



Pictured: Sue Hurd & Sue Wong

JOIN US IN HONOURING A DECADE OF SUPPORT, DIGNITY, AND MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE

As we stand at the threshold of a remarkable milestone, we reflect on the incredible journey that brought us together in the spirit of compassion and care. It is with profound gratitude and heartfelt appreciation that we extend our thanks to each and every one of you who played a pivotal role in the conception and construction of our hospice home.

Over two decades ago, visionary leaders Sue Hurd and Sue Wong, alongside a dedicated group of supporters, embarked on a journey to create a haven of compassion and solace for those navigating the challenging path of end-of-life. In December 2003, Vancouver Hospice Society (VHS) was incorporated as a non-profit charitable organization.

From humble beginnings marked by intimate gatherings to expansive fundraising endeavours, Vancouver Hospice Society started to take shape.

Multi-million dollar fundraising endeavours, including impactful events such as galas, hikes for hospice, golf tournaments, and silent auctions were initiated.

One of the most impactful contributions to our continuous revenue stream came from Jenny Shaw and Dell Whelan - one of their many ideas was the establishment of HOB and subsequently HOB Too.



Pictured: Land acquired for Vancouver Hospice Society

With the initial funds secured, Hurd, Wong, and our steadfast supporters carefully explored potential sites for our hospice, ultimately finding the perfect location on Granville Street, situated on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

The rancher-style home that gave way to our vision was demolished to create a blank canvas where careful planning came to life.



Pictured: Construction underway



Pictured: Vancouver Hospice Society at dusk

Through extensive support and media attention, the dream materialized in 2014—more than just a building, it became a **"home away from home"** for our residents and their families. The hospice, a beautiful two-story building, began with six rooms that later expanded to eight rooms in 2017 when we partnered with Vancouver Coastal Health.

The journey is a testament to the power of community, compassion, and the unwavering dedication of those who believed in our cause.

To carry on our legacy, our care team of expert physicians, nurses, counsellors, music therapists, care aides, and volunteers embody the compassionate care we espouse in our mission statement.

As we reflect on these 10 remarkable years, we extend our deepest gratitude to all who have contributed to making our hospice a true home filled with warmth, dignity, and peace.

We continue to live out the philosophy of Dame Cicely Saunders, the Founder of the modern Hospice Movement: **"You matter because you are you, and you matter to the last moment of your life. We will do all that we can not only to help you die peacefully, but also to live until you die."**



Pictured: HOB Too

HOB TOO IS CELEBRATING 5 YEARS ON BROADWAY

We're excited to share that HOB Too is marking its fifth year on Broadway! Bursting with ever-changing treasures, our store offers unique items daily, including high-quality vintage, nearly new household collectibles and memorabilia, large and small furniture items, carpets, artwork and lamps at fantastic prices.

Amongst many initiatives, HOB Too has a thriving online Etsy store, with over 500 sales and an average of 4.8 stars out of 5 in customer satisfaction.

FASHIONISTA FINDS EVENT RAISES \$12,220 IN 3 HOURS!

In just three hours, our Fashionista Finds event at The HOB surpassed expectations, raising an impressive \$12,220.00. With purchases occurring every two minutes, the community's enthusiastic support was evident. A big thank you to our consistent donors for making a significant impact on our shelves. Special recognition goes to the 'Fashion Police' and dedicated HOB volunteers for ensuring a seamless shopping experience. We express our deepest gratitude for the generosity and unwavering support.



Pictured: The HOB storefront - Fashionista Finds event day had an amazing turnout.



Pictured: Andrea Hernandez and Sarah Cobb

MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

The volunteers at Vancouver Hospice Society have always been what makes this organization so special. Your dedication to VHS over the last 10 years, has allowed us to grow and serve our community with compassionate end-of-life care and bereavement services. The deep and lasting commitment of our volunteers to our mission and vision is truly exemplary. The hospice heart beats in each of you and it's an honour that you have chosen to share your time, creativity, and compassion with VHS. With respect and gratitude, on behalf of the entire VHS organization, we thank you.

HEARTFELT GRATITUDE: THE CHEEVERS FAMILY'S GENEROUS \$100,000 DONATION

In moments of profound gratitude, words often fall short to convey the depth of our appreciation.



