

The Toronto Commandery

# HOSPICE

The Toronto Commandery Hospice Inc., 82 Buttonwood Avenue, York, Ontario, M6M 2J5 Charitable number: 85136 7367 RR0001

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

With our campaign to raise capital for the hospice well underway, we would like to sincerely thank a few of our supporters this year:

*The Harold Ballard Foundation*

*The John C. and Sally Horsfall Eaton Foundation*

*Hal Jackman Foundation*

*Rotary Club of Toronto-Leaside*

*The Stephen Uzielli Foundation*

*The Order of St Lazarus*

*The Vandewater Family*

*Nancy Love*

*Brian Cartwright*

*Valerie Christie*

*Richard Firth*



service.

The issue that has delayed our joint venture has had nothing to do with the vision shared by both organizations. The problem has been ensuring that Hazel Burns funding, now over \$250,000, remains secure so that operations can be continued. As

silly as this may sound, the problem was as simple as a boundary of territories of the LHINs, the funders for Hazel Burns. To ensure continuity of funding and the Hazel Burns operation, one LHIN had to hand over control of the funding to another LHIN, and for some reason, we have been waiting, at their mercy, until now.

But on November 13, 2019, the Ministry of Health made an announcement that changed all the rules.

I will describe that change later in this newsletter, but as of November 14, 2019, we are changing our thrust to get integration done so that our organizations can work as one. Much anticipated by everyone involved with both hospices, it will be a significant step forward in realizing our goal of becoming a full-service hospice, with residential hospice services in the new building, visiting home hospice services and training working out of the same facility.

## BUILDING UPDATE

The most frequently asked question is, “When does building begin?” It is not just on the minds of our hospice and its supporters, but all the organizations waiting to move to the new buildings share the same frustration. (This include the hospital’s foundation, the pharmacy, prospective residents, future doctors’ offices and clinics. The list is long.

The real answer, currently, is that we do not know. The developer, Amico Infrastructures Inc., is waiting for approval from one branch of the

## WE ARE MOVING!

We are thrilled to announce that as of mid-January 2020, we will have a new address:

**82 Buttonwood Avenue, York, ON M6M 2J5**

West Park Healthcare Centre’s CEO, Anne-Marie Malek and her team share our frustration with construction delays, so the hospital has provided us office space on site at West Park.

We can forget the temporary mailing addresses and be on site to oversee construction when it begins.

The office will be modest, but includes meeting or training space, and today’s technology enables operation from multiple locations.

## TWO BECOMING ONE

For the last five years, we have discussed and boasted about our proposed integration with **Hazel Burns Hospice**. Hazel Burns has operated since the mid-90’s as a volunteer driven, visiting hospice

Ontario Government, approval that was expected last April 2019 or before.

After that approval will come the developer's lease with West Park Healthcare Centre, then our lease. Only then will we have a start date that we will give us comfort.

## ONTARIO HEALTH

If you are not in the healthcare industry and you understand some of the many acronyms being tossed around, I am truly impressed. When we started, our challenge was going to be to work with a CCAC managing our area. But the CCACs' were absorbed, slowly, into the LHIN's and during this period, no one knew who to talk to. There were criticisms that more effort was put into reorganizations than care and that the system was top heavy with administration. When the Ford government came to office, they announced that there would be more change and they introduced us to Ontario Health Team. But no one knew what it was going to be. Was it just more reorganization?

On November 13, Hon. Christine Elliott, Ontario's Minister of Health announced that the 14 LHIN's were now "cross appointed" under five "Transitional Regional Leads". Gone were 416 of the people at the LHINs. Will it be an end to the shuffling of chairs?

It is hardly the end of reorganization, but the start of what we hope will benefit us all.

Delays in our integration with Hazel Burns stemmed from territorial boundaries under the old organization. Although we await clarification, some boundary issues may disappear under the Transitional Regional Leads.

This will hopefully mean that funding for Hazel Burns and the Toronto Commandery Hospices will be managed from one office. It *could* be the change that we have been waiting for to enable us to push integration forward.

We are now working to see how we can go forward

under the new framework.

## A NEW WEST PARK HEALTHCARE CENTRE

In the early Fall 2019, construction started to build a completely new hospital at West Park Healthcare Centre. The site will become even more interesting when the Non-Hospital Healthcare Park development begins as there will be two developers working very closely together.

