

# \$30,300 DONATED —THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF YOU!



Clockwise from top:  
Our team  
of volunteer  
wrappers

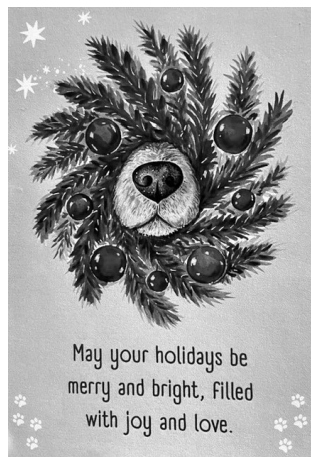
One of the many  
personalized  
Christmas cards

The presents arrive  
for the party

Thanks to your incredible response to our 2023 Holiday Wish List, we were able to secure additional funding for Spiritual Care and Horticulture Therapy programming. **YOU MADE IT HAPPEN!**

Although we are in spring now, let's remember what fun Christmas time was! In addition to the Holiday Annual appeal donations there were countless other acts of generosity including:

- Holiday cards and a visit from children who attend the Claren Academy in Yaletown
- 127 Cossette personalized Christmas cards
- Volunteers who wrapped, tied, bowed and delivered presents on time
- Gifts for every resident, thanks to a generous loyal donor
- Volunteers who decorated, sang carols and served holiday treats



# Why do we need support for horticulture therapy and spiritual care?

You might be wondering why we ask for support of Horticulture Therapy (HT) and Spiritual Care (SC). Yaletown House receives different funding from various government agencies and at present, Horticulture Therapy and Spiritual Care are not part of the core operating grant from Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). Once a year we apply for a Community Gaming Grant through the BC Government, to support HT and SC. While we are very grateful for the grant, the funds continue to decline and are not sufficient to support these vital services. Therefore, we rely on fundraising to ensure our seniors' needs are adequately met. Thank you to everyone who gave during our Christmas campaign— you helped us restore our services for 2024.

## Horticulture Therapy

It provides an environment that promotes self-esteem, creativity, and enjoyment. Activities include learning to plant from seed, creating and tending to flowerbeds, growing vegetables and flower arranging (thanks to donations from Urban Fare). As many residents have strong links to past gardening, it is a popular program that many participants can benefit from.



Many hands help a garden to grow

## Spiritual Care

A non-denominational program that respects each resident's unique set of spiritual experiences and religious expression. It is a safe, compassionate, and expressive environment which supports individuals and their families dealing with advanced health issues. From Memorials and worship sessions, Spiritual Care helps residents find peace and comfort during difficult times.

Thank you, Alyssa and Vivian, for your compassion & creativity in providing these vital programs.



The healing and caring hands of Spiritual Care

# Thank you to the front-line heroes and behind-the-scenes stars



Team Yaletown

Behind every fundraising campaign is our staff who make Yaletown House home: We call our Team "The Front-Line Heroes and Behind the Scenes Stars".

Thank you: Maintenance Staff, RNs, Care Aides, Dietary Aides, LPNs, Laundry Workers, Recreation/Activity Coordinators, Housekeepers, Nurses, OT, PT, Staffing Clerk, Unit Clerk, Management (Directors, Managers, Supervisors and Assistants), Accounting Clerk, Receptionist & Cooks. We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you for being a part of our success!

## Memorial gifts

In lieu of sending flowers to the bereaved, families and friends may choose to make a memorial gift. An acknowledgment of the gift will be provided to the appropriate family member(s) and the donor will receive a tax receipt and thank you card. 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 the families and friends for their kind contribution in loving memory:

- Eileen Hendry
- Marian Harris

## YES! COUNT ME IN

Ways to support Yaletown House

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](http://www.yaletown.org) using CanadaHelps.
3. By phone 604 806-4210 using 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 to the well-being of Yaletown House residents!

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

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

Please note, some photos were taken before the mask mandate, others after.





FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Wi-Fi and CCTV systems (camera) installation

We are advancing towards raising the necessary funds to install facility-wide wi-fi coverage. This will allow residents and their families to be more connected with each other. It will also offer residents the opportunity to watch or listen to online media services, and accommodate live performances to be streamed virtually into the care home. We hope to see the installation of wi-fi by the end of this year. We welcome your contributions.



Growing our garden

Did you know our gardening programs are year-round and in the summer time we grow vegetables and fruit on the rooftop garden? We always need funds to replenish plants, seeds and soil. Our wish list also includes supplies for special seasonal and themed garden related projects, such as holiday wreaths or creating personalized terrariums. Our garden programs are full of life and need constant nurturing and love. We welcome your contributions.



