



Photo: Ashley Marston

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018





# Cowichan Hospice Didn't Take Me for Granted

**D**uring the last days of Marijke's life, my thoughts could best be described as comfortably chaotic. While I experienced a myriad of thoughts, images and memories of her life, I was able to continue to be a functioning human being. I managed to maintain my composure. No one seemed to notice the pain, isolation and fear that I was going through. How could they know? Men are not supposed to show their pain or wear their emotions on their sleeve, right? I don't think I even realized the pain I was in.

The focus was on my wife, not on me—as it should be. But Cowichan Hospice noticed. They knew and understood what I was going through and the pain I was in.

*“With their patience, compassion and understanding of my wife's sickness, Hospice could grasp the turmoil I was in.*

*They knew and understood our needs well before I did.”*

**“Nobody really thinks about the surviving spouse,”**

a friend said, “yet they and their family members are in crisis too.” At that particular time Marijke could function satisfactorily, so the idea of hospice was anathema to her. To her ‘hospice’ meant death and she wasn't ready to accept that. Nevertheless she encouraged me to seek help.

As Marijke began to fail rapidly, Cowichan Hospice welcomed me and offered their services with no questions asked. I was encouraged to attend one-on-one sessions with one of their volunteers—someone who understood what I was going through given that they had experienced the same thing. Marijke agreed to meet Shelley, the Palliative Services Coordinator, and they had a nice chat. Afterwards, I saw a renewed sense of peace in her demeanour.

Marijke died December 8th, 2017, in the Cowichan District Hospital. The room was sterile and not at all like home, but she was well taken care of. For me that was the

bottom line. My two boys and I were there to her very last breath of life. Her death did not hit home with us right away and I was back at Cowichan Hospice within a week or so, seeking the support and understanding that I needed.

Cowichan Hospice saved my life. I still grieve my wife's passing, but I have renewed hope and confidence that I can move on without prejudice or guilt. That is a wonderful feeling. I have been able to navigate through the highs and lows of the grieving process with their help. I will forever be grateful for the compassion and assistance they afforded me. In this instance they were my life's coach.

Sincerely,

*John Morrison*

Mill Bay

# THE PATH TO HEALING

The purpose of the grief groups at Cowichan Hospice is to provide a safe, non-judgmental environment where members can share thoughts and feelings they may not be able share with anyone else. It's also an opportunity to connect with others who have had similar experiences.

As facilitators we provide psycho-educational material and coping tools for discussion within groups. Most participants join grief groups from three to six months after the death of a loved one, though for some, it may be as long as a year or more.

*Lisa de Lusignan*, Bereavement Services Coordinator

*Bob died two and a half years ago now,*

and though my time in the grief group has come to an end, I connected with people in that group and we are now good friends. We talk at least once a week, and if one of us is having a particularly dark time we know that we can pick up the phone and call each other.

I do still attend the walking group which is great, it gets me out and gets me walking, connecting with people ... some I've known a while, others who are new to hospice. I come for wellness treatments from time to time when I really need it.

Cowichan Hospice is my safety net. On the really hard days I know to draw upon the coping skills that I learned in the grief group. I know that, if I need it, I can go back for more support. Cowichan Hospice literally saved my life. It is a haven, a sanctuary, and I am so thankful to have come here.”

*Barbara Curren*, Cowichan Hospice client

*Nine months  
after my husband's  
passing,*

*I decided I needed someone  
outside of the family to talk to.  
From my first meeting, I knew  
I had made a good decision.  
I have been able to work  
through not only my grief, but  
who I am as a person, moving  
on with my life.*

*Dianne Fletcher,*  
Cowichan Hospice client



Photo: Ashley Marston

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

*Right from training, being a part of Hospice is a real eye-opener.*



*Being at Hospice is nourishing, inclusive, welcoming, full of good-humoured people and amazing opportunities to be supportive and receive support.*

**Jim, a palliative client at the hospital,** looks forward to Cowichan Hospice volunteers coming to talk with him about his life, his late wife and his fears.



