

Hospice Society

of Greater Halifax

Annual Report 2009

A report to the membership on the finances and activities in 2008

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Our Mission

The Hospice Society of Greater Halifax is a non-sectarian, registered charity which operates in Halifax Regional Municipality. Our members come from many walks of life but share the belief that every individual has the right to expect the best possible quality of life until the very end of life. People who are dying have physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs which are not being met in spite of the vast resources of our health care system. These needs can be met by the concept of hospice, which is based in the community, cares for the whole person and respects individual choice in defining the quality of life.

The Hospice Society has two purposes:

- **To establish residential hospices to provide the option to die in a home-like setting for those who cannot or choose not to die at home.**
- **To increase community awareness of issues of death and dying.**

Our Society is a small organization which is building its resources. Those resources must include the connections which we can make with others to explore and develop the full potential of hospice and its practical place in this community.

Report from the Chair of the Society

Dear Members:

It is an honour to write to you as the new Chair of the Hospice Society. I hope to continue the success of past Chairs, Rick MacDonald and Lely Abud. Under their respective leadership the Hospice developed from a belief, shared by a small group of concerned individuals, that more choices are needed to provide comprehensive end-of-life care in the Halifax region.

Since that first meeting in May 2001, the Hospice's mission of "Living fully, dying well" has been embraced by a growing group of dedicated members who have placed the organization on the brink of achieving its goal of creating a residential hospice for those with months left to live for whom home is not an option. It is a huge undertaking, but one the Board and its members believe is truly within our grasp. To help us with this task, we were pleased to welcome 4 new members to our Board this year: Gay Harley, Kathleen McKinnon, Paulette Edwards and Scott Christie.

Each year since its inception, the organization has made great strides. However, this was an exceptional year! On the fundraising front, we continued to gather financial support and community recognition through our two annual fundraisers: Angels in Memory Campaign led by Betty Morton and Liz MacDonald, and Hike for Hospice under the leadership of Stephanie Munroe. Both events proved extremely successful thanks to the work of our active and dedicated volunteers.

We added a new fundraising event this year: Over 70 guests turned out to the elegant Halifax Club for our first Art and Antique Auction in October. More than 100 works of art, antiques and collectibles were generously donated by Hospice members and friends of the society. Our volunteer auctioneer, Bill Brayley provided his expertise to make our first auction a huge success. The highlight of the afternoon was the auctioning of a work entitled "Vernal Embrace", painted specifically for our event by Anthony Kawalski and donated by the artist. The hard-working volunteers for this event were led by Betty Morton, Pamela Gray and Paddy Muir.

On the home front, we welcomed Carolyn Fougere as our new Office Manager. A long time Board member and coordinator of our Bereavement Program, Carolyn replaced outgoing executive director, Gay Harley, who remains with us as a member of the Board. Communication of Hospice events continued to be offered clearly and in a professional manner via our quarterly Newsletter. Special thanks to Jan Evans and Betty Morton for their wonderful publishing efforts. In the coming months we will be implementing changes to the Hospice web site to make it more informative and interactive. Be sure to check us out at www.hospicehalifax.com.

This past year witnessed the significant expansion of the Hospice Society, bringing us closer to realizing the vision set out eight years ago in the living rooms and kitchens of the founding members. In physics, *momentum* is how hard it is to stop a moving object. Our task, in the coming year, is to keep our goal of a residential hospice moving forward so that it becomes impossible to stop. This will require the efforts of each one of us, and then some. Please help us to reach new members by speaking to friends and family about the work being done by the Hospice Society of Greater Halifax.

Sincerely,

Fred McGinn
Chair, Hospice Society of Greater Halifax

Financial Highlights of 2008

- In **2008** we:
 - Held **3** very successful fundraising events
 - Continued to raise awareness in the community
 - Increased our bank balance by more than **24%**
- Our fundraising efforts brought in a little over **\$24** thousand dollars, and another **\$21** thousand was raised by individual donations. Adding to that, grants from corporations and membership dues, our total revenue for 2008 was **\$47,697**.
- Our expenses for 2008 were up from previous years at **\$33,386.55**. However, this included the wages for a part-time executive director for the first 6 months of the year, and then the wages of our part-time office manager for the remaining 6 months. It also included the rent of our office space, insurance, fundraising costs, printing and mailing of newsletters and brochures and administrative costs.
- As a result our income exceeded our expenses by **\$14,310.91**
- Our bank balance at the end of 2008 was **\$63,172.99** which was an increase of just over **\$12,500** from last year's ending balance.

