

# The BRIDGE HOSPICE UPDATE



Photo: Schellé Holmes

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It's been some time since our last newsletter and so much has happened since then! As any of you who have checked our web page or driven down Old Hastings Road know, the hospice is well on its way to completion. It looks wonderful on the outside and the inside is also approaching completion. We owe such a huge debt of gratitude to the Build and Design Teams, the Board and its committee members, and the many other volunteers who have put in seemingly endless hours to make this dream come true! Volunteer hours in the month of November alone totalled over 800 hours. The many hours of hard work are paying off and we look forward to being able to show the



final product to our many supporters and to the wider interested public.

The most frequent question I get asked these days is some version of "When is the hospice going to open?" This is a

natural question and one that I wish I could answer precisely. As anyone who has built a house knows, there are always unexpected delays; although, we are now approaching the end of those. Our big task for the weeks ahead is to find staff suited to the positions we need. We are in the process of that as I write. We hope to be able to announce the names of the successful candidates in the near future. We also have to ensure that our relationships with our service providers – CCAC, Community Care Northumberland Hospice Services, VON, Red Cross, St. Elizabeth Health Care, Paramed Home Health Care and others are understood clearly by all. In addition, we have to ensure that our policies and procedures are in place to provide seamless quality care to our residents. Most importantly, we are in the process of contacting all those who have expressed a willingness to volunteer in the care of residents and their families, and to shoulder some of the many other tasks necessary to operate a residential hospice. When all this is in place we will open. We hope this will be early in the New Year, but a precise date is not possible at this time.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011 - 2012

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### GETTING IT BUILT!

This project is an interesting challenge for many reasons. An early decision to maximize, where possible, the use of skilled volunteers has proven to be sound and there have been hundreds of hours devoted to the electrical system, siding, decks and bridge, with many more to come.

We also made sound decisions in selecting our general contractor (David Maddison), our plumbing contractor (Murray Kirkland), our heating contractor (Kenetic Energy Services) and our sprinkler system contractor (Complete Sprinkler Installations Ltd.) – a building code surprise requirement. They have worked well together, under the enthusiastic guidance and coordination of our Project Manager, Sonny Lennon. Thanks also to Cobourg Castle Building Centre and TIM-BR Mart in Havelock. We are very grateful for everyone's professional skills, their good deals and willingness to work with our Design Team and our Build Team.

One of the bigger challenges was the land itself, siting the house and then re-shaping the lot to ensure adequate drainage, with an eye to the eventual landscaping. Don Campbell and his very talented equipment operators did a masterful job and thanks to La France Sod, the site is well grassed, ready for the fall and spring rains.

The house has been closed in for some time, and work continues inside. The electrical system, communication system, and security system (many thanks to Trent Security Systems) are well advanced. Drywall installation and painting should be completed by a large group of volunteers by mid-December.

Our progress to date would not have been possible without the professionals noted above and the skilled and committed volunteers. We sincerely thank them all.

*Dean Peters*



Our bridge crafted by Ron Nelson

Photo: Schellé Holmes



3 km of amazing connections

Photo: Schellé Holmes



Dining and kitchen area

Photo: Schellé Holmes



**VOLUNTEERS**

I am speaking as one of the Visionaries of the Bridge Hospice. From the very inception of this idea, I knew, as did my fellow visionaries, that we could never realize this dream without an incredible amount of support from volunteers. Their willingness to work towards a common goal has taken courage and commitment and so many have demonstrated this through their efforts. Sharing the one vision, the journey to create this sacred place started and the momentum gained energy and

purpose. Our success rests on volunteers, who embody the spirit of greatness.

The miracle of this journey is that everyone involved has donated countless hours using his or her knowledge and expertise at all levels to make a difference and make the vision a reality.

What is a volunteer? A volunteer is someone with heart and soul, who for a variety of reasons, is willing to give whatever it takes to assist and facilitate the achievement of a goal and vision. The Bridge Hospice has been honored



Dorothy Caldwell Photo: Madeline Conacher

to work with so many talented and passionate volunteers and together we have succeeded in realizing a very large part of our goal.

Our need for volunteers will always be essential as we continue on this journey in helping us achieve the best possible care for our residents.

We thank all of our volunteers for working with us.

*Rosaleen Dunne*

*Editor's Note:*

Please check the volunteer section of our web page in early 2012 for information on Hospice Training Courses to be offered.



The Build Team Photo: Madeline Conacher

**2011 EVENTS**

*Thanks to all the volunteers and participants who made these events so successful.*



Golf Tournament

Photo: Sue Dickens



Fashion Show

Photo: Mark Hoult



W8 Bridge Hospice Run Photo: Schellé Holmes

**2012 EVENTS!**

**Open House**  
Spring 2012

**Hospice Hoedown**  
Saturday, May 12

**W8 Run**  
Saturday, Oct. 20

**Walkathon**  
Saturday, May 5

**Golf Tournament**  
Saturday, July 21

*Watch the events section of our website*

## FUNDRAISING REPORT



Several years ago, the Board of The Bridge Hospice laid the necessary groundwork to make it possible for the dream of a Residential Hospice in Warkworth to become a reality. In 2009, a Fundraising Committee was established, together with a goal of \$350,000 for the capital costs of the building and furnishings.

Since then, the Board, the Committee and a host of dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly to achieve their objectives. These efforts have been highly successful. Today the beautiful, new building is virtually completed and should be functional in the spring.

We have reached our original goal of \$350,000. However, unforeseen, required additions, such as professional architectural and engineering services and a sprinkler system, have raised our goal to over \$400,000. Thus we are actively continuing to seek new funding to close the gap. For your convenience,



Fashion Show Proceeds Photo: Ross Roy

we have included below the details of how you can help us.

It has been a thrilling experience to see dreams become reality in a relatively short period. We are indeed thankful for all those who have worked so hard to achieve our goal.

*Dr. Bob Stephens*



Ontario Trillium Foundation – July 2011 Photo: John DeLaCour

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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As we approach the end of 2011 we have much to celebrate. At this time last year there wasn't even a hole in the ground! We couldn't have come this far without the support of hundreds of people who recognize that end-of-life care is an essential and natural part of life. Although government has not yet come to grips with the delivery of this care in small rural communities, we know that palliative and hospice care is on their radar and discussions are underway. In the meantime, it is typical of vibrant rural communities like Trent Hills that in the absence of government help, the people rise to the challenge of caring for their neighbours and friends. Thank you to each one of you who are part of this dream.

Best wishes for the holidays. We look forward to the many exciting things in store in the New Year.

*Dr. Bob Henderson*

## DONATION OPTIONS

Please find enclosed a cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

An on-line donation is being made through Canada Helps – [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org)

Please call me by telephone at ( ) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ to explain how to initiate Pre Authorized Payments from my bank account.

Please call me by telephone at ( ) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ to arrange a payment from my VISA or MasterCard.

Charitable Tax receipts will be issued for all donations of \$20 or more.

Canada Revenue Agency-[www.cra-arc.gc.ca/charities](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/charities)  
Registered Charitable Organization #829872969 RR0001

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