



Grand Opening  
THE GIES FAMILY CENTRE

Come celebrate with us!



***The Gies Family Centre  
Virtual Grand Opening***

Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 2 pm

Presented by:  **TIRECRAFT<sup>®</sup>**

Welcome to the Grand Opening of The Gies Family Centre, Hospice Waterloo Region. There is a season for all things, and the time for a new season at Hospice Waterloo Region has arrived.

It has been a long time, coming to this day in our history, from our humble beginnings over 25 years ago. We were a small group of volunteers and a few staff, who offered support and walked beside those experiencing life threatening illness and their families. Cure goals became comfort goals; programs and services were developed as needs arose. Today, our hundreds of volunteers and large staff provide the ever-expanding services that are available to our clients.



We have moved to different locations several times over the years as we continued to grow and evolve with the needs of the community. I have been fortunate to have been part of that history from time to time over the years so it is especially exciting for me to be part of this day, where we can bring together the years of dreaming and visioning in our brand new, state-of-the-art centre. This is a place, under one roof, that will provide so much, for so many in our community - a “hub” for palliative care and education here in Waterloo Region. A space to quietly reflect on this journey of life and a place to be together. Palliative care is so much more than dying. It is being present on the journey of living.

Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate this new season in the life of Hospice Waterloo Region.

Brenda Hallman,  
*Board President,  
Hospice Waterloo Region*



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# Virtual Event Highlights

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Welcome

About Us

Musical performance

Alex Mustakas, *Drayton Entertainment*

The Vision

The Build

Meet our Cornerstone and Lead Donors

Congratulatory Greetings

Christine Elliott, *Minister of Health, Province of Ontario*

Dave Jaworsky, *Mayor of Waterloo*

A Client Story

Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting

Special Guest

David Chilton

Musical performance

Lee Siegel, *Drayton Entertainment*

Closing Remarks

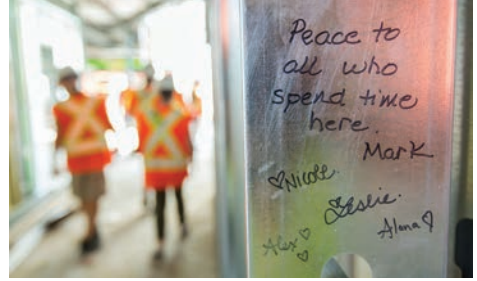


# Not Just a Building... It is a Home

Thank you for joining us at this very important moment in the history of Hospice Waterloo Region, the opening of the new Gies Family Centre.

When Hospice Waterloo Region was first incorporated in 1993, our defining purpose was “to coordinate the provision of supportive care for terminally ill patients and to their families before and after death.” For 28 years we have met this purpose and today we are ready to take the next step.

This amazing new building provides us with many spaces where we can continue



to meet the needs of those on an end of life journey. There are spaces for education of the community so early conversations can happen that will make the journey easier; there are spaces for those with a diagnosis to meet with doctors and nurses in a clinic; there are spaces for those who wish to meet with a counsellor or spiritual care provider; there are spaces for self care, spaces for reflection, spaces for people to gather in companionship and of course, there are now spaces for individuals and families to stay within our new residence.

But a building, and its spaces, are only a physical place. It is the people who will animate these spaces and make them the welcoming and supportive environment that is so needed during this important phase of life. It will be the staff and the volunteers and the community coming together and working together that will make this so much more than a building – it will become a home.

Thank you for being part of the Hospice family. Thank you for your support and encouragement over the years of dreaming and planning but most importantly, thank you for your continuing care for everyone who will come through these new doors. Together we will work to achieve our vision for a community where no one experiences an end of life journey alone.

Judy Nairn,  
*Executive Director*



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October 2020



# The Gies Family Centre Virtual Grand Opening Sponsors

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## Legacy Sponsors



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## Celebration Sponsors



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## Community Patrons and Circle of Community Support



## 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

## Build Team

Bill Green, Paul Grespan, Melloul Blamey Construction, NEO Architecture Inc. and all the subcontractors

## Staff Move in Team

Leslie Duffy, JoAnn Gascon, Lori Helm

## Grand Opening Committee

Karin Voisin (*Chair*), Tracy Helm, Sandra Muir, Judy Nairn, Melissa Parker, Ruby Sohi, Mark Wright

# With Thanks

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## ***Consultants & Advisors***

Tomasz Adamski, Fred Galloway, Bill Green, Paul Grespan, Dwayne Priestman, Zelko Prica, TD Canada Trust, Tim Anderson & the City of Waterloo Staff

## ***The Build Team***

Laird Robertson and Doug McIntosh and the team at NEO Architecture Inc., DFY Studio, GSP Group Inc., Meritech Engineering, MTE Consultants, Rombald Inc. Melloul Blamey Construction and the build site team – Jeff, Braden, Brent & Connor, Alles Drywall & Interior Construction Inc., Balkