



THE GIES FAMILY CENTRE

HOSPICE WATERLOO REGION

there is a season...

Capital Campaign Report

FALL/WINTER 2019



Aerial view of The Gies Family Centre - NEO Architecture Inc.

In the fall of 2018 construction began on a new 27,000 sq. ft. palliative care centre and residential hospice in North Waterloo. It will be the first centre of its kind in the region. As a hub of excellence for hospice palliative care, patients will receive a continuum of care from first diagnosis of a life-threatening illness to end of life.

The Gies Family Centre, as it has been named, will be much more than just a residence. It will house

10 hospice beds, a medical clinic, program areas for clients and families, counselling spaces, and administrative offices. Hospice of Waterloo Region will also continue to operate as the only organization in the region that recruits and trains visiting volunteers who serve clients in other hospices and long-term care facilities in the area.



Update on the Campaign and Construction

\$11.8 million raised to date and opening expected in the fall of 2020



Tracy Helm, Director, Fund Development, on-site with Judy Nairn, Executive Director

A message from Judy Nairn – Executive Director, and Tracy Helm – Director, Fund Development:

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making possible our vision for better care at end of life. The community continues to support our capital campaign with such generosity and enthusiasm. We are pleased to report that to date we have raised \$11.8 million from individuals, corporations, foundations and service clubs in our region! This amount is in addition to public sector support of over \$2.7 million received from the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care, Region of Waterloo, City of Waterloo, and Ontario Trillium Foundation.

As with all projects of this size and complexity, we have experienced a few unexpected bumps in the process. The most significant occurred in August when we lost our steel supplier, resulting

in a re-tendering for steel and an unfortunate delay. Both our contractor Melloul Blamey and our new steel supplier are making every effort to minimize the impact on our timeline. Work has continued, with the foundations completed, underground services connected and basement floor concrete poured.

The silo, which will become our Family Gathering and Spiritual Space, now stands as the prominent and clearly visible feature on the landscape. Parking surfaces, exterior lighting and curbing are also being done this fall. As we make progress throughout the winter and spring, we anticipate that the new building will open in the fall of 2020.

Once again, thank you for your continuing support. Together we are creating a great legacy of caring in our community.

Construction Continues at 2050 University Avenue

Capital Campaign Committee

Merv Redman,
Campaign Chair

Linda Brooks

Alex Brown

Maureen Carli

Peter Chandler

Brenda Hallman

Tracy Helm

Wilf Jenkins

Linda Knight

Mary Kuntz

Gary Leduc

Dianne Moser

Judy Nairn

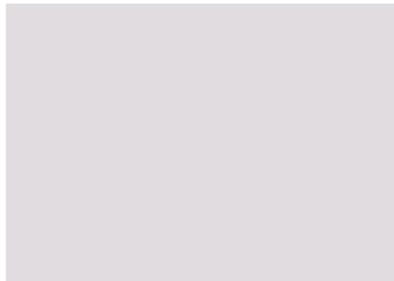
Bob Publicover

Joanne Renaud

Gayle Sadler

Karin Voisin

The Silo
or Family
Gathering
and Spiritual
Space



Staff tour of the building site August 2019

*Follow the progress of construction
of The Gies Family Centre on our
website! www.hospicewaterloo.ca*

DONORS' STORY

Henry and Grace Hildebrand

Henry and Grace Hildebrand believe in giving back to the communities where they live, work and have raised their children. This is something they learned very early in life. "There was an inherent expectation in our families to help others with service and support," they explain. "We consistently look for ways to serve others in our daily lives."

The Hildebrands grew up in Mennonite families in small towns in Southern Manitoba. They met as teenagers after a hockey game at a local arena. Grace

humorously condenses their courtship into one sentence, "We had a snowball fight and the rest is history!"

Before starting a family, Grace attended university to become a teacher and Henry pursued a career in the corporate world. Because of his work, they were constantly on the move, which made it difficult to put down roots, especially while raising two children. However, their abiding faith enabled them to connect with people at services and community and church events wherever they lived, paving the way to develop lasting friendships and be of service in their communities.

In the 1980s they settled in Ontario, where Henry was CEO of two different corporations. After retirement he, along with Grace, worked with Mennonite Central Committee and Mennonite World Conference. Grace also volunteered at the Milton District Hospital and became President of its Auxiliary. Recognizing the need for an assisted living home nearby, Henry became involved in building Martindale Gardens Retirement Residence. Then in 2010, they learned



about an opportunity to purchase a retirement/assisted living home, and moved to the Region of Waterloo to manage it full time.

While operating St. Jacobs Place, they lost a dear friend and a relative who passed away in hospice care. "When we visited, we witnessed first-hand what the experience did for families and patients. It was the care and compassion that really moved us." Looking to do something for a hospice in their own community, they contacted Hospice of Waterloo Region

and made the first of several donations. They also invited a long-time friend and business associate to join them in making financial contributions as an anonymous donor.

"We saw our support as an extension of the focus on giving back to the community"

"That's how we got involved with Hospice," explains Henry. "We saw our support as an extension of the focus on giving back to the community and how that is an extension of life itself. We are real promoters for hospice services. Wherever we go, we talk about the special volunteers who are truly at the heart of hospice and we encourage people to give to hospices in their own communities." Hospice is blessed and fortunate to have donors and advocates like the Hildebrands. The Family Gathering and Spiritual Space in the new building will be named in their honour.

Please join us at our Signature Events in 2020

Hospice of Waterloo Region hosts three signature fundraising events annually. Once the new building is complete, government funding will cover 55% of operation costs. Our signature events will be one way to continue to support and stay connected with Hospice of Waterloo Region.



SCOTCH TASTING

HOSPICE WATERLOO REGION

An Intimate Scotch
Tasting Experience

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020



HANDBAGS for HOSPICE

HOSPICE WATERLOO REGION

Handbags for Hospice
THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020



*More information about these events,
including sponsorship opportunities
and tickets, is available at*

www.hospicewaterloo.ca



Hike For Hospice

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2020

Hospice of Waterloo Region

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