## Volunteer Training

Following basic training, volunteers attend six Advanced Training sessions each year.

In preparation for the opening of Cowichan Hospice House, we have added a two-day Palliative Training session for volunteers who wish to augment their existing skills.

## 2018 Service Awards

For long and dedicated service to our Cowichan Community:

### 10-YEAR PINS

Dedie Tyson  
Dee Pope  
Helen Kanski  
Kirk Smith  
Judith Schweers

### 5-YEAR PINS

Dot Johnstone  
Marg Tames  
Susan Brookbank  
Marie Currie  
Lorraine McDonald

VOLUNTEERS REPORTED  
APPROXIMATELY

**12,060**

HOURS OF SERVICE IN 2018  
valued at \$20 per hour for a total of

**\$241,200**

**WELCOME  
NEW VOLUNTEERS!**



To all our board, task force, client volunteers and everyone who makes life rich and interesting, many thanks.

*Cornelia Wicki*, Volunteer Programs Coordinator



# YOUR GENEROSITY MADE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY

# 986

people in the Cowichan Region were served by one or more programs from Cowichan Hospice in 2018

GRIEF  
SUPPORT

# 343

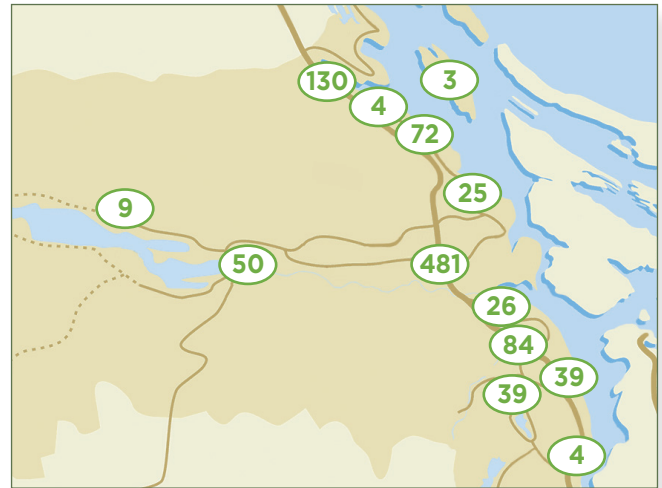
PALLIATIVE  
CARE

# 234

PALLIATIVE  
SUPPORT

# 266

## WHERE YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING



**72** Chemainus

**84** Cobble Hill

**26** Cowichan Bay

**25** Crofton

**481** Duncan

**130** Ladysmith

**50** Lake Cowichan

**4** Malahat

**39** Mill Bay

**4** Saltair

**39** Shawnigan Lake

**3** Thetis Island

**9** Youbou

**20** Out of area

## Advance Care Planning Workshops

are hosted by Cowichan Hospice at no charge, throughout the year.

**WE WELCOMED**

# 158

**ACP PARTICIPANTS  
IN 2018!**



## Comfort Kits

are available at Cowichan Hospice for children who are grieving a loss.

Depending on the age of the child, each kit contains items such as knit blankets, slippers, colouring books, journals and stuffies.

We are indebted to generous groups in our community for their loving and personal contributions to Comfort Kits.

# Caring through the Palliative Journey -*Shelley Kuecks*, Palliative Coordinator

Because of the generosity and support of our community, Cowichan Hospice is able to support individuals and families at any stage in their journey as they face the end of life. Last year, we saw 234 palliative clients and their families, either in their homes, in hospital, or at the hospice office.

I remember a client sharing with me how life had changed since he and his wife learned she had a life-threatening illness.

*“When my wife was first diagnosed,* they said she had three to six months to live. We went into panic mode: we made sure our wills were up-to-date, talked to our kids and friends and spent a lot of time doing as many of the things we could that we wanted to do. That was over a year ago. Things changed quickly; some drugs worked well for a while and then didn’t, then things seemed to plateau and then worsen again.