Pictured: (left to right) Pat Richardson, Larry Cheevers, Dell Whelan, Melissa Cheevers, Sarah Cobb

Today, we find ourselves humbled and overjoyed to extend our heartfelt thanks to the late Bernice Cheevers and family for their incredibly generous donation of \$100,000 to Vancouver Hospice Society, a contribution made last year.

Bernice and her husband Larry were steadfast and dedicated supporters of Vancouver Hospice Society, with Larry consistently providing support at galas through his generous donation of items. Larry also enjoyed gifting friends and family gift cards to The HOB, to people he knew would appreciate them. Bernice, too, actively contributed to the hospice, by donating her own clothing to The HOB, making her substantial donation all the more fitting.

In commemoration of the Cheevers family's generosity, a memorial plaque will be affixed to the refinished gazebo, serving as a lasting tribute to their profound impact.

In loving memory of Bernice & Larry Cheevers.

VHS WELCOMES NEW BOARD CHAIR

Vancouver Hospice Society is thrilled to announce our new Board Chair, David Gruber. David has spent the last five years on the board, most recently as Vice-Chair. David's personal interest in hospice care stems from an experience of helping to care for a father with ALS.

David is currently a partner with the law firm Bennett Jones LLP, where he practices litigation and arbitration with a focus on corporate, commercial and insolvency disputes. David also sits on the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre board and has formerly participated in Turnaround Management Association Northwest Chapter, and Wall Financial Corporation boards.



Pictured: David Gruber

We are privileged to have David leading our board, and we look forward to the continued positive impact his leadership will undoubtedly bring to Vancouver Hospice Society.

VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH AWARDS VANCOUVER HOSPICE SOCIETY WITH AN ADDITIONAL 10-BED CONTRACT

We are thrilled to announce a significant development in our strategic plan.

In June 2023, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) issued a Request for Information (RFI) regarding the management of ten hospice beds in Vancouver. After a rigorous evaluation process, we are proud to announce that Vancouver Hospice Society has been chosen as the provider for these ten beds.

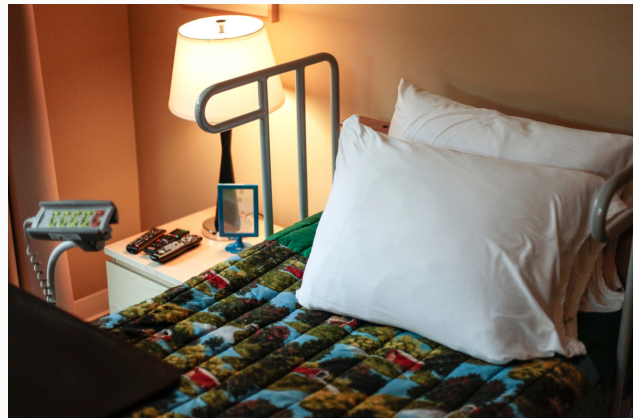
During the selection process, VCH conducted a fair and thorough evaluation, ultimately identifying Vancouver Hospice Society as the ideal provider for the ten beds. This decision comes after VCH's positive experience partnering with VHS at our eight-bed facility, where VCH provides essential funding.

The transition process, overseen by VCH, is set to be completed by fall 2024.

Both VCH and Vancouver Hospice Society are eager to collaborate with The Bloom Group to ensure a smooth transition for all partners involved, including staff, volunteers, medical professionals, residents, and their families.

This announcement marks a new chapter in our ongoing mission to deliver compassionate end-of-life care and bereavement support services. We are excited about the possibilities and the positive impact this will have on the lives of those we serve.

We appreciate the ongoing support as we navigate this transition and work to maintain the highest standards of care for our community.



Pictured: Hospice bed at VHS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF VANCOUVER HOSPICE SOCIETY'S SERVICES

Bereavement Services consist of Support Groups, Bereavement Walking Groups, and Individual Counselling sessions.

Healing Touch is an energy-based technique, promotes relaxation and well-being through gentle, on-body and off-body touch.

Music therapy helps to reduce fear, anxiety, and isolation, and increase relaxation and comfort.

Compass Choir is a volunteer group that gathers to sing at the bedside of patients staying at the hospice.

Bedside volunteers provide companionship, and support to the clinical team.

Quilt Angels are a group of quilters who donate lovingly crafted hand-made quilts to the hospice. If the quilt in a patient's room has become a meaningful part of the end-of-life experience, family members are welcome to take them home.