With 3 fundraisers planned again for this year, we will continue to increase our membership, raise awareness and work towards our goal of opening our first residential hospice.



Michelle Pinfold
Acting Treasurer

Balance Sheet

As At 12/31/08

ASSETS

Current Assets		
CIBC Chequing	0.00	
Royal Bank Chequing account	63,172.99	
Total Cash		63,172.99
Total Credit Cards Receivable		0.00
Accounts Receivable	0.00	
Total Receivable		0.00
Total Current Assets		63,172.99

Inventory Assets		
Total Inventory Assets		0.00

Capital Assets		
Office Furniture & Equipment	3,496.20	
Accum. Amort. -Furn. & Equip.	(1,510.50)	
Net - Furniture & Equipment		1,985.70
Total Capital Assets		1,985.70

Other Non-Current Assets		
Total Other Non-Current Assets		0.00

TOTAL ASSETS 65,158.69

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LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		0.00
EI Payable	(0.02)	
CPP Payable	0.00	
Federal Income Tax Payable	0.00	
Total Receiver General		(0.02)
WCB Payable		0.00
HST Paid on Purchases		(3,246.03)
HST Adjustments		0.00
Total Current liabilities		(3,246.05)

Long Term liabilities		
Total Long Term liabilities		0.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES (3,246.05)

EQUITY

Retained Earnings		
Retained Earnings - Previous Year		54,093.83
Current Earnings		14,310.91
Total Retained Earnings		68,404.74

TOTAL EQUITY 68,404.74

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 65,158.69

Income Statement

1/01/08 to 12/31/08

REVENUE

Sales Revenue	
Donations	21,688.29
Memberships	780.00
Grants, Corporations, Foundations	1,000.00
Angel Tree Fundraiser	3,423.67
Art/Antique Fundraiser	6,017.00
Hike for Hospice Fundraiser	14,788.50
Fundraising	0.00
Net Sales	47,697.46
Other Revenue	
Total Other Revenue	0.00

TOTAL REVENUE 47,697.46

EXPENSE

Cost of Goods Sold	
Total Cost of Goods Sold	0.00
Payroll Expenses	
Wages & Salaries	9,022.35
EI Expense	373.73
CPP Expense	717.86
Empl Tax Expense	665.99
Total Payroll Expense	10,779.93
General & Administrative Expenses	
Accounting & Legal	0.00
Advertising & Communications	1,946.93
Courier & Postage	68.50
License and Dues	27.21
Meetings	500.63
Fundraising Expenses	2,326.36
Insurance	1,750.00
Interest & Bank Charges	364.07
Office Supplies & Equipment	1,094.55
Professional Services	6,574.00
Conf/Work/Ed	325.00
Rent	6,590.34
Repair & Maintenance	92.00
Telephone	358.95
Utilities	533.22
Web Design & Maintenance	54.86
Total General & Admin. Expenses	22,606.62

