

THE MR. & MRS. P. A. WOODWARD'S FOUNDATION DOES IT AGAIN



Carol Crichton, (centre) Executive Director, is joined by Staff, Family and Residents (Marlene, Alexandra, Sheila, Brian and Bendt) to give a big thank you for a generous, and amazing grant. We are grateful.

The Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward's Foundation does it again—donating \$64,000 towards replacing our beds and mattresses—making rest time better.

Providing comfort, safety and durability, the bed/mattress units directly enhance quality of life. The sleeping units are on order and will be delivered early this summer.

The Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Woodward's Foundation is our largest donor EVER and since 1994 have contributed over \$375,000 to benefit Yaletown House seniors. From specifically adapted furnishings to vital pieces of medical equipment —this wonderful Foundation has supported us every step of the way in our goal of enhancing the care we provide our seniors.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Photographs and Memories Project

As the nuts and bolts of the facility-wide construction project wind to a close, we are turning our focus to beautifying and making the resident hallways more interesting on each of the units. We are developing a fundraising campaign to create walls of Vancouver and Yaletown House memories. With your donation, you can be a part of our home. The starting point will be a visit to the Vancouver Archives to select the perfect signature photographs from the past 100 years. Then we will review our in-house collection to find special photographs that bring meaning and joy to our community. By weaving together both internal and external photographs, we intend to fill the halls on each unit with meaningful adornments for all to appreciate.

While this may be a small project, it will create a big improvement! We estimate *Photographs and Memories* will cost \$5000 for all three units as it will include photo printing, professional framing and mounting.



If you would like to contribute, please connect with **Lynn Parkin** at lparkin@yaletown.org or indicate on your donation that you are supporting the *Photographs and Memories* Project.



For 16 years, volunteer Darci and her team of hardworking friends have tied, taped and ribboned 127 presents for our residents. Their fine wrapping skills ensure that all parcels are ready for Santa to deliver the goods.

Christmas 2017

We would like to thank a few good elves for making Christmas a whole lot MERRIER at Yaletown House: Personalized holiday card makers, December event volunteers (including Saint Nick AI) and Santa Roger McKie, present wrappers with our awesome staff. Special kudos to the Recreation Department who put the bow on top and made it all come together so magically!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

2582 hours and counting: Yaletown House Celebrates our Volunteers

April 15 to 21, 2018 was Volunteer Week in Canada when the nation recognized and celebrated voluntarism. Yaletown House is fortunate to have a team of volunteers who selflessly dedicate their time, energy, and attention to the benefit of our residents. While juggling careers, school, families, social lives, and their personal well-being, they have collectively committed more than 2,582 hours of service to our organization this past year. We are grateful!

Our volunteers help our residents find meaning, engagement, and feel a sense of belonging. During Volunteer Week, we hosted a celebration and welcomed over 30 of our team of 60 plus volunteers. Delicious pizza was served as well as entertainment, hand-made gifts by the residents and many thanks from our Executive Director, Volunteer Coordinator, and families. This year we gave special recognition to volunteers who each have over ten years of service as volunteers at Yaletown House. One volunteer has been with us for 35 years!

To all of the volunteers who share their lives with us, and so graciously show compassion and support to our residents—thank you so much for all that you do! We value you greatly and consider you a part of the (big) Yaletown House family.



Our Volunteers rock.

For over 11 years, **Cindy** has been visiting us with her adorable dogs, Sophie and Pearl. The highlight for Cindy is when residents tell her that visiting with the dogs makes their day.

Volker is in his 13th year of volunteering. He enjoys the honesty of the residents and his relationships with both the staff and residents, who he recognizes for their compassionate work.

Eighteen years and counting, **Shannon** says her most rewarding experience has been learning about the residents and their struggles. She says this helps her to realize that if the residents can get through their struggles, so can she.

Dianna began volunteering in 2006. She moved to Vancouver on a trial basis with her husband from San Francisco—and stayed. She says that the residents' smiles are the most rewarding part of her volunteer work.