Sometimes we wonder if we shouldn’t have told everyone so early, but we were scared and didn’t know what would happen. We still don’t, really. We don’t know if we should be talking about living or dying, making plans for the future or just for today.

*- Cowichan Hospice client*

*Many families experiencing a sense of ambiguity around dying don’t reach out for hospice support. I have heard things like, “...my husband can still get out of bed, isn’t hospice for the last few weeks of life?” or, “There have to be people worse off than me who need the support.”*

*At any stage in the palliative journey, Cowichan Hospice is here to help. While a loved one may not need a high level of medical intervention, it is never too soon to receive other types of support.*

## How Whole-Person Hospice Care Can Help:

### *Emotional*

“Our hospice volunteer comes to see us at home weekly and gives us a chance to talk about what has been changing and how we feel about what’s happening. Somehow having another person in the room changes how we talk and we have both learned things we didn’t know the other person was feeling.”

### *Practical*

“Hospice was really helpful when we first started this journey because we had no idea what community resources were available to us. I was diagnosed with my illness just before we moved here and we hadn’t found a new doctor yet. We felt much less alone after learning about the supports we would be connected to.”

### *Spiritual*

“I have found it very difficult talking to my family about my thoughts. It makes them sad to see me struggling and I don’t want to burden them with the questions I have. I find it comforting that I can talk to my hospice person and they can help me explore my fears. It was during one of our talks that I realized part of my fears about dying came from watching my grandmother die years ago. Being able to talk about it all these years later really changed something for me and I feel a lot more peaceful now.”

# COWICHAN HOSPICE HOUSE UPDATE

**2018** was a year of great progress toward opening the doors of Cowichan Hospice House, scheduled to be complete and accepting patients in late 2020.

So many individuals stepped up in different ways, including the community's contributions to the amazing fundraising efforts of the Purica Foundation and the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation and the hard work of the Chemainus, Ladysmith, and other hospital auxiliaries.

We are so grateful to you who have made gifts, and to the diligent and determined volunteers of the Hospice House Task Force who are working long and hard to make this facility a reality.

*We are almost there!*



**To be built linked to Cairnsmore Place, Cowichan Hospice House will offer:**

Expert pain and symptom management

...

Emotional, practical and spiritual support from Cowichan Hospice staff and volunteers

...

Bright and open patient rooms with a place for those who wish to sleep near their loved one

...

Beautiful, accessible gardens

...

Hydrotherapy bath for deep comfort

...

Special places for children and youth

...

Fully-equipped family kitchen and living room

## TIME LINE OF COWICHAN HOSPICE HOUSE TO DATE

<b>JUNE 2014</b> Island Health commits to providing staff, operations and maintenance of seven hospice beds in the Cowichan Region	<b>MARCH 2017</b> Cowichan Hospice enters into a memorandum of understanding to develop Cowichan Hospice House with Island Health	<b>JANUARY 2018</b> Architect is selected, development of schematic design begins	<b>MARCH 2018</b> Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District commits to providing 60% of funding to build and furnish Cowichan Hospice House, to a maximum of \$5.22M	<b>AUGUST - DECEMBER 2018</b> Cowichan Hospice announces a \$10M fundraising goal; meaningful personal gifts range from \$10 to \$114,000	<b>DECEMBER 2018</b> Construction manager is selected, fundraising continues	<b>MAY 2019 and forward</b> We're almost there! With your continued support, together we will break ground for Cowichan Hospice House in the fall of 2019!
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**3122 Gibbins Road will remain the Cowichan Hospice Palliative Support and Bereavement Care Centre,** from which staff and trained volunteers will continue to provide support and information to people through serious illness and grief, anywhere in the community.

Open your **Heart** to Cowichan Hospice House.  
Donate today.

