

Annual Report  
2018/2019



12 June 2019

Annual General  
Meeting

## Valley Hospice Foundation

2018/19 has been an exciting year for the Valley Hospice Foundation. The sod turning ceremony for our residential hospice took place on October 26, 2019 and officially marked a new chapter in the journey towards providing Valley residents a home like option for their end of life care.

2018/19 has been an exciting year for the Valley Hospice Foundation.

The cheers were heard across the Valley as we celebrated the dream of many volunteers and supporters with the start of the construction of our beloved Hospice residence.



The sod turning ceremony for our Valley Hospice took place on October 26, 2018 and officially marked a new chapter in the journey towards providing Valley residents a home like option for their end of life care.

Over the past year the Valley Hospice Foundation has continued to work with Nova Scotia Health Authority on various aspects related to the Hospice building while also looking beyond the building in planning our role into the future.

Because of generous donors we were pleased to have been able to increase the Foundation's financial commitment to the building to \$4,000,000 from \$3,800,000 reported at the last AGM.

At the start of the fiscal year, the Board voted to appoint the executive team for a two year term (ending March 31, 2020) to accommodate the transition to the opening of the Hospice anticipated to be early 2020. I, Diana Patterson, will continue in my role as Chair, along with Don Wells, Vice-Chair (Building), Martha Stewart, Vice-Chair, (Planning/Development) and Wayne Woodman, Treasurer.

This year the Valley Hospice Foundation began the work of setting a course for the next steps on our journey. I want to thank Martha Stewart, Chair of Strategic Planning, Brenda Wallace-Allen, Chair of Fund Development and the members of our Board who have all contributed their time and talent in areas related to strategic planning, communication and fund-raising.

In the fall of 2018 our Strategic Planning Team proposed that efforts be focused towards communication with our stakeholders and engaging our community with the news of our hospice becoming a reality. Through a series of interviews with individuals in our community, several common themes emerged that has informed our planning. We are grateful that people were happy to participate and provide their feedback to help us.

The Board has now approved a 12 month Strategic Communication Plan that includes the following objectives:

- To raise awareness and understanding about hospice as part of the integrated palliative care program currently offered in the Valley region.
- To tell the story of what the new Valley Hospice will be for the community once it is open and operational.
- To align and create clarity about the responsibilities of the Valley Hospice Foundation and the NSHA as it pertains to the Valley Hospice and ensure the two organizations are collaborative and supportive on messages, announcements and events.

Our Fund Development Committee has been busy reviewing and evaluating opportunities for fundraising. A plan has been developed to guide efforts in 2019/20 and to set the basis for a 3-5 year strategic approach to sustaining enhancements to the hospice and its programs.

Recommendations within the plan highlights the importance of perspectives of staff and volunteers working at the hospice and the meaningful acknowledgement of their commitment to hospice palliative care. It will be important to our success to highlight patient and family care, any new additions to the building and grounds at the hospice and all programs inside and outside of the hospice that the Foundation will assist.

*Our work is guided by the Foundation's commitment to Valley Hospice and its ability to care for the dying, and also to assisting loved ones and the surrounding community through specialized services such as complementary therapies, volunteer visiting, bereavement and education.*

This past year we responded with grants in two key areas:

1. Friends in Bereavement  
Grief support groups are held twice a month in Kentville, Berwick and Bridgetown. The group provides support for those who are grieving the death or approaching death of a loved one. The sessions are a balance of learning and informal conversation.
2. Annapolis Valley Palliative Care Volunteer Program (NSHA)  
Specially trained volunteers provide companionship and/or respite in homes throughout the Valley and will be ready to assist in the hospice once operational. 32 caring individuals have been recruited and screened to visit patients across all care settings

As provided for in our agreement with the Nova Scotia Health Authority, an integrated Advisory Committee has been formed. The committee acts in an advisory role and as a resource in the planning and development of the Valley Hospice. This committee will continue until the building is open.

The committee includes:

- Benji Nycum and Noah Epstein, architects from Nycum and Associates
- Rob Hudson, P.Eng., NSHA and Louis Dionne, Mechanical Planner, NSHA
- Fran Duggan, Director, Hospice Palliative Care, NSHA, Committee Chair
- Fern Brydon, Manager of Hospice Palliative Care
- Dr. Karen Burch, Dr. Lori Burgess, Physicians Hospice Palliative Care Team
- Katrina Patterson, RN, Paulette Gash, RN, Hospice Palliative Care Team
- Jim Madill, Community Representative, Annapolis County
- Kathyne Phillips, Community Representative, Kings County
- Don Wells and Diana Patterson, Valley Hospice Foundation
- Mark Yeadon, Project Manager, NSHA

And many other NSHA representatives advising according to their specialty.