Mike began volunteering at Yaletown House in 1985, when the building opened. He continued visiting residents up until earlier this year and has been a loyal supporter to the residents and the organization.

After 35 years, **Joy** finds the most rewarding part of her volunteer work to be the acceptance of the residents who now think that she lives here. She says that volunteering at Yaletown House is an important part of her life.

Celebrating her 12th year of volunteering, **Johanna** helps with the Catholic Mass program. Her favorite part of volunteering is seeing the happiness on the residents' faces.

Norma began volunteering in 2001. She is a retired nurse and helps with the Catholic Mass program.

SEAN B AND JEAN C

VOLUNTEER PROFILE / BY LYNN PARKIN

Retirement is a good place to be for Jean. From yoga, to bike riding, golf, university courses, and travel with her husband, she loves the personal time she can now spend on her mind and body. After four and half years of volunteering at Yaletown House in the gardening program, she enjoys every moment spent working in the greenhouse and outdoor spaces with Janelle and the residents who love plants and flowers. A big part of Jean's role is coordinating the weekly donation of flowers by Divine Vines and Urban Fare. Jean, along with a helper, heads out rain or shine to these two local florists every Tuesday morning to pick up bundles and bundles of cut flowers. Back at the facility, Jean works with other volunteers and the residents to make beautiful bouquets for display in common area area in the main lounge as well as personal bouquets for the residents' rooms. The floral arrangements are a burst of sunshine for everyone.

After working in various Laboratory Medicine positions for 35 years, Jean loves the flexibility of volunteering, as well as the shared experiences with the residents and other volunteers. She is inspired by the seniors' creativity and learns from them too.

Originally from Ontario, Jean decided in 1980 that she either had to buy a fur coat to survive the winters or move to Vancouver. She picked the latter choice and never looked back. The day she arrived in the city, it was raining and grey. Jean was not deterred; adding, this is where she belongs. Jean explained that while she hasn't had any formal horticulture training, her experience of growing up on a farm may have inspired her love of "playing in the dirt". Thank you Jean—we are glad to be your place to play.



This is my time to play and I love playing in the dirt.

—Jean C



I tried the beans growing in the greenhouse. They're good but the ones from the roof top garden are sweeter—literally and figuratively.

—Sean B

Vegetable gardening is a passion for Sean. Five years ago, he took a horticulture course to learn more about growing vegetables and tending to gardens. This love of seeing his efforts from soil to table led him to start volunteering at Yaletown House in our gardening program. Since then, Sean has been a loyal Tuesday morning fixture helping Janelle, our Horticulture Therapist, and the other gardeners to enjoy the beauty of flower arranging, transplanting plants and maintaining the greenhouse and outdoor garden spaces.

Sean says he looks forward to the roof top garden reopening soon (once the building renovation project is complete) so he can taste those sweeter beans. Adding, "the rooftop is a terrific spot to grow vegetables". His love of gardening extends to his home life where growing potatoes, tomatoes, peas, and chayote (looks like a pear but grows on a vine) are just some of the vegetables he enjoys cultivating. Sean says his next ambition is to grow beets.

With a Diploma in Library Information Technology from Langara College, Sean is employed at BCIT as a Library Technician. In addition to Yaletown House, he also volunteers at UBC in the Botanical Garden Library, which seems rather fitting given his love of gardens and books, and the Italian Cultural Centre Library, cataloguing. When I asked if all the books were in Italian, he replied, yes and with a grin adds—"no, I don't speak any Italian". Born and raised in Vancouver, Sean is happy to continue his role helping us maintain our garden. In fact, he ended the profile with thanking us for letting him continue so long. Actually—thank you Sean.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Management, Board Members and Family: Aleta, Rosemary, Anu, Wayne, Al, Lenki, Ardis, Carol, Todd and Lynn.

Yaletown Lions Club: Giddy Up'd for 2018!

