

Weathering the storm *together*

How do you weather a storm in a teeny-tiny boat? With an extra special crew onboard, and an entire community of people shouting words of encouragement and tossing valuable supplies from the shore.

Inasmuch as this past year feels as though it has dragged on forever, it has also flown by. I'd like to share a little insight into what it's been like here at 137 Old Hastings Road.

Most importantly, our care for people at end of life has never stopped. For those who spent their final days, weeks or months with us, we did our very best to shut out the pandemic noise and bring all the care, comfort, dignity, and friendship we could.

Like everyone, we've had to adjust and readjust COVID protocols. Our priority was to protect everyone's health – hospice residents and families as well as our staff and their families. This meant limiting the number of visitors permitted indoors (the hardest task of all), daily symptom screening for everyone, closing off communal spaces in the home, donning and doffing PPE, continual disinfection, and even closing down one resident bed for part of the year when province-wide pandemic PPE was in short supply.



Kerri-Anne Kidd,
Executive Director

And – imagine it – no hugging in hospice! Compassion was still in abundance, but nothing can replace heartfelt hugs that can say it all without words.

Oh, and did I mention we hired an entire team of nurses and PSWs during the pandemic after our incredible 5-year pilot project and partnership with SE Health (formerly Saint Elizabeth) ended in August 2020? We are most grateful for their support, for lessons learned, and for the amazing care provided by those who served at the hospice in the past five years.

I am proud to report The Bridge Hospice now offers bedside nursing 24/7, complemented by outstanding PSWs who provide the highest quality of personalized care. And when our volunteers return, wow – what a phenomenal team!



Early into the pandemic, clinical PPE (masks, shields, gowns and gloves) was in short supply for our nurses and PSWs. We were so grateful when community sewers donated handmade gowns and masks, which could be used by visiting family members.



Birthdays are to be celebrated, especially when it's the last hurrah – so important for our residents and for their families who have a happy memory to hold onto.



Volunteers Dennis and Tom cheered us up and on from the sidelines, while providing TLC to our memory garden.

Although we have much to be thankful for, one thing is for sure, we are all grieving during this pandemic, and there is no right way to do it. Even the smallest act of kindness can speak volumes and make a huge difference in the lives touched.



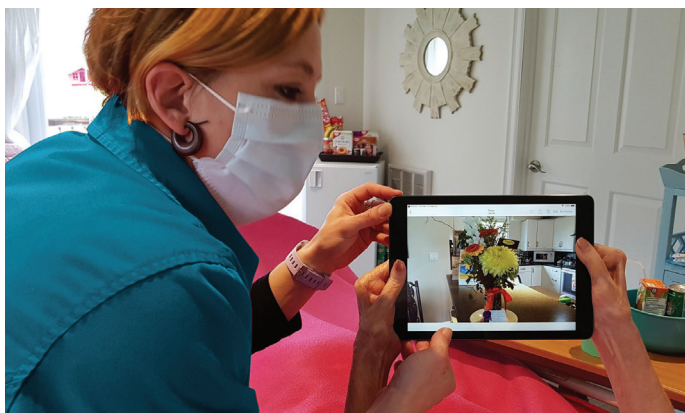
Bouquets to Dr. Kelly Parks, who took on the added responsibility of caring for all of our residents during the pandemic and acted as Medical Director on vital pandemic calls with provincial agencies.

I'm in the privileged position of witnessing the many acts of kindness and support that The Bridge Hospice receives, even in these difficult times. As such, I'd like to say a special thank you to our families, our donors, this amazing community, and our volunteers (can't wait to have you back!)

I know the storm is not over yet, but the sun is doing its very best to shine, as are all of us. We still need to stand together, support one another

and be kind – not only to each other, but to ourselves.

With your support we can continue to offer people dignity, respect, compassion and care at end of life, in our tranquil intimate home away from home, all at no charge. Your donations are appreciated and needed more than ever.



Virtual visiting -- bringing old friends together to share memories with the help of new technology.