The hospital project developer is now using our land to store equipment and building supplies, but once "our" Non-Hospital Park is underway, there will be no shortage of equipment, cranes, building materials as the two developers share the two sites.

With the intricacies created by the construction of the new hospital while it continues to operate, our buildings may actually be finished before the new hospital.

## YOUR DONATIONS

The Capital Campaign is all about raising money to build a new hospice. Or is it? When we talk about a new hospice, how is this going to change anything?

- Hospice beds cost less than hospital beds. Moving people to hospice from hospital could save taxpayers \$2.25 Million each year.
- Freeing up hospital beds makes them available for post-surgery recovery. It could increase the number of surgeries performed and in so doing reduce wait times for surgery.
- For a few hundred people each year, their last few weeks or days will be comfortable. More comfortable beds and surroundings, less traffic, more care and less pain.
- Families can visit 24/7 without the restrictions imposed at hospitals.
- Visiting hospice services will increase for those who can stay in their homes for as long as possible.

- Support services for those in their homes will be increased to include volunteer support, massage and other therapists to relieve pain and assistance by personal support workers or homemakers to help with care, meal preparation and cleaning.
- Bereavement support for families, old and young.
- Education for volunteers and professionals to ensure excellent care during the last few years of life.

So, yes, it is about a building, but it is about so much more!

## INTRODUCTIONS

Two people who have been critical to the development of the new hospice and the ongoing efforts at Hazel Burns Hospice, have been our **executive directors**.



Beth Ellis, E.D.  
The Toronto Commandery  
Hospice

### Beth Ellis

Beth has worked in Hospice Palliative care for over 24 years as an educator, Executive Director, and consultant and for 5 years as Executive Director of the Toronto Commandery Hospice to support the Board in the building of a Centre for Hospice Palliative Care. She creates budgets, identifies staffing components, and catalogues equipment



Karen Emsig, E.D.  
Hazel Burns Hospice

### Karen Emsig

Karen worked in the financial and corporate sectors for 25 years until, in 1999, a friend became ill with cancer and asked her to help him along his palliative journey. That was a turning point for Karen. After her friend died, she found this path into the Hospice world.

In 2000 Karen joined the Bayview Community Hospice as a Director on their Board of Directors. When the Executive Director left, she assumed the position for just under two years. She then became the Executive Director of the Hazel Burns Hospice in June 2002 where she has remained to this day. She has increased the programs offered to Volunteers and Clients and in the past 10 years she has seen an annual increase in the number of clients served from 88 to 379 with only a slight increase in the Staffing hours and limited funding increases.

requirements. She has written operational and governance policies and procedures in preparation for the hospice to open.

As they move forward to build Centres for Hospice Care, Beth has worked with other hospices, their architects, boards and executive directors in their design process, furnishings, hiring of staff and request for proposals for project managers, architects, design work, construction as well as capital fundraisers for the building and opening of residential hospices. She is currently the chair of Hospice Palliative Care Ontario's (HPCO) Design Build provincial committee.

Beth initiated and chaired the creating and writing of the "Standards for Residential Hospices" for HPCO. She is a past Board member of HPCO and past chair of the Governance Committee. Beth is part of the accreditation team at HPCO working with both community and residential hospices throughout Ontario.

# The Toronto Commandery Hospice

Mailing address before our move: 101 Bayview Ridge, Toronto, ON M2L 1E3  
Mailing address after January 15, 2020: 82 Buttonwood Avenue, York, ON M6M 2J5

*All donors will receive a charitable receipt. The Toronto Commandery Hospice treats all personal and financial information in strict confidence. No information will be shared. All funds received go towards building and supporting a new, residential hospice. The Toronto Commandery Hospice is registered charity no. 85136 7367,*

***Your support is very much appreciated!***

***Thank you!***

## Memorial Donations

Donation in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Monthly Giving

Considered monthly giving! Regular donations enable the Hospice to create and properly plan sustainable programmes! You can set it up through CanadaHelps.org or PayPal.

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per Month (Tax receipts will be issued upon receipt of funds)

## Make a Donation!

Donation amount: \$50 \$100 \$250 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques payable to: "The Toronto Commandery Hospice"

MasterCard or VISA

| | | | || | | | || | | | | Exp: \_\_/ \_\_

*Please send my tax receipt to:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

For donation options and links and more information, go to: <http://ttch.org/giving.php>

***Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!***