TOTAL EXPENSE 33,386.55

NET INCOME 14,310.91

Minutes: Annual General Meeting

March 26, 2008

Meeting held at Dalhousie University Club Pub

Registration at 6:45 pm

- 1) Opening Remarks by Chair Rick MacDonald and Gay Harley.
- 2) The Business Portion of the meeting was held first, with executive reports by Rick MacDonald, Chair and Gay Harley, Executive Director, and Michelle Pinfeld, Treasurer.
- 3) Minutes from the previous years AGM, were generally approved.
- 4) Nomination of officers, with entire existing Board of Rick MacDonald, Betty Morton, Roger Seward, Michelle Pinfeld, Phil Cox, Pamela Gray, John Owen, Fred McGinn, and Carolyn Fougere all re-offering, and with 4 new board members being nominated. The four new nominees were Dr. Stephanie Connidis, Dr. Robb Horton, Dr. Todd Howlett and Alan Tottman. There were no other nominees from the floor, and members were asked to vote on the full slate of officers as offered. All were in favor and Brian Gray moved to accept all nominees and Leslie Beaver seconded the motion. The board was approved.
- 5) This was followed by a brief update of fundraising activities, by Betty Morton, and an update from the Programs and Services Chair, Carolyn Fougere. Gay Harley then briefly talked about volunteering and the various volunteer opportunities with in the society. Then Gay called out the names of a number of our outstanding volunteers over the past couple of years to recognize their participation and presented each with a silk flower. This was followed by a short refreshment break, and all attendees snacked on delicious sandwiches and coffee and tea etc.
- 6) Gay then introduced the guest speaker Dr. David Henderson, President of the Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association. Dr. Henderson told members that there is a great discrepancy in Nova Scotia, as unfortunately where you live and where you die determines the type of care you get. "End of life issues matter to every single one of us" he said. "We will all be at the point sometime when we must be concerned for ourselves or someone we love." He further stated that the current system is not fair and is not working; we must all be working toward a more comprehensive, province wide palliative care program. He said that the NS Hospice Palliative Care Assoc. had reviewed a report in (2005) which was a roadmap and framework for a province wide program and strategy, and that they fully supported it. It was presented to the government of NS and they have repeatedly promised to implement the strategy, yet here we are in 2008 and nothing has happened yet. Unfortunately not everyone gets it yet, a lot of government employees and people in the medical profession still don't understand the need. He encouraged our board and members to not get too frustrated, but to keep pushing and trying to increase awareness, because palliative care does matter and everyone deserves a good death. Currently the situation is 8000 Nova Scotians die each year, and the support required also extends beyond death to those who are left. There are not enough trained health care providers, not enough designated beds and not enough support programs to provide appropriate care to all who need it. Dr. Henderson then answered many questions from the floor. Gay thanked Dr. Henderson and invited members to stay and socialize and enjoy more snacks.

The meeting was adjourned.

Betty Morton, Secretary

Approved by Members

Board of Officers and Directors 2008/2009

Officers

Fred McGinn, Chair
Alan Tottman, Vice-Chair
Michelle Pinfold, acting Treasurer
Pamela Gray, Secretary

Directors

Scott Christie
Dr. Stephanie Connidis
Phillip Cox
Paulette Edwards
Gay Harley
Dr. Robert Horton
Dr. Todd Howlett
Kathleen McKinnon
Betty Morton

Board of Directors Nominations 2009/2010

Returning Directors

Scott Christie
Dr. Stephanie Connidis
Paulette Edwards
Pamela Gray
Gay Harley
Dr. Robert Horton
Dr. Todd Howlett
Fred McGinn
Kathleen McKinnon
Betty Morton
Michelle Pinfold
Alan Tottman

Nominations of Board Directors

Jacque Bell

Membership List 2008/2009

Lely Abud	Richard MacDonald
Carol Anne Ando	Marjorie MacKay
Doris Balch	Ann Matthews
Judith Bates	Peggy McCalla
Stephen Bates	Angela McFadden
Leslie Beaver	Lindsay McFadden
Jacquie Bell	Fred McGinn
Diane Birch	Paul McIntyre
June Bourque	Kathleen McKinnon
Ann Cant	Barbara Miller
Gillian Childs	Sass Minard
Scott Christie	Frances Moriarty
Brenda Coish-Ginn	Betty Morton
Stephanie Connidis	Lori Morton
Elizabeth Cowley	Paddy Muir
Phillip Cox	Karin Myers
Katharine Derrick	Karen Nieuwland
Wayne Dombroski	Sheila Nunn
Heather Dymment	John Owen
Paulette Edwards	Brian Penney
Jan Evans	Darleen Pike
Carolyn Fougere	Dave Pike
Pamela Gray	Michelle Pinfold
Donna Hanczaryk	Joe Pratt
Alex Handyside	Catherine Regan
Gay Harley	Wendy Roberts
Karen Hazelden	Elizabeth Salton
Christine Heggelin	Sybil Sidebottom
Robert Horton	Diane Simister
Todd Howlett	Lorene Simpson
Barbara Jannasch	Christine Spence
Paul Kaups	Valerie Spencer
Catherine King	Allan Tobacca
Ethel Kostman	Alan Tottman
Samantha Lafford	Shari Vogler
Martin Lajoie	Janice Webber
Teresa Lee	S. Elizabeth Wright
Tina Litven	
Jennifer MacDonald	
Liz MacDonald	