If you ever need more information about The Bridge Hospice, or possibly require our services for a loved one, please call me. We are here for you.

Take care and stay safe.

Kari-Anne

Board of Directors

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Kim Stephens-Woods,
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Awnings amid a pandemic? Why yes! As we have to restrict the number of visitors allowed indoors, "non-essential" guests can visit from the safe distance of our resident wing deck. Besides protection, the awnings will maximize comfort for our residents who want to feel the breeze on their skin and enjoy the sights and sounds of the garden. (Via a grant administered by Campbellford/Seymour Community Foundation.)

Virtual Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday,
June 22, 2021
6:30 pm**

To attend:
contact Alison
705-924-9222
info@thebridgehospice.com
to receive your
Zoom login

How to Reach Us

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Warkworth, ON K0K 3K0
705-924-9222
info@thebridgehospice.com
www.thebridgehospice.com
www.facebook.com/thebridgehospice

Tribute & In Memoriam Donations

Making a donation is a wonderful way to honour someone special, and create a lasting legacy in their name.

Between January 1st and December 31st, 2020, The Bridge Hospice gratefully received donations to celebrate or memorialize the following individuals:

Jan Aikman	Hans Dieckmann	Jeffrey Glover	Marilyn Keene	Dr. Arne Ohlsson	Debbie Smith
Doug Ainsworth	Jack Dingle	William Godfrey	Kristopher Kelly	James Paquette	Peggy Smith
Walter Aksamit	Thomas Dodd	Jason Goff	Craig Kerr	Brenda Partridge	Jessie Taylor
Donald Allen	Thomas Donald	Ted Gorman	Mackenzie Kerr	Ken Partridge	Ruth Thain
Rosalind Arnott	Dan Dooher	Gail Gosleigh	Steve Kulawic	Shirley Patterson	Larry Toms
Linda Atchison	Rosemarie Dormon	Gail Grundle	Jay LaValley	Amy Paul	Anna Urban
Doug Bannister	Dave Down	Sally Hallworth	Mac Laver	Leslie Peoples	Cheryl Vader
John Bardsley	Maureen (Mo)	Boyce Hardy	Tom Lawrence	Patricia Petruk	Lynda Van Dusen
Phil Barron	Drinkwater	Tom Harris	Barry Loveys	Robert Pettey	Thea Verhoef
Agnes Begbie	Charlie Duncalfe	Richard Hatch	Alvin Lowe	Lillian Potten-Turner	Pat Voycey
Donna Black	Ethel May Edgar	Chesty Herrington	Gregory MacQueen	Solveig Rasmussen	Reginald Walker
James Boundy	Christa Ernst	Maria Heslinga	Laurraine Matthews	Garry Read	Bill Ward
Viola Brooks	Charles (Bud) Exton	John Hickey	Juna McArthur	Nan Reid	Fred & Edith Ward
Ken Brown	Sara Fairbridge	Sharrel Hickman	Eileen McCallum	David Rollings	Kenneth Ware
Dean Buckley	Pauline Faull	Rudy Hizza	Mary (Molly) McCarthy	Sharon Rowe	Mary Warner
Aiden Burbank	Annie Filipowich	George Hobbs	Allan McDonald	Ross Roy	June Westwood
Rosalee Burn	Lorry Fitzgibbon	Peter Howard	Nancy McKinlay	Arlene Russell	Bill Wheeler
Olga Carson	Edward Flanagan	Kenneth Hulsman	Keith Mocon	Joan Sampson	James White
Skip Cassan	Kathleen (Madge) Flindall	Mary & Gordon Hutchinson	Gail Moffat	Pat Schadt	Helen Whitney
Gerry Chamberlain	Carmen Fraser	Joe Huycke	Bob Mountjoy	Leonard Shacklock	Jack Wood
Isabelle Clement	Christine Garvey	Jean Irwin	Gord Mullins	Joseph Shannon	Grace Wynn
Nancy Coulter	Dennis Gebhardt	William Jamieson	Bernie O'Brien	Ross Sheppard	Valerie Youmans
Theresa Craig	Murray German	Barbara Jenkins	Mandy O'Brien	Sandra Sheppard	Al Zinck
Gregory Crook	Cheryl Gibson	Heather Johnston	Eric O'Rourke	Barbara Simm	Henk Zwaan
Paul Dalby	Elizabeth Gilroy	Henry Kaszuba	Daisy Obarymskyj	Mary Skakie	
Shirley Davidson				Albert Smit	