 **cowichan hospice house**  
[cowichanhospicehouse.ca](http://cowichanhospicehouse.ca)

# *Thank You* for sustaining hospice care with your gifts in 2018.

## **\$100,000+**

Anonymous  
Chemainus Health Care Auxiliary  
Ladysmith Health Care Auxiliary  
Purica Foundation

## **\$50,000-\$99,999**

Jennifer and Raymond Wheeler  
Annie and Jan Groot Wassink

## **\$25,000-\$49,999**

Yvonne Hayden  
Sassy Lion Thrift Store

## **\$10,000-\$24,999**

Nancy Buan  
Beverley Angus  
Maria Fernau

## **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Cary Corbeil

## **\$1,000-\$4,999**

Jennifer Ferguson  
Diane DeWolfe  
Donald Macgregor  
Nancy Bright  
Leora Nugent  
Jo Bodard  
Nels Olson  
Heather Brennan  
Jill Waterfall  
Joan Armstrong  
Amy Holness  
Laura Brizzi  
Kevin and Dana Corbett  
Janice Creed  
Iris Pasareno  
Denyse and Ronald Watt  
David and Petronella Schuh  
David and Caroline Milne  
Daphne Moldown  
Dr. Jonathon Hamilton-Irving  
and Dr. Fiona Liston  
Rotary Club of South Cowichan  
Crofton Seniors Society

Sheila Hilton Johnson  
Red Door Thrift Store

## **\$500-\$999**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Tony and Jean Turner  
Erdmann and Judith Knaack  
Daphne Jackson  
Susan Beaubier  
Margaret (Peg) Cox  
Robert Calnan  
Elaine Paull  
Pamela Willis  
Deborah Willis  
Sally Richards Emory  
Judy and Don Holmes  
Terri Bishop  
Donna Lee Holwerda  
and Mitchell Fagan  
Louisa Dyck  
Irene I.M. Culver  
Allan Mikalishen  
Sharon and Michael Moss  
Robert Perkins  
Duncan Christian  
Reformed Church  
Pete Klassen  
Lou Skiber  
Len Manuel  
Judith Belton  
Dorothy and Roy Sturgess  
Royal Canadian Legion #134  
Malahat District  
Deborah Green  
Cynthia McLachlan  
Arvind Kumar and Saroj Sund  
Megan O'Hara  
Dr. Ron Smith  
Sharon Chrysler  
Mill Bay Garden Club

## **\$200-\$499**

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Michelle Redfern  
Peggy (Margaret) Simpson  
Doug Olson  
Carol Swann  
Sheila and Richard Yaremko  
John and Glynis Ballard  
Dr. Susan Barr  
Alan and Anne Cutler  
Frances Montgomery  
Marlene Hayes  
Margaret and Graham Budd  
Mary Ann Deacon  
Tom and Ardith Sadd  
Robert Stimpson  
Dr. Rob and Leslie Liston  
John Bradbury  
Stewart Forrest  
Rebecca Reynolds  
Pam and George DuTemple  
Greg Taylor  
Humphrey Stead  
Lyn and Jim Wisnia  
Leela Heyward  
Kirsty Maxwell  
David MacLeod  
William McDonald  
Judith Johnson  
James McBride  
Deborah Irvine  
Arina McLean  
Laurie Paterlini  
Glenys Lister  
Diane and David Pope  
Corrine Bell  
W.E. Dumont  
Terry Arnason  
Susan Else  
Peggy McLennan  
Myrna Roy  
Jim and Lois Cosh