Carol Crichton and Grant enjoy a visit on the newly covered benches

Christmas 2022 projects report

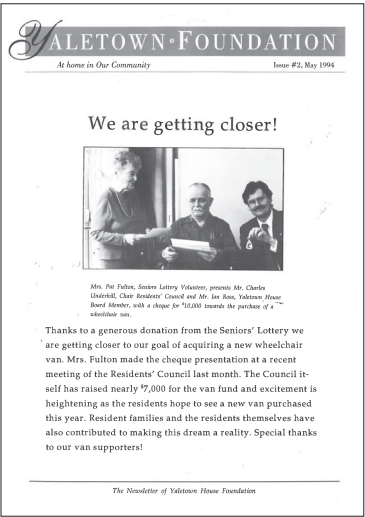
We have completed reupholstering the built-in benches in each unit lounge. The benches had become worn due to years of use. Post reupholstering, they look fabulous. The project was made possible thanks to the 2022 Christmas Campaign. Thank you for your contribution.



Christmas 2023 projects report

Thanks to your generosity this holiday season, we just purchased a new 75-inch Sony TV for residents' viewing pleasure in the main lounge. As our previous TV was beyond its years of servicing, the high-resolution Sony is a great addition to our entertainment area. Thanks, folks!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



A look back—the Yaletown House Foundation Newsletter celebrates 30 years

Friend Making and Fundraising in Our Community

The 2nd Yaletown House Foundation Newsletter was published in May of 1994 (the first version was photo-less and designed in WordPerfect—more of an experiment). The first official edition told the story of a \$7,000 donation to help purchase a new wheelchair van, we thanked Dressew Supply for donating our first big screen TV, we announced a visit by the then-Premier, Mike Harcourt, who was presenting the World Series trophy on behalf of the Toronto Blue Jays, and we promoted the benefits of music therapy services. Some things never change. There have been over 70 Yaletown House Foundation publications since 1994. While thirty-years have passed, the common theme remains: the generosity and kindness of our community makes Yaletown House the extraordinary place it is—then and today!

Flipping through the pages of 70 editions, we are reminded of countless volunteer profiles, generous donor gifts, creative fundraising campaigns, fun special projects & events, and heartwarming moments. We raised money for the garden, medical equipment, therapeutic programs, resident room furniture, pianos, beds, mattresses, tubs, renovations, medication carts, flowers, soil, musical instruments, nurse call system, art supplies, phones, benches, wander prevention system, lounge chairs, wall art, three bikes, ceiling lifts and 4,000 Christmas presents. This was only possible thanks to YOU—our generous community.

We look forward to the next 30 years and beyond. It has been a privilege and joy to share the stories about the many individuals and groups who collectively made Yaletown House a wonderful community and home.

Thank you for your participation in the Newsletter. Researching, writing, and sharing has been the best part of my day. Residents, families, staff, volunteers, businesses, community groups, and foundations; you have been a fascinating, generous, and responsive audience. Thank you! Lynn Parkin

30 years of Friend-Making and Fundraising in Our Community. Newsletter covers from 1994, 2004, and 2014

VOLUNTEER PROFILE / ROYAL BANK AND LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL



Team RBC returns to lend a hand to maintain our gardens

It has been four long years since we have welcomed the Royal Bank (RBC) Team—Yaletown and Nelson Street Branches.

Prior to the COVID restrictions that began in early 2020, the hard-working staff at RBC spent many years donating their time to either getting our garden ready for spring-time blossom or autumn preparation. Regardless of the Season, they weeded flowerbeds, swept the grounds, hauled the soil, and planted the seedlings—all with enthusiasm, energy, and a genuine willingness to help.

This March, we were finally able to invite the RBC Team back. Working with our Horticulture Therapist, Alyssa, we were delighted to have this year's team back and we thank RBC Staff and Management for remaining connected with us. We appreciated the check in and the willingness to resume their much-needed and appreciated volunteer role.

Team RBC volunteers stop work for just a moment to have a photo taken.

Jonas, Shane, Jo-Mary, Monica, Caitlin and John are joined by recreation/activity coordinator, Marlene, and horticulture therapist, Alyssa.

Special thanks to Saja, Field Manager at True Blue Gardenscapes, for volunteering his time.



Carol (Executive Director) and Alyssa (Horticulture Therapist) give a warm welcome and thanks to the Lions Clubs International Members and spouses for supporting garden programs. Thank you Dickie, Syrus, Greg, Henry, and Peter—and everyone.

Lions Clubs International

Yaletown House was recently honoured as one of the four stops as part of a visit from the Lions Clubs International.

On March 18th, members of the Lions and their spouses visited the care home and presented the residents with a gift of 50 colourful plants to be potted in our courtyard garden. Just in time for spring—the floral donation was marked with a plaque thanking the Lions Clubs International as well as the Yaletown Lions Club for supporting gardening programs for seniors and older adults.