“Love The Bridge Hospice. Because of their loving support through a trying time. I love that they made me feel alive again, that they could see me. I wasn’t invisible anymore. I felt cared for, that I could do this. But most of all I love them for their gift of friendship. They will always be number one to me.” – Bernie Wyatt

Our Mission

We offer a tranquil, intimate home away from home, where people nearing end of life and their families receive exceptional care, guidance and support from professional care providers and compassionate volunteers.

Our Values



Quality

We believe in providing excellence in our care and in our hospice home, and seek out opportunities to be innovative while enhancing services.



Professional Expertise

We believe that our team has the wisdom, skills and passion to provide every resident with expert, compassionate end-of-life care.



Integrity

We believe in speaking the truth, in openness and in being genuine. Our relationships are founded in trust, and we keep the promises we make.



Acceptance

We believe in fostering an inclusive environment. We protect people's dignity, respect their wishes, and are responsive to individuals' unique needs.



Love

We believe that every individual deserves our time and undivided attention. Your needs will always come first. We welcome everyone with kindness and the comforts of home.

Board Chair's Message

I was first introduced to The Bridge Hospice in January 2018 when Mom was admitted as a resident for her last journey. Her stay was brief, but even so we experienced support I will never forget. Mom received wonderful care, her symptoms were managed, and she was at peace. My wife Carol and I were guided by knowledgeable, compassionate people who looked after us too.



Dave Burnham, Chair,
Board of Directors

It breaks your heart to lose someone close at any age, but this inevitable journey was made gentle and dignified.

That experience opened my eyes to the true value of The Bridge Hospice. It's why I became a passionate volunteer and donor. I have so much gratitude for the people who came together to build the hospice, and for those who continue to support this special place.

I want everyone to have the benefit of a good ending – all at no charge.

It's a challenge to convince people of the worth of the hospice when they haven't come through its doors. Believe me, The Bridge Hospice and places like it are what you want for loved ones – even yourself when the time comes. What would our community look like if The Bridge Hospice wasn't here?

Family caregivers would struggle at home for too long, especially as needs escalate and they're running on empty. So often, pain and other crises seem to happen in the middle of the night when there is no one close by to bring relief and support. Those who were sick would feel they were a burden – what a terrible feeling at the end. Individuals who live alone could die alone.

At busy and often faraway hospitals with many demands for scarce acute-care beds, people may not have the benefit of a small familiar care team, and the peace and privacy they need to say their goodbyes.

As I write, we are into year 2 of the pandemic, which continues to put a tremendous strain on traditional supports of The Bridge Hospice. I want to thank the individuals, members of organizations and business owners – including many of you reading this right now – for rallying to help us this past year. You have offset a portion of COVID-related shortfalls, and boosted our morale.

Throughout the pandemic, I can assure you the Board of Directors and hospice staff have been burning the midnight oil – or should I say zooming – to keep the hospice on a stable footing. We are drawing on our collective experience and doing everything we can, and we need your help.

Please, if you're in a position to give, send us a donation – be generous if you can. Please help us be here for friends, neighbours and families when it matters most. If you've given recently, thank you. And if you are struggling, hang on. There is light at the end of this long tunnel.

Thank you, and stay safe.

Sincerely,



Calling All Golfers!

12th Annual Golf Tournament
The
BRIDGE HOSPICE

Saturday Sept 18, 2021

	Regular	Club Member
Early Bird	\$125	\$105
After Sept 5th	\$135	\$115

To register,
contact:



**WARKWORTH
GOLF CLUB**
705-924-2569