

Presidents Report
2023 AGM
March 16, 2023

Good Evening , I would like to welcome everyone here for the 2023 AGM of Stettler Hospice Society and thank you for being here.

2022 was again an interesting year for the Hospice. We began 2022, despite our best efforts, the same way we finished 2021, closed. We had many meetings with our partners, AHS and Points West Living, we were forced to remain closed due to many factors that were both out with our control and defied resolution despite many suggestions from our Board.

As a Board, we found this position unacceptable and worked very hard at being creative to circumvent this problem. For example, one guest we used Heart Haven as our Hospice and though the surroundings were not as nice as the Points West suite, we did what we have always set out to do and provided end of life service and support for our guest and family.

The closure shone a light on a problem that we as a Board never anticipated- that the functioning of Hospice was at the mercy of our partners with little input from us. The board made a decision to try and correct this and to this end we formed a Foresight Committee to explore the viability of going ahead with a stand alone building. This brought to light the tremendous undertaking it would be and is still an ongoing project.

Thankfully the Hospice opened again, and we could accept guests. Unfortunately, our reputation had been damaged and we as a board have spent the last part of the year, starting anew trying to bring the option of Hospice again into the minds of those families faced with End of Life Diagnosis Seeking new ways to bring Hospice to the forefront. One way we are trying to expand is Hospice at Home, where our Hospice volunteers will be able to assist, aid support along with Homecare and Palliative Care patients and families in their own home while they go forward with their journey.

The Board is in agreement that education is the key and to this end we are actively trying to ramp up availability both in person and online education sessions for Stettler and surrounding community.

Education is not just for the community; each member of the board has worked hard at learning to navigate the uncharted waters we have faced.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the wonderful volunteers that show up when called. The Hospice would not be, if it were not for our volunteers. They volunteer their time and skills and on behalf of the Board, I would like to say to them all: We see you, we appreciate you and we thank you.

In closing I want to thank each and every member of this Board. You are an amazing group of people to work with and the reason the Hospice is still open.

Maureen Drummond
President