Jim Ganley  
Jim Barker  
E. Roy and Marian Laird  
Catherine Larrivee  
Bonnie Cooper  
Jamie Gratton  
Frances Milne  
and Robyn Gerland  
Gudrun Weinstein  
Patricia Boyne  
Joan and David Wakelin  
Dianne and Larry Whetstone  
Vivian Birchall  
Lynda and Ken Gregg  
Gabor G. Szamosi  
Ann Mackenzie  
Christa and Andrew Fox  
Bill Ralstin  
Kurt Kelly  
Dr. and Mrs. P. Elphick  
Ruth and Cliff Leach  
Peter and Debbie Sage  
Pauline Truesdale  
Nadine Whitelaw  
Maureen Gold  
Mary-Ann and Richard Bennett  
Marion Csepe  
Margaret Copithorne  
Lynne Belfry  
Lois Joyce  
Ken and Patricia Slade  
Jochen and Diane Dous  
Joanna Neilson  
Joan Hayden-Luck  
Ina Irwin  
Ian Murray  
Helen Wicki-Nadler  
Gretel Watts  
Geoffrey Norris  
Frank and Vera Wilson  
Crosbie and Helen Watler  
Claire and Eugene Wessan  
Bev Harley  
Ann Hamilton  
Kinsmen Club of  
Lake Cowichan  
Cowichan Spiritualist Church



To learn how you can support hospice care in Cowichan,  
visit [cowichanhospice.org](http://cowichanhospice.org) or call 250-701-4242

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE PURICA FOUNDATION**  
for hosting their annual galas in support of Cowichan Hospice House and raising \$265,000 since 2017!



## Contributions in support of Cowichan Hospice House through the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation Community Matching Campaign

Thank you also to those who gave anonymously

### \$100,000+

Andrew and Christa Fox

### \$50,000-\$99,999

Hylton McAlister  
and Angela Atkins

### \$25,000 -\$49,999

Purica Foundation

### \$10,000 -\$24,999

Dr. Valorie Masuda  
and Mr. Alan Moore  
Robert Hutchins  
and Susan McDonald  
Joanne Bodard  
Daphne Robinson  
and Jan Lofstrand  
Donald Loewen  
and Louise Neveu  
Donald McClintock  
Stuart Underhill Family  
Laura Ferreira

### \$5000 -\$9999

Dr. Susan Barr  
and Dr. Peter Postuk  
Dr. Mark Sanders  
Dr. Teresa Elliott  
Dr. Simon-Pierre Glaude  
and Dr. Jamie Pighin  
Dr. Tony Turner  
Nimrod Levy  
Willie and Alessandra  
Pewarchuk  
Dr. Jean-Maire and Lisa Wilson  
Vanessa Rocchio  
Luc Beaudet  
Dr. Deon Human  
E. Roy and Marian Laird

### \$1000 -\$4999

Dr. Ryan Gallagher  
Dr. Patricia Seymour  
Lauren and Harwood Reimer  
Juliette Eberhard  
Dr. Marina Sapozhnikov  
Kim and Wendy Grymaloski  
Zoe Pullan  
Bryan Bass  
Robert Decker  
Quw'utsun General Surgeons  
Dr. Alexander Moll  
and Juliette Eberhard

Tom and Cecille Boughner  
Marta Potts  
Dr. Tom Rimmer  
Roy and Faye Gilbert  
Cathrine Coulter  
and Jim Doucet  
Dr. Maggie Watt  
Charles Knitsch  
Dr. Len Roy  
Sharon and Michael Moss  
Carol Kay  
Paul Terlien  
Gibson Pierce  
Richard and Jacqueline  
Martinson  
Dr. Donna Wachowich  
Dr. Fiona Liston and  
Dr. Jonathan Hamilton-Irving  
Arthur Allan

### \$500 -\$999

Barbara Ready  
George Seymour  
William and Ursula Verstraete  
Doug Peters  
T. Burke-Gaffney  
Marg Budd  
Marlene Hayes  
Nancy Bright  
Pudge and Germit Bawa  
Gloria Ganter  
Janet Turner  
George and Gladys Baird  
Dr. Joan Stelling  
Leroy and Marian Van Wieren  
Jacobus Zwaan  
Iris Mennie  
Bruce Wilkinson  
Edward and Lea Langkamer  
Margaret Densmore  
Isabel Rimmer and John Yarnold  
Dr. Lorna Cutt  
Cindy Liboiron  
Greg and Sue Candy  
Pamela Westhaver  
Doug and Suzanne Perkins  
Dr. Gerald Philippon  
Margaret Cox  
Jerome and Catherine Engler  
Toby Riley

