

DESERT VALLEY
HOSPICE SOCIETY



SPRING Newsletter

Working in partnership with the community to support, promote and enhance the quality of life of individuals in our communities



Welcome to the Spring Edition of the Desert Valley Hospice Society Newsletter!

As we embrace a new season, our mission remains steadfast, offering compassionate and unwavering support to individuals and families navigating life-limiting illnesses. Our dedicated team continues to focus on enhancing quality of life with comfort, dignity, and respect at the heart of everything we do.

In this issue, we're excited to introduce you to our Board of Directors and Staff, highlight upcoming events, and share meaningful ways you can get involved.

Thank you for standing with us and helping to build a space where care, compassion, and connection truly thrive.

In Memory



We at Desert Valley Hospice mourn the passing of our dear friend, board member, and longtime volunteer, Margaret Ingebrigton.

Margaret was the heart of our community—a constant presence with a warm smile, quick wit, and deep compassion. Whether leading Tuesday palliative rounds, sitting quietly at a bedside vigil, or guiding new volunteers through training, she brought grace, warmth, and wisdom to every role she took on.

She had a gift for making people feel seen and supported. For each volunteer training, she would put together thoughtful care packages for those preparing to serve at vigils—small acts of kindness that spoke volumes about the care she poured into everything she did. Her legendary cooking also brought us together in comfort and laughter, adding flavor to both our gatherings and our memories.

Margaret's sense of humor and light-hearted spirit will be deeply missed, but her legacy lives on in the hearts she touched and the lives she quietly and selflessly supported.

How to Get Involved

To get involved with the Desert Valley Hospice Society, you can:

- Volunteer your time (contact our Program Coordinator at 250-495-1590 or email programs@dvhs.ca).
- Donate or participate in fundraising events.
- Become a Member for only \$20.00/year

The society welcomes compassionate individuals to help with client support or administrative tasks. Contact the office directly at 250-495-1590 or email info@dvhs.ca to learn more about current opportunities and learn how you can make a meaningful impact in the lives of those facing end-of-life challenges.

Upcoming Events

- **Annual General Meeting:** Friday, May 23, at 1:30pm
6012 Kootenay Street, Oliver (Kiwanis)
- **Hike For Hospice:** Sunday, May 25, 2025 starting at 11:30am
(Oliver Community Park)
 - Put together a team for the Hike for Hospice in support of Desert Valley Hospice Society! Lace up your shoes and help us raise awareness and funds for compassionate end-of-life care in our community. Whether you walk, hike, or just cheer us on, every step makes a difference. Let's hit the trails together for a great cause! Pledge forms can be picked up in Osoyoos at DVHS Office, ReMax on Main & Sonora Community Centre and in Oliver at ReMax Wine Capital, Royal LePage South Country and Community Centre. You can also download from www.dvhs.ca or email administrator@dvhs.ca to receive by email.

The Board of Directors of the Desert Valley Hospice Society play a vital role in guiding the organization by providing leadership, governance, and strategic direction. They ensure the hospice operates in alignment with its mission to offer compassionate end-of-life care, while overseeing financial health, policies, and community outreach. Board members also support fundraising efforts, advocate for hospice services and help build strong connections within the community, ensuring that the society remains a sustainable and trusted resource for those in need.

MEET OUR BOARD



LINDA LARSON

PRESIDENT

Linda was born in Comox, BC. She moved to Oliver in 1989 from Richmond, BC. She has been married to Larry for 51 years and has three daughters and four grandchildren. Linda was the former Mayor of Oliver (1997-2005), Chair of BC Small Business Roundtable (2006-2011), Oliver Councillor (2011-2013), and MLA Boundary Similkameen (2013-2020). Currently she is the President of Sunnybank Ladies Auxiliary and a Kiwanis member.



RITA CRONE

VICE PRESIDENT



CHRISTINA TERASOFF

SECRETARY



CHERYL GROVES

TREASURER



MAUREEN DOERR

DIRECTOR



COLLEEN ANDERSON

DIRECTOR

SARITA ZUGAZAGA

DIRECTOR

DEANNE GRAY

DIRECTOR

MEET OUR STAFF



GAYNOR PINCHAK

ADMINISTRATOR

Gaynor was born in England and emigrated to Canada shortly after. She grew up in Maple Ridge where she and her husband raised their daughter. Gaynor began her non profit career in 1996 at the Burnaby Hospital Foundation. Following this, she joined Variety The Children's Charity, contributing to initiatives that support children with special needs across BC. In 2016, Gaynor and her husband relocated to Oliver, where she continued her professional journey with Royal LePage South Country Realty. Outside of her professional endeavors, Gaynor is passionate about the outdoors and enjoys hiking with her dogs.



SANDRA ELKE

BOOKKEEPER

KATHY HANKINSON

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Stay tuned for our next newsletter where we'll highlight the bio of another amazing Board & Staff member! Full bios are available at www.dvhs.ca

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