Four Tides
Hospice Society

2024–2025 Annual Report

November 2025

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Four Tides Hospice Society



Board of Directors, (l-r): Kim Barton-Bridges (Vice-President), Niky Burnett (Secretary), Elizabeth Exter (Treasurer), Gary Olson (Director), Jodie Young (Director), Lynn Webster (Director), Sophie Call (Director).
Ex officio Director and Medical Advisor, (bottom right): Dr. David May

Vision

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

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.

Message from the Board President



Malerie Meeker

Board President

Over the past year, Four Tides Hospice Society has experienced significant growth and change. As President of the Board of Directors, I am both proud and grateful for this opportunity to share with you the journey our society has undertaken to build a strong organization, prepared for a future of growth.

Five years ago, the Board of Directors decided to begin the process of board transformation – from administrative to governing. Given current circumstances, that decision was somewhat visionary! We are experiencing a culture shift as end-of-life and bereavement supports take on more societal importance. With a 280+% increase in referrals in one calendar year, and progress (albeit slow) in building our partnerships with Vancouver Coastal Health, the qathet Regional District, qathet Regional Hospital District Board, and the City of Powell River to create a stand-alone facility, 'hospice' - both the philosophy and the service - is an idea whose time has come.

As our programs and services have expanded, so too has the need for a leadership model that supports sustainable growth, professional development, and a culture of empowerment for our dedicated staff. Our priority has been to initiate new systems that provide high-level oversight, while entrusting day-to-day operations to our talented team.

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Message from the Board President

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By moving towards a governance framework, we are able to set clear strategic direction, ensure accountability, and uphold the mission and values that have guided us since our founding. This empowers our staff to innovate, respond quickly to community needs, and deliver quality care and support to those facing some of life's most difficult challenges.

This shift marks an important milestone in the maturity of our organization. Within this context of change, the Board remains deeply committed to fostering a collaborative environment where the expertise and contributions of staff and volunteers are valued and leveraged.

As my term as president is ending, I want to acknowledge the members of the Board of Directors for their commitment to Four Tides Hospice and for their support of me as their Chair. I am very proud of all we accomplished together. I also want to say that working with Leslie Emory (Interim Executive Director) and then Melanie Munroe (Executive Director) has been a delight. I'm leaving the society in the best of hands and look forward to contributing to Four Tides Hospice in other capacities.

"By moving towards a governance framework, we are able to set clear strategic direction, ensure accountability, and uphold the mission and values that have guided us since our founding."

Finally, thank you to all our staff, volunteers, supporters, members, and citizens for your trust and partnership. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient Four Tides Hospice; one that will continue to be a source of comfort, hope, and care for many years to come.

Malerie Meeker

Message from the Executive Director



Melanie Munroe

Executive Director

It is with deep gratitude that I have stepped into the role of Executive Director at Four Tides Hospice. Though I have only been part of this incredible organization for a short time, I have already witnessed the profound impact our team makes each day in the lives of the people we serve.

Joining Four Tides at this pivotal moment has been both a privilege and a call to action. As we reflect on the past year, celebrating the lives we've touched, the challenges we've met, and the strength of our community, I am also looking ahead to a future full of promise. Together with our board, staff, volunteers, and supporters, we are laying the groundwork for exciting developments that will ensure we can continue to serve with excellence for years to come.

In the months ahead, we will be exploring new ways to expand our reach, deepen our support services, and embrace innovative care models that reflect the evolving needs of those we serve in our community. Strengthening community partnerships, investing in staff development, and continually listening to the needs of our community will be central to our mission as we grow.

I am energized by what lies ahead and honored to help lead Four Tides into its next chapter. Thank you for your continued trust, support, and belief in our work.

Melanie Munroe

"Strengthening community partnerships, investing in staff development, and continually listening to the needs of our community will be central to our mission as we grow."

Fundraising Report

This year, thanks to the unwavering support of our community, donors, and volunteers, we achieved another milestone in our fundraising efforts. Through a combination of individual contributions, local business support, grants, and our signature fundraising events, the funds raised helped to support compassionate end-of-life care for our patients and their families. Each dollar raised directly impacts our ability to provide comfort, dignity, and peace during life's most vulnerable moments.
We are deeply grateful for the generosity that sustains our mission and helps ensure that no one faces the end of life alone.



Hike for Hospice	$12,000+
Smile Cookie	$8,000+
Membership	$900 +
Hospice House	$26,000+

$80K+

Total funds raised
(including general contributions)

Volunteers in Action



2025 Volunteer Visitor Training Program cohort

"The qathet community and all who are connected with FTHS - whether giving or receiving their services - can benefit from this heartfelt offering."

Hospice volunteer

Volunteer training

Volunteers are the heart of hospice! Our annual volunteer training program includes twenty-eight hours of education on topics such as: disease trajectories; psychosocial care; family dynamics; and cultural sensitivity.

Volunteers take an oath of confidentiality and undergo a police clearance. Volunteers also attend monthly meetings, which provide support and ongoing education.

Approximately twenty-five volunteers attended a 6-part education series entitled: "*From Diagnosis to Bereavement: Supporting Clients and their Families*", as part of their monthly support meetings.

8

New volunteers trained

3873

Hours of volunteer service

Programs





Volunteer Visitor Program

In our volunteer visitor program, trained volunteers support those living with a life-limiting illness, their caregivers, and those who are grieving. Volunteers make visits in homes, hospital or long-term care to provide social, emotional, and spiritual care to clients.

49

Volunteer visitors

277

Total clients served

Group Services Program

Our group services provide education and support to clients. Services include a walking grief support group, a caregiver support group, an 8-week grief group, grief support in partnership with Tla'amin Nation, and advance care planning workshops.

111

Group sessions delivered

92

Group participants

Event Highlights

Four Tides Hospice Society held many successful community events during the past year, from important fundraisers to vital support groups and educational workshops. Here are a few highlights.







Smile Cookie Campaign







Hike for Hospice







Groups & Workshops

Thank You

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the people and organizations that have made this year's achievements possible through their hard work and generous support. In addition to program funding provided by the organizations below, more than **280 individual donations** were received! We are sincerely grateful.

PACIFIC BLUE CROSS®

BRITISH COLUMBIA Community Gaming Grants

First CREDIT UNION

Powell River Community Foundation

P R HEALTH-CARE AUXILIARY

qathet REGIONAL DISTRICT

Sovereign Order Of ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM Knights Hospitaller c.1048

The Four Tides Team



Melanie Munroe
Executive Director



Anna Byrne
Client & Volunteer Coordintor



Vanessa Sparrow
Administrative & Outreach Assistant



Leslie Emory
Executive Director (outgoing)



Regina Pfeifer
Administrative & Outreach Assistant (outgoing)

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