### UP TO \$500

Carla Bortoletto  
Douglas Campbell  
Suzanne Lemay  
Vivian Birchall  
Paul and Ulla Cloutier

Warren Lange  
Peter Holmes  
First Memorial Funeral Services  
Islay Brand  
D.H. and D.R. Joyner  
Jean Willow  
Dennis and Yvonne Cochrane  
Jean and Jacquie Marsh  
Dianne Fletcher  
Fyvie Weeks  
Elizabeth and Wilfred Beaton  
Irene Cates  
Lon Wood  
Denny Wagg  
Elizabeth Roberts  
and Gayle Fifield  
Harold and Shirely Bell  
Dan Graham  
Alan and Frances Corrigan  
Marie Empey  
Heidi Herold  
Margaret Adam  
Bernard and Margaret May  
Michael Keller  
Gordon and Mary Thomas  
Alana Geist  
Jesse Takhar  
Jean Crowder  
John Archer  
Robert Weston  
Maryam Wexler  
Cheryl Cameron and  
Dr. Sheldon Spier  
Marie Appleby  
Jack and Barbara Peake  
Roxanne and Blair Caldwell  
Christine Gillespie  
Alan and Anne Cutler  
Richard and Ellan Neva  
Steve Housser  
Debbie McLeod  
Richard and Barbara Grimes  
Donald and Novart Woolford  
Vivian Birchall  
June Hayes  
Jan Huggan  
Helen Nation  
Mary Tastad  
G.W. Stewart  
Basil and Olive McAneeley  
Bernard Weber  
Shirley Cunnin  
Carrie Goode  
Karen Davis  
Eveline Berkey  
William and Ursula Verstraete  
Marvin Wouters  
Jean Aten

Pierre Noiseux  
Francine Tournier  
Iris Gadd  
Nola Hendrie  
Renate Weigel  
Robert McCormick  
Lynn Pammett  
Debbie Tustin  
Wendy Fetchko  
Michelle McKay  
Eugene and Joan Navitka  
Peggy and Mel Massey  
Elizabeth Gutensohn  
John and Ann Bray  
Janet and Jeff Dorskotch  
Constance Sweeney  
Theo and Theresia Witteveen  
Alison Mitchell  
Delia Wellwood  
Laura Fisher  
Claire and Eugene Wessan  
Ronald and Catherine Awai  
Gail Hassell  
Nelmar Bekkema  
Barbara Davidson  
Robert and Susan Stitt  
Barbara Bertagnolli  
Kenneth Swain  
Vieslaw Szalanski  
Parker and Virginia MacCarthy  
Ralph Powell  
Blair Paterson  
Elsie Jorgensen  
George and Roma Croy  
Leslie Badham  
Chris Beckett  
Knights of Columbus  
Janice Lockwood  
Katrina Mills  
Martha and Kenneth Thibideau  
Patricia Smith  
Ward and Teri Hodgins  
John and Norma Neil  
Wayward Read  
Michael Roper  
Alison Irwin  
Heather Johnstone  
Linda Osterlin  
Jennifer Williamson  
Ann Mendenhall  
Gordon and Gillian Nicholson  
Ian McFarland  
Marilee Greye  
Richard and Jean Addison  
Anne Marie McDonell  
Jacquelin Gordon  
Claire Burri  
Sheldon and Jackie Cleaves

**D**ear Friends,  
It is a privilege for us to write this letter and reflect on the work that your support made possible in 2018. As you have read in the previous pages, the positive impact of Cowichan Hospice on the lives of

people in our community is a testament to your generosity and to the effectiveness and reach of volunteers and program staff.

