



OAK RIDGES HOSPICE HERALD

Winter/Spring 2021 | Issue 10

CAMPAIGN GOAL EXCEEDED!

Thank You!



We are thrilled to announce that we exceeded our fundraising goal of \$500,000 for the "Opening Our Doors for Compassionate Care" campaign! Thanks to your tremendous support, we have been able to move forward with outfitting the hospice to truly make it a home-like environment. Beds, couches, chairs, tables, TVs, phones, fridges, and more have been set up at the hospice, ready to welcome our first residents when we open later this spring. All additional funds received over and above our goal are going towards furnishing outdoor patio spaces, purchasing a water softener and getting additional equipment for the kitchen.

Thank you so much for helping us prepare to open our doors for compassionate care!

OAK RIDGES HOSPICE WILL OPEN THE MORGAN & SIDHU HOUSE THIS SPRING

February marked the completion of construction on the Morgan & Sidhu House. We are now working hard to prepare for opening our doors this spring!

Over the last month there has been a flurry of activity to prepare the hospice for service delivery. Furniture continues to be delivered and assembled; signage is being finalized and will be installed soon; phones have been installed and assigned; medical equipment has been reviewed and purchased; the list goes on and on. The final days of winter also means that landscaping plans are being finalized. We are eagerly awaiting spring days so that sod can be put down and trees can be planted.

We are also excited to share that the leadership team is now working on site at the hospice. Their days are filled with preparations for opening, such as developing the intake process, establishing policies and procedures, training volunteers, and recruiting front-line staff.

If you would like to see more pictures from inside the hospice and keep up-to-date on the latest news, follow us on social media @oakridgeshospice on Instagram, and @oakridgeshosp on Facebook.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Every gift has a tremendous impact at Oak Ridges Hospice (ORH). We are incredibly grateful to the many individuals, community groups and foundations who have supported us in their own unique way! Below are some highlights from the last few months to celebrate this generous community.

THE RON & NANCY COMPTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

Thank you to the Ron & Nancy Compton Family Foundation for their generous early contribution of \$175,000 to the 'Opening our Doors for Compassionate Care' campaign.



Pictured above: (back row) Dr. Steve Russell, Brook & Hannah Compton. (front) Ron & Nancy Compton.

"We never realized the great need or importance for a hospice in this area, until our parents passed away in the local hospital. What they both desperately needed was a quiet place, where they could receive compassionate care, surrounded by family & loved ones. In January, we sadly lost our sister Kelly to pancreatic cancer. We were so hopeful that Kelly could spend her last days in the comfort of a hospice and have the end-of-life experience she so greatly deserved, surrounded by family & friends. It has been through these personal experiences that solidified our commitment to support Oak Ridges Hospice. **Our hope is that other families in need, can experience the best possible end-of-life care with dignity and compassion.**" said Ron & Nancy Compton, when asked why they support hospice.

Thanks to the Compton Family, ORH was able to begin purchasing essential furniture for the hospice back in December, ensuring it would be delivered in time to open our doors this spring! Now the bedrooms and common areas have beautiful furnishings, ready to welcome our first residents and their loved ones.

GAR LEFORT AND TISH MENZIES

When Tish asked Gar if he would build and donate a fireplace surround for the hospice he did not hesitate to respond, "Of Course!". "We both had a spiritual connection to the project and saw it as a way to honour Gar's father - my brother," explained Tish.

This stunning addition to ORH was designed by Tish and custom made by Gar. They both spent several days installing and finishing it at the hospice. "It makes me really proud to collaborate with my nephew on something that will bring warmth to people here", said Tish.

The fireplace is located in our big, bright living room with comfortable seating all around it. Thanks to Gar and Tish, this focal point to the room offers a beautiful ambiance and brings so much warmth and comfort to the space.



Pictured above: Gar LeFort & Tish Menzies

BUDGET BLINDS OF PORT PERRY

We are extremely grateful to Joe and Cathy Gibson, owners of Budget Blinds of Port Perry for donating \$18,000 worth of window coverings for ORH.



Pictured above: Cathy and Joe Gibson, owners of Budget Blinds of Port Perry

"When we were asked to quote on the shades we just said, let's do it! ... we've had a lot of customers in Port Perry over our 11 years of business and we thought that this was a great way to give back and show our appreciation to the community," said Joe. Not only did they see it as a way to give back, they also felt a personal connection to the project. Cathy shared that she had a dear friend who spent her final days in a hospice, "I was just so impressed with the comfort that it gave her ... I always think about how nice it was for her and how nice they treated her," said Cathy.

