

# YALETOWN LIONS CLUB REACH A NEW LEVEL WITH A GRAND TOTAL OF \$440,000



Yaletown Lion present  
Yaletown Board Members  
with a cheque for \$35,000



Speaking from the heart,  
Foundation President Ardis  
Nelson is joined by Board  
Members Kelly Sherstobitoff  
and Jan Volker to accept the  
cheque and thank the Lions.

The spirit of giving is in everything  
the Yaletown Lions Club Members  
do to benefit the community.

The 2024 Gala was another roaring success raising \$35,000 for Yaletown House to support upgrading our Closed Circuit TV (CCTV). The CCTV system gives us the ability to monitor the care home and ensure the safety and security of the residents, staff, families and visitors. As the current system is analog and outdated, it is imperative that we upgrade the system. This technology is a move in the right direction.

Thank you, Yaletown Lions. We appreciate the generosity of your members, sponsors and guests to support Yaletown House year after year.



FUNDRAISING UPDATES

What’s Next?

**Bed & Mattress Campaign**  
Purchasing specialized beds/mattresses for our residents’ rooms will be the focus for fundraising in 2025. At a cost of \$15,000 per unit, we need the support and contributions of many to provide better care for our residents. Offering safety, comfort and durability, the bed and mattress units are vital equipment/furnishings designed for quality sleep in a supportive environment. We welcome your donation towards the bed project—if you are interested in learning more, please contact Lynn Parkin in the Foundation office at 604.806.4210 or lparkin@yaletown.org.

Bedder Slumber  
Bedder Snooze  
Bedder Forty Winks  
Bedder Sleep  
Bedder ZZZ  
Bedder Rest  
Bedder Care



**Wi-fi Project**  
Thanks to the Yaletown Lion Clubs and other generous community supporters, the wi-fi project will commerce in early 2025 in conjunction with the CCTV Project. This service will greatly improve connectivity for families and friends during their visits as well as enhance our media streaming to accommodate virtual performances.

**Perimeter Fencing**  
Thanks to Janice Rafael, a former resident’s family member, and other community supporters, we have replaced the **perimeter fencing** in the back-alley parking area, as well as part of the courtyard garden fence. The wellbeing of our residents, families, and staff is always at the forefront and these security measures make our home a safer place to live, visit and work.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

THANK YOU!

These companies have contributed in many ways in 2024: donating services, volunteering time, and donating funds to make our residents’ lives better.



Clockwise from top right:  
Delta Hotel  
Salty Face  
Black Tie Management  
TD Bank



Big shout out to the following stars:

- Delta Hotel**—Rooftop garden Summer clean up
- Royal Bank**—Courtyard garden Spring clean Up
- TD Bank**—Donation to gardening programs
- Salty Face**—Horticulture Therapy Project Help
- Black Tie Management Property Service**—Complimentary exterior window washing
- Service Master Clean Residential**—Complimentary carpet cleaning

VOLUNTEER PROFILE / ANDREA COSTA

“(I am) there to make them feel joy at that moment.”



It started with Andrea’s father needing long-term care for the last year of his life. Suffering from late-stage dementia, her dad could no longer live at home safely and the family made the difficult decision to place him in a supportive care home in the Okanagan. It was a sad experience, but staff and residents helped ease the transition. Making connections and getting to know the lives of those that lived and worked there, eased her visits and provided the necessary foundation that her dad was where he needed to be.

After her father passed away and a time of healing, Andrea felt the need to reconnect with a seniors care home closer to home. She wanted to make friendships with others—like she experienced at her dad’s care home. She started to explore volunteer opportunities and “google” pointed the way to Yaletown House—which happened to be conveniently in her neighbourhood. She was so surprised as she had walked by our front doors countless times but thought it was an apartment building—not a complex care home. Sitting in the courtyard garden for the interview, she marvels at the beautiful and serene space that the residents and their families/friends have as their backyard.