June 9th marked the 11th Annual Yaletown Lions Club Gala held at the Fairmount Waterfront Hotel. With the theme of the Wild West, the Lions Gala rode into town and wrangled up big dollars for Yaletown House seniors. While the final numbers are still being tallied, Yaletown House always comes out the winner, thanks to the dedication of these members. Sponsorship, generous guests and competitive silent auction bidding helped raise money for three local Yaletown charities: seniors, youth and children. Entertainment, country music and the generosity of giving back made the evening not only a successful fundraiser but also darn good fun.

Since 2008, this hard working service club has raised over \$225,000 for Yaletown House and we are honoured to remain in their hearts. Thank you Lions!

Here is an excerpt from Aleta Brown, a family member whose kinds words about her mother's experience at Yaletown House were delivered at the Lions event:

On behalf of my Mother and myself I extend our deepest gratitude to the management, nurses, facilitators, medical team, caregivers, volunteers and everyone at Yaletown House.

The nurses and wonderful caregivers are always kind, professional and communicative with me, giving Dolly the best of care.

It means so much knowing that when I leave Mom after a visit or outing, she is in capable, professional and loving care. Please continue to do what you do because you do it so well.

—Aleta Brown

Yaletown House Sun Run 2018 Baconators

Congratulations to The Yaletown House Baconators for completing the 2018 Vancouver Sun Run! Our team placed 27th place out of 57 registered in the Health Care/Medical/Dental category. As a team, our average time was 1:04:41. What a great success!

The motto of the team is "We run for bacon" thanks to the awesome post run breakfast—that includes lots of bacon!

Thank you to all the runners and cheerleaders for being a part of the Yaletown House Community.



The Baconators: We did it!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Courtyard Garden Update—Chickens, Tennis Court, Outdoor Movies?

(just some of the resident suggestions for the courtyard garden)

We have had some interesting suggestions for the redevelopment of our courtyard garden. Through resident interviews, poster board write-ups and casual discussions, we have created a list of Courtyard Garden priorities to present to the landscape architect and our in-house garden team. We will do our best to accommodate all suggestions where possible (although the tennis court and chickens might really prove to be a challenge) and will keep our community involved in the process. From picking plants, to what types of trees and shrubs, to placement of furniture and visiting/quiet areas—our residents will be consulted and kept informed.

Some of the other great ideas that we have received to date include:

- Lighting
- Music speakers
- More shade
- A living plant wall
- Geranium, roses, tulips
- More social programs
- Make it year-round equipped
- Birdbath

Our fundraising campaign continues, and a donor appreciation wall will be constructed listing all contributions of \$500 or more.

Please contact Lynn Parkin for more information lparkin@yaletown.org 604.806.4210.

YES! COUNT ME IN

More Ways to support Yaletown House

Be a part of our success. Donations can be made:

1. By cheque payable to Yaletown House Foundation
1099 Cambie Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 5A8
2. Online at www.yaletown.org using CanadaHelps portal
3. **New:** in person at reception or by phone 604.806.4210 using Square reader with Visa/MC

All donations will receive a tax receipt for 100% of their gift and a thank you letter from the Executive Director.

Thank you for contributing towards the vibrant future of Yaletown House.



Garden Therapist Janelle is joined by Sorayya, Jean and Sean who volunteer every Tuesday.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In lieu of sending flowers to the bereaved, families and friends may choose to make a memorial gift. In appreciation, we send a thank you card and tax receipt to the donor and an acknowledgement of the gift is sent to the appropriate family member(s). As well, the name of the resident is permanently placed on our Memorial Recognition Wall. Memorial Gifts help us support services that directly benefit our residents. We would like to recognize and thank the families and friends of:

- Lois Frost
- Robert Bartlett
- Rajendra Singh Chopra
- Myung Sun Kim
- Frank Milner
- Marian Richards

Thank you for your kind contribution.

We respect your privacy and never disclose, trade, or share your personal information.

Charitable registration #89249 4444 RR0001. All donations are tax deductible.