Thanks to Joe and Cathy of Budget Blinds of Port Perry, future residents of ORH will find tremendous comfort through a choice of sheer and blackout blinds in all of the bedrooms. This comfort is extended beyond those spaces with sheer blinds in all of the common areas, library, spiritual room, multi-purpose room, and offices. Cathy and Joe are extremely proud to offer Canadian made products and wanted to recognize their Concord-based manufacturer, Mera Window Fashions, who offered special pricing when they heard about the project.

PORT PERRY TILE INSTALLATION

The labour to install the backsplash in both our kitchen and family bisto areas was generously donated by Dave Thompson and his son, Brad, of Port Perry Tile Installation. Not only does the tile add much needed cleaning functionality to the spaces; the final result is absolutely beautiful! Thank you Dave and Brad!



Pictured above: Dave and Brad Thompson

PORT PERRY PATCHERS QUILT GUILD

Thank you to the wonderful team of quilters who helped make over two dozen quilts for ORH

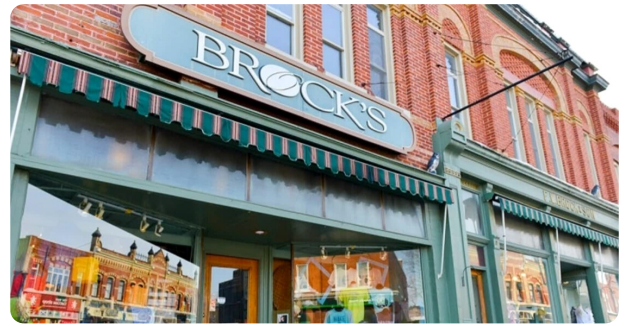
We are so appreciative of the time, energy and love that has gone into making every single quilt. Our future residents and their families and loved ones will find great comfort from these beautiful creations.

Also, thank you to Sandy, Karen, Vicki and Monica (pictured to the left) for delivering the quilts to ORH.



BROCKS DEPARTMENT STORE

Thank you to the wonderful team at Brocks Department Store for their generous \$5000 donation in support of the 'Opening Our Doors for Compassionate Care' campaign. We are so grateful for your support and your commitment to bringing a hospice residence to the community!



thank you

JOIN US FOR THE 2021 VIRTUAL HIKE FOR HOSPICE!

Virtual
HIKE FOR HOSPICE

in support of:

OAK RIDGES HOSPICE
OF DURHAM LTD.

JUNE 6TH, 2021

oakridgeshospice.com

On June 6, 2021, wear purple and get outside to walk, run, bike, dance, garden - whatever gets you moving - in support of Oak Ridges Hospice!

Your participation in this event will not only foster important awareness, but also bring much needed funds to help operate the hospice. All proceeds from the 2021 Virtual Hike for Hospice will support the volunteer program and resident care provisions. Come hike for us!

To learn more and to register, [CLICK HERE](#)

MEET THE TEAM

Meet the leadership team at ORH! If you would like to connect with any of the team, please email us at info@oakridgeshospice or call 289-225-0202



Brent Farr, Executive Director

Brent brings over 30 years of leadership experience working and volunteering in the not-for-profit health care sector. He was the Executive Director of Community Care Durham for 13 years and was on the Board of Directors for Durham Hospice in the late 90s. Brent's passion for hospice arises from personal family experiences where a hospice residence would have been a welcomed alternative for a much more dignified and supportive end-of-life experience for his loved ones. Since joining ORH in November, Brent has been instrumental in building the leadership team and contributing to preparations to bring ORH to an operational reality.



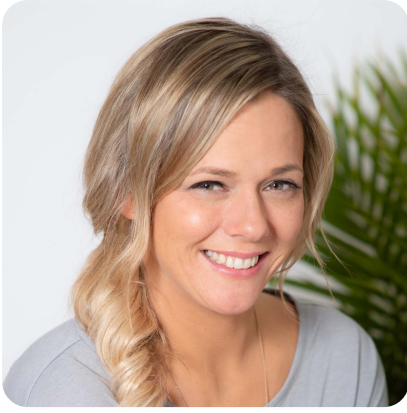
Dr. Steve Russell, Medical Director

Dr. Russell has been a family physician in Port Perry since 1993 and established the Palliative Care Team for North Durham. He continues to be active in providing palliative care training to other family physicians through collaboration with the Durham Region Palliative Care Physicians Group. Dr. Russell was the dedicated Chair of the ORH Board of Directors for five years up until March 2021. He has transitioned out of that role to be the first Medical Director for ORH and focus on his passion – providing care to people who are at end-of-life.