The committee meets every two to four weeks. It has covered all aspects of the project, from choosing the site, working through the design, to selecting furniture! After months of work, the final design was completed in the summer of 2018. The tender was then called and a contract was awarded to Rikjak Construction Limited in the fall. The official “sod turning” on October 26, 2018 was the start of the next phase. How wonderful that was! The site soon became a construction zone. The construction proceeded throughout the winter. By the spring we could see the exterior footings and the foundation, including pipes and electrical wiring.

We recently posted an overhead view taken by Jamie Robertson operating his drone camera. It is simply beautiful. You can easily see the “birdlike” design of our Hospice emerging. Now that the weather is warming up we will all witness - our dream becoming reality.

We would like to thank all the members of the Project Advisory Committee for helping ensure the Valley Hospice is a warm, friendly and homelike environment for those in need.

Diana Patterson and Don Wells



The total assets as of March 31 2019 for Valley Hospice Foundation are: \$2,319,546.

It is noted that \$2 million is committed to the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) for the construction of the residential Hospice. In 2017/18 \$2 million was paid to begin the project. A formal agreement between the Valley Hospice Foundation and NSHA states that additional installments will be made by the Foundation as billed by NSHA up to a total contribution of \$4 million.

Other specified funds as of March 31 2019 are outlined on page 3 & 4 of the Audited Financial Statements. They include:

Grief & Bereavement \$34,549

Education \$523

Volunteer Program (\$522)

A grant in the amount of \$25,000 was paid to NSHA to support year 2 of the Volunteer Program and \$13,709 was granted for bereavement support. The Foundation uses unrestricted funds when needed to meet grant commitments.

Funds in the amount of \$2,114,551 are invested and managed by Scotia Wealth Management using a low risk asset mix of: 80% Fixed/20% Equities.

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

#### **Motions:**

- 1. Approval of Statements:** It is moved that the 2018-2019 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 appointed as the auditors for this fiscal year 2019 - 2020.

Wayne Woodman  
Treasurer

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

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

Director	Brenda Wallace-Allen	31 March 2022
Director	Martha Stewart	31 March 2022
Director	Wayne Woodman	31 March 2022
Director	Shelagh Campbell-Palmer	31 March 2022

Note: Directors shall be eligible for re-election in accordance with Article 24 of the By-Laws of the Valley Hospice Foundation.

Further, the Committee recommends, on behalf of the Executive of the Valley Hospice Foundation. If these recommendations are approved, the Board for 2019-2020 will be:

<u>Name</u>	<u>End of term on Board</u>
David Acton	31 March 2020
Lori Burgess	31 March 2020
Shelagh Campbell-Palmer	31 March 2022
Gail Gordon	31 March 2021
Robbie Harrison	31 March 2020
Diana Patterson	31 March 2021
Beverly Richardson	31 March 2021
Martha Stewart	31 March 2022
Brenda Wallace-Allen	31 March 2022
Don Wells	31 March 2021
Wayne Woodman	31 March 2022

Don Wells  
Committee Chair

"You matter because you are you, and you matter to the end of your life.  
We will do all we can not only to help you die peacefully, but also to live until you die."  
Dame Cicely Saunders

# Thank you!

*We are grateful to our community for their never ending support!*

- Hike for Hospice - 2018 - \$18,349
- Summer Dance Party, Hoppin for Hospice at the Port Pub - \$9000
- A Garden Party/ Arboretum Tour, Blomidon, NS - \$3000
- PC Joseph Memorial, Family and Friends Golf Event - \$1200
- A Holiday Gala - \$23,538



Bev Richardson greeting guests during the Garden Party hosted by Dr. Bill Bevrige in Blomidon, NS



Event volunteers Cora & Guy Breton deserve a big thanks for all the work they do to make our events successful.



Hiking for Hospice – an annual tradition in support of Valley Hospice & Palliative Care.



Service with smiles from 4-H'ers during dinner at our Holiday Gala! Well done!