

2021-2022

It is now 2022 and we are hopefully past the worst of the Covid pandemic, turned a corner and looking forward to Spring.

2021 was another year of firsts for the Hospice. We opened to the public in January and soon discovered this was a steep learning curve and unbeknown to us many hurdles arose. The board approached the year with great enthusiasm. We welcomed 6 guests and families in 2021. With each family we, the board, volunteers, and the homecare team learned new and better ways to help and improve the experience for everyone involved.

Two successful fundraisers were run; a whiskey raffle and the Hike for Hospice. We were also the beneficiary of an artesian market held in the summer.

Unfortunately, for us, in September of 2021 we had to wish happy retirement to the manager of Points West Living Carol Dyck who has been a tireless Hospice supporter and advocate. Though this cloud turned out to have a silver lining for the Hospice as Carol agreed to join us as assistant service coordinator and advisor to the board.

In November we welcomed Antoinette Laughlin to the position of Service Coordinator, she has been busy taking courses and orientating.

Our progress came to a grinding stop in November when we were informed that the Points West Manager would be closing the Hospice and not accepting new patients to the Hospice due to a lack of staff caused by Covid restrictions. This was a huge blow to us as a board. We were blindsided as we were unaware that this was possible. Since then, the board representatives have been in talks with Alberta Health Services and Points West to resolve this situation. It has however shone a spotlight on an untenable situation for the Hospice and the board have now resolved to find a resolution. One such resolution is a stand-alone Hospice. A committee has been formed to explore the possibilities. We are also looking to expand into providing Hospice at home service where we provide volunteers to help with families who wish to stay at home.

One thing is for certain, the board are unanimous in our resolve that one way or another we will continue to provide End of Life service for the Stettler town and county residents who have supported us since the beginning,

Thank you

Maureen Drummond