Amy Archer, Director of Care

Amy is a registered nurse with a specialty focus in palliative and end-of-life care. Her passion for palliative care began when serving children with serious illnesses at Sick Kids and Emily's House (Pediatric Hospice). It is in these environments where Amy says she really learned the philosophy for palliative care when seeing children with the courage to face their illness and continue to look for meaning, growth, play and discovery. She joined the ORH leadership team to impact and influence excellence in the delivery of quality end-of-life care that is both individualized and family-centered. Amy has her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing and is certified in Hospice Palliative Care Nursing with the Canadian Nurses Association.



Cheryl Genereaux, Volunteer Coordinator

Cheryl brings over 18 years of experience in volunteer management in healthcare settings to ORH. She spent 9 years as a Volunteer Coordinator with the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) and was a Volunteer Specialist for Southlake Regional Health Centre. Cheryl feels a deep connection to hospice, having witnessed her mother's end-of-life experience in a hospital setting and wishing there was a hospice alternative at the time. As soon as Cheryl heard about ORH, she knew it was where she wanted to be. Cheryl holds a diploma in Social Work and a graduate certificate in Volunteer Management. Cheryl is also a certified yoga instructor and in her spare time she runs her own yoga studio.



Michelle Betlem, Fund Development & Communications Coordinator

Michelle has been fundraising for community based not-for-profit organizations for 15 years. Michelle was eager to join the ORH team, having developed a deep appreciation for hospice and palliative care through her previous work and personal experiences. She holds her Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) designation, a graduate certificate in Fundraising & Resource Development, and has been a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) for over a decade.



Dawn Szuhai, Administrative Coordinator

Dawn brings over 25 years of experience in Administration and Human Resources from various sectors, including manufacturing and media. She has lived in the Scugog community for over 20 years and has been a fundraising volunteer for much of that time through her children's schools. She is thrilled to be a part of the team to open the first hospice residence in Durham Region and bring this important resource to the community.



Wayne Bauer, Facilities Coordinator

Wayne has been a member of the Scugog community for over 40 years. He was eager to join the ORH team, recognizing the importance of hospice and wanting to be a part of its success. You may recognize Wayne as the previous owner of Queen Bean / Eco Bean in downtown Port Perry. He has his Maintenance Management Professional (MMP) designation and has over 15 years of experience in property management and maintenance.

VIDEO SERIES

Check out the latest videos by Oak Ridges Hospice!

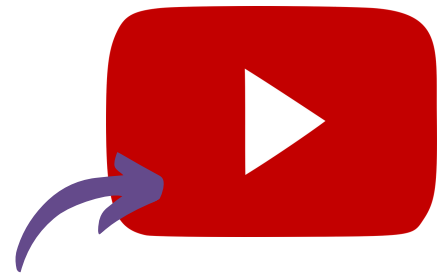
THE HOPE IN HOSPICE

When someone is given the diagnosis of a terminal illness, it has a profound impact and can leave them feeling hopeless. We like to say that hospice provides hope to individuals and their loved ones through the end-of-life journey. So, what exactly is the 'Hope' in Hospice? Check out the video titled "What is the Hope in Hospice?" to learn more.



WHAT WILL I SAY?

Often, it is difficult to know what to say when speaking with someone who has been diagnosed with a life-limiting or terminal illness. If you have struggled with this before or if you would like to learn more about how to approach these unique conversations, check out our latest video titled, "What will I say?" with Dr. Steve Russell.



[Click here to visit our Youtube channel](#)



We gratefully acknowledge donations received in memory of the following individuals*:

Mary Albers
Betty Allingham
Gosta Andersson
Andy Atkins
Sandy Atley
Phyllis Baldwin
Russell Baldwin
Debbie Bath-Hadden
Bill Brock
Clarence Brown
Kelly Burger

Carley-Anne Caldwell
Stuart Corbett
Gail Anne Chellew
Leonard Coyle
Carol Dixon
Ega Faerge
Sally Fish
Simon Fish
Reg Fukusaka
Earle Geer
Irv Gibson

George Inata
Nancy Kirk
Carol Knapper
Peter Lawrenson
Linda Lee
David Lockheart
Marian Luke
Owen MacDonald
Cynthia McEwan
Hardie McNeil
Carl Norton

Jack Parker
Barry Prout
Margaret Rorabeck
Robert Russell
Tony Santiago
Debbie Stableford
Elizabeth Taylor
Alvin Wicks
Charles Willes
William Yerema

*Donations received from November 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021



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