From its grassroots origins through today, Cowichan Hospice has stayed true to its mission and values. We strive to meet emerging community needs, including keeping pace

with the needs of our aging population. The ratio of seniors to caregivers in Cowichan is increasing at a worrying rate, much higher than the average across B.C., and we are planning accordingly and expanding our capacity to serve this changing demographic. Even as Cowichan Hospice House is built and begins to serve patients with your support, we will continue to strengthen and expand outreach to people being cared for at home, at Hospice House and in the hospital.

We thank you as a supporter of Cowichan Hospice for having the long-term vision to partner in our shared belief that appropriate care for the dying and support for their families are critical to the ongoing health and well-being of our community.

With your support, we commit to maintaining the health, stability and values of Cowichan Hospice and its role in our community. We are inspired by the courage of our clients and their families who trust us to serve them in difficult times. Thank you for making this care possible.

*With warm regards  
and gratitude,*

*Gretchen Hartley*  
*Jamie Goodman*

Gretchen  
Hartley,  
Executive  
Director



Jamie  
Goodman,  
Board  
President



*Our Vision: Compassionate, person-centered,  
end-of-life and bereavement care available to  
anyone, anywhere in the Cowichan region.*

*Our Values: Compassion • Respect • Integrity  
Collaboration • Honouring Life*



# 2018 FINANCIALS

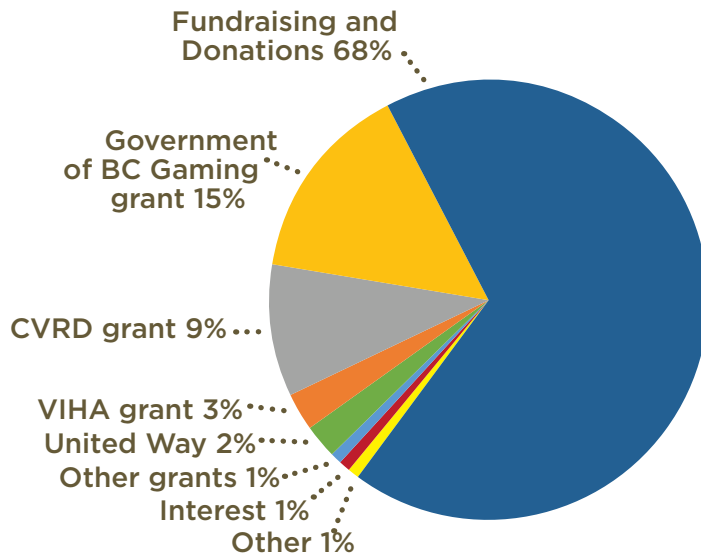
## Balance Sheet

	Operating Fund 2018	Capital Fund 2018	Hospice House Fund 2018	Total 2018	Total 2017
Current Assets	<b>\$ 498,692</b>	<b>\$ 218,348</b>	<b>\$1,040,651</b>	<b>\$ 1,757,691</b>	<b>\$1,034,311</b>
Current Liabilities	\$ 323,590		\$ 1,040,651	\$ 1,364,241	\$ 657,527
Net Assets	\$ 175,102	\$ 218,348		\$ 393,450	\$ 376,784
Liabilities & Net Assets	<b>\$ 498,692</b>	<b>\$ 218,348</b>	<b>\$1,040,651</b>	<b>\$ 1,757,691</b>	<b>\$1,034,311</b>

