artists = 41 birdhouses. Raised over \$13,000 for the future Hospice House gardens

Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign – lead by Cathy Fisher. Raised almost \$5,400 (\$872 more than last year) for programs and services

Hike, Run, Walk, Ride for Hospice – lead by Niki Burnett. Raised over \$16,000 for programs and services

Powell River Garden Club Fundraiser at the Patricia Theatre included guest speakers, the Brooks Jazz Band, raffle, and potholder sales. Raised almost \$5,000 for the future Hospice House gardens

Powell River Garden Tour - donation table with potholders. The Garden Tour Committee more than matched the donations received for a grand total of \$935 for the future Hospice House gardens

First Credit Union Car Wash for FTTHS - The staff at FCU raised \$600 for programs and services

The Reform Church Garage sale for FTTHS - Raised over \$1,000 for the future Hospice House

Tla'amin Elders fundraising - lead by Doreen Hopkins, Garden Fresh Veggie Spaghetti dinner raised \$820, plus Hike for Hospice Team raised \$1,200 for programs and services

Hospice House Connections and Visits - Visits to other hospice facilities provided opportunities to learn about their Donor Recognition walls, Individual, Corporate and Community sponsorships for rooms, equipment, programs, etc.

Networking with financial advisors for support in promoting planned giving and providing advertising sponsorships. Raymond James has been instrumental in providing advice and in sponsoring ongoing ads in qathet Living. This led to FTTHS staff developing a brochure on planned giving which is now available in some offices of financial advisors, lawyers, and accountants.

We researched other fundraising initiatives for the Hospice House fund, however with changes in the Board's direction, these were put on hold until there is signed agreement in place with VCH, and until a Resource Developer can be hired to take the lead with this large fundraising initiative.

We could not have carried out our successful fundraising without our passionate volunteers, staff & board. A huge THANKYOU to all of you!

We can continue our work with the ongoing support of you, our members. Please talk to our staff about ways you can continue to support the funding of programs and to help us to make Hospice House a reality.

Maureen Tierney, Vice-President



Hospice Services

41

Active Volunteers

292

Clients Served

98

Group Sessions Delivered

"We will forever be grateful for the friendship and care that our mom and her hospice volunteer shared at the end of her life."

Hospice Client Family Member 2024

Program

Details

Outcome

Volunteer Visitor Program

One-to-one Volunteer visits with end-of-life, caregiver & bereavement clients

- 36 Volunteer Visitors
- 2352 Volunteer Hours
- 1224 Visits
- 127 Clients Served

Group Services Program

Grief Support Group

Grief Walking Group

Music Therapy Group

Caregiver Support Group

Advance Care Planning Workshop

Celebrate A Life Memory Tree

- 165 Group Participants
- 22 Active Volunteers
- 547 Volunteer Hours
- 98 Group Sessions



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Volunteers in action



"It is an honour and privilege to be with someone who is coming to the end of their journey in life. It has taught me to be present and appreciate who I am."

Hospice Volunteer 2024

Volunteer Training Cohort 2024

Volunteer Service

Forty-one hospice volunteers served as Volunteer Visitors for individuals nearing the end of life, their caregivers, and those who are grieving. They also facilitated and coordinated various group services, participated in outreach and offered administrative supports.

Volunteer Events

Volunteers participated in 11 supplemental learning sessions for experience sharing and professional development. They were also recognized at the annual appreciation event and spring potluck.

Volunteer Training

This year, 14 new volunteers completed the Volunteer Visitor Training, gaining insights into the needs of the dying, family dynamics, spiritual care, grief and bereavement, as well as boundaries and confidentiality.

3684

Volunteer Hours

1224

Client Visits



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In Community

W



Grief Walk



Celebrate A Life Tree



Like For Hospice



Telephone of the Wind



Like For Hospice



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Hospice House

What is it?

Hospice House is a stand-alone facility where individuals can go to receive both palliative and hospice care as they approach end-of-life. Family and friends will be welcome to stay with their loved ones in the homelike environment and will have access to bereavement and caregiver supports.

Where are we?

Funds Raised

(In-hand &
Committed)

\$2,000,000

Total Needed

\$5,000,000+

Next steps?

- Hire a Resource Developer
- Re-establish HH Project Committee
- Launch Capital Campaign
- Secure New Plans and Cost Estimates



Board Of Directors 2023/2024

President

Malerie Meeker

Director

Sophie Call

Vice-President

Maureen Tierney

Director

Doreen Hopkins

Secretary

Niky Burnett

Director

Gary Olson

Director

Kim Barton-Bridges

Director

Jodie Young



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We'd like to thank all our donors and funders for their generous support



\$85,936

Donations



\$55,439

Program Funding

Funders



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