After meeting with Cori, our Volunteer Coordinator, she learned there were a lot of different opportunities and was really pleased that the roles were flexible and could accommodate her busy work schedule. She was also impressed with the number of active volunteers—albeit before COVID, in 2016, when Andrea started, we had over 70 volunteers attending regularly. While this total has certainly dropped due to care home restrictions, we are building another mighty force and currently have about 50 volunteers.

Andrea was initially matched for one-to-one visits with a specific senior, who needed extra special time—this worked out very well and continued up until March 2020. As volunteers returned, after restriction were lifted, Andrea was eager to find a new connection and consider the many other roles—gardening, Duet/Orion bike, walks etc. She chose music therapy and now volunteers every Wednesday evening assisting Lyndia with her popular music program. She is genuinely moved by the response of the residents and tells several stories of non-verbal residents suddenly breaking into song, and others who cannot remember a family member’s name but can sing and play the piano with enthusiasm and beauty. She adds with a smile that most of the residents probably don’t remember her from week to week—and that’s okay too. She is there to make them feel some joy at that moment. In addition to music, Andrea assists once a month with Catholic Mass, as well as special events or playing crib with a residents, and Christmas decorating or really any project that needs an extra pair of helping hands. She has high praise for Cori, Lyndia, Music Therapist and Vivian Spiritual Care Coordinator. In return, the staff that work with Andrea say she is a gem and are grateful for her longevity, dedication, and reliability.

She loves to travel and lists off many wonderful adventures including Australia, NZ, Mexico, UK, Singapore, HK, Philippines, Thailand, Korea, Japan, most of Europe, United States and Costa Rica. Her next trip is a return to explore Italy. An avid walker, Andrea covers at least 8k a day in her local city travels.

Now semi-retired from the short-term vacation rental business, Andrea is approaching 8 years of volunteering at Yaletown House. She also gives her time to other charitable organizations including The Door is Open, BC/AB guide dogs, and volunteer roles serving in her church.

As the interview concludes, Andrea circles back to her father and his time in care. As a family member then, she really appreciated those that made a connection to ease her challenges. She takes comfort in returning the kindness and helping others today. Thank you, Andrea!



# "I love your book— I got to know you better."

This was a statement heard repeatedly in the main lounge during the final day of the **Perspectives Program**—an Emily Carr Student and Yaletown House Resident collaboration project.

An exchange between these two cohorts, the Perspectives Program, took the concept of intergenerational programming to a new level. Beginning in February and continuing to the end of March 2024, twenty Emily Carr students were matched with residents to discuss and journal life events.

The result was five individually crafted booklets that were as unique as the participants. Each book unfolds into a personal and exceptional storytelling manner, organized by categories of life experience such as travel, career, outlook and family. Using different forms of media, the books are bound with removable subsections, illustrations, stickers, postcards and even a bookmark made with planetary pieces, aptly named the Little Prince, the Foxes and Yaletown House Galaxy. The other remarkable titles included: Little Women, Knock Knock, Travel Journal and Field Notes.



Leona and class instructor Jon  
Photo credit Perrin Grauer/ Emily Carr University

A treasure for the residents, their families and Yaletown House. Applause to the students of Emily Carr for their interest, skills, and commitment to the success of the project.

Thank you to Jon Hannan, class instructor, and our Recreation Team of Marlene Gauntley and Lo Oliveira who facilitated the project.

Thank you to the residents who willingly shared their lifetime of experiences. It was a fun and educational perspective for everyone.



# Duet and Orion Bikes

Our Orion and Duet Bikes are still in motion as of late Autumn with volunteers Michael and John at the wheel. Thanks to two new helmets recently purchased, we are continuing to support the popular biking program with safety at the forefront. With both the volunteer peddlers and resident riders equally enthusiastic, our bikes explore the seawall and surrounding neighbourhood. As with all transportation modes, maintenance is ongoing and we welcome contributions from our community to keep the peddles in motion. After a brief seasonal break, the bikes will be back in operation in early Spring 2025. Thank you for giving us a lift!



A late autumn ride—toques and all

# 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:

- Rodger Morris

# 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.