

# NEWSLETTER

## National Hospice and Palliative Care Month

Throughout the month of November, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) is working with its membership to increase public awareness about the benefits of hospice and palliative care. This year's theme is, "My Hospice. A Program that Works. A Benefit that Matters." Hospice Quinte is proudly joining alongside organizations from across the country to spread awareness and help the communities we serve to better understand what hospice palliative care is, and all the benefits that it can offer.

Hospice palliative care is a special kind of health care for those who are in the advanced stages of a life-limiting illness, when a cure is no longer possible, and where the goal is to provide comfort and dignity, and the best quality of life for them and their family. It is also about providing families with the support they need as they transition through their loved one's illness, through death to bereavement.

The new Hospice Quinte Care Centre will be an alternate place to go when hospital or home care are no longer an option. It will bring a level of care to our region where none currently exists - a place where individuals and their families will be supported and care will be provided by a

professional health care team, rather than caregivers and families. Our current and expanded programs through the Care Centre, provide coping tools to help bereaved individuals and families understand the grief experience, the difficult changes in their lives, and the challenging road ahead. With compassionate and helpful support, we bring people together who are walking the same path of loss, where they can find enrichment through the experience of others, knowing they are not alone.



**Did you know?** Hospice Quinte has 128 active volunteers. These dedicated individuals contributed 9,544 hours of their time to the organization in our last fiscal year. This equates to a cost savings of \$190,880 for Hospice Quinte.



Concept Image Only

### Project Overview

The well-appointed multi-use Community Room offers a private place within the Centre for volunteer training and education, medical, legal or funeral consultation for clients and their family members, staff meetings and public use. It also allows for special program space for hospice clients such as visiting choirs, and special seasonal and celebratory events for families. Our 4-6 week Support Groups and Caregiver Education Series will also benefit from the Community Room, which will allow us to also expand and enhance these programs.

This space will be a serene, comforting and safe space for people to share their stories and receive support from others who are sharing their journey.

## More Support for Hospice Quinte with a \$60,000 Donation!

The *Heart & Home Building Campaign* has received further support with an outstanding gift of securities donation of \$60,000 from Kim Lander.

“I support Hospice Quinte for many reasons...I want my family and caregivers to be relieved of full responsibility of caring for me; I want to live my end of life in a beautiful, friendly, homelike environment if I am unable to do so in my own home; I want my end of life to be dignified and peaceful. I want this for anyone in our community. As a Board Member of Hospice Quinte, I have witnessed the real benefit of our visiting volunteers, and a hospice residence will allow those benefits to continue and grow. Hospice Quinte requires financial support in order to provide this much needed benefit to our community.”



Ross McDougall, Jennifer-May Anderson, Kim Lander and John Williams

We send a heartfelt thank you to Kim, as this gift will help ensure the Hospice Quinte Care Centre becomes a reality for our community.

## Campaign Volunteer Spotlight

Born and raised in Belleville, I have always had a passion for helping others. It all began when I was on the Fire Brigade and a Medical Tech at Procter & Gamble, which led me to applying for law enforcement. I was a Police Officer for 10 years in Belleville, while also dedicating time to being a volunteer firefighter. In 1996, I made the permanent switch and became Fire Chief in Sidney Township. When the amalgamation occurred in 1998, I became the Deputy Fire Chief for the City of Quinte West, and in 2011 I was promoted to Fire Chief. Throughout this time, I continued volunteering, spending 8 years involved with Victim Services, Hastings, Prince Edward and Lennox & Addington, and also was the Chair of United Way for one year.

I decided to become involved with Hospice Quinte's *Heart & Home Building Campaign* due to a personal experience with one of our own volunteer firefighters. When he learned he was terminally ill he wished to spend his final days in hospice. We were dismayed to learn that there were no hospice palliative care beds in our region, and that in order to receive care he would have to travel outside the community. Due to the small number of hospice palliative care beds in the surrounding areas, our volunteer was placed on a waiting list. Thankfully, a bed became available and he was able to spend his final day in a hospice. When the opportunity arose, I was happy to play a role in securing the property in Quinte West for the new Hospice Quinte Care Centre, and didn't hesitate to say yes when asked to become a Cabinet member for the campaign.

I want to ensure that the Care Centre will be here for our community in their time of need.

John Whelan  
Campaign Cabinet Member  
Fire Chief, City of Quinte West



“I have learned so much through Hospice Quinte. Our clients and families offer me the privilege of coming into their homes and lives at a very significant time. The sharing of the end-of-life journey is an ongoing inspirational learning experience. There is so much to learn from the strength, resilience and love of people who care. Hospice Quinte staff are always available to answer the many questions that arise in each unique circumstance, providing continuous support, encouragement, resources and training opportunities. Fellow volunteers are a dedicated group of people who have varied skills and backgrounds who willingly share with our clients and fellow supporters. It is an honour to be a part of this organization and give back to this community.”

**CONNIE ALLISON-GOODWIN, HOSPICE QUINTE VOLUNTEER**