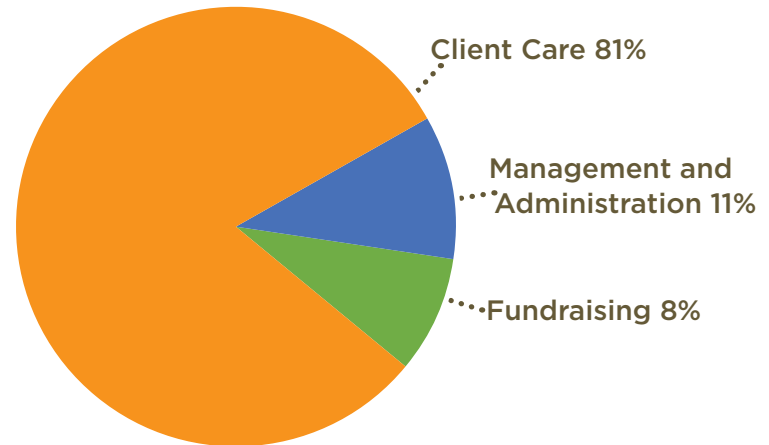
## Income Statement

Revenues	\$ 433,756		\$ 195,121	\$ 628,877	\$ 542,467
Expenses	\$ 412,824	\$ 6,085	\$ 195,121	\$ 614,030	\$ 450,825
Excess Revenue over Expenses	<b>\$ 20,932</b>	<b>\$ (6,985)</b>		<b>\$ 14,847</b>	<b>\$ 91,642</b>

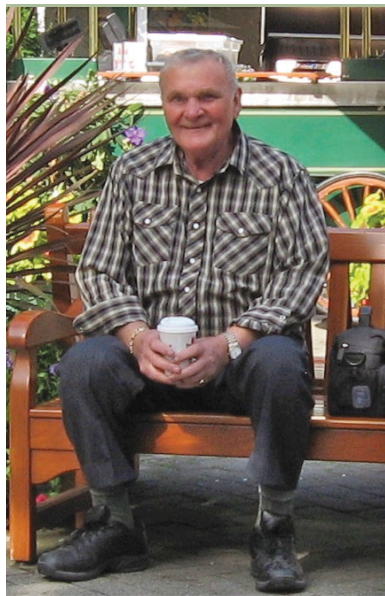
## REVENUE



## OPERATING EXPENSES







*We are very grateful  
for Helmut and Gisela's  
vision and generosity,  
and the vital part  
they have played  
in this journey.*

## A GIFT OF A LIFETIME

Helmut Eckhardt held a vision for a hospice house in our community. He would be so happy to see his vision becoming a reality.

Helmut worked hard all of his life, loved his bride Gisela and his family, and enjoyed life to the fullest. His sometimes gruff exterior belied a caring heart. Many times he stepped in to give a hand when it was needed, from fixing neighbours' cars to lending a down payment when a single mom who worked with him couldn't get a mortgage.

A technical genius, Helmut designed and manufactured springs used in the Canadarm, in the antennae of the CN tower, in hydro-electric generating plants, and in a delicate little spring used in in vitro fertilization.

A Rotarian for more than 30 years, both in Ontario and, after retirement, in South Cowichan, Helmut was awarded the "Century of Service Award" and he was a charter member of the Paul Harris Club.

In 2000, the South Cowichan Rotary helped Cowichan Hospice buy the 3122 Gibbins Road building; Helmut was instrumental in helping make this happen.

In 2014, when the news first came that there would be operational dollars from Island Health for a hospice house in Cowichan, a bus-load of excited folks headed up to visit Comox Hospice at the Views. Helmut and Gisela were on that bus, and Helmut's interest continued for the rest of his life.

In 2016, when Helmut learned that he had lung cancer he made the decision to leave a generous legacy gift in his will that would contribute to building the new hospice house. Helmut died on April 12, 2017, surrounded by his family.

To learn how you can leave a legacy gift, visit [cowichanhospice.org](http://cowichanhospice.org)

## Open your **Heart** to Hospice.



3122 Gibbins Road • Duncan BC V9L 1G2 • 250-701-4242 • 1-888-701-4242

[cowichanhospice.org](http://cowichanhospice.org) • [frontdesk@cowichanhospice.org](mailto:frontdesk@cowichanhospice.org)

Cowichan Valley Hospice Society • Charity BN/Registration number: 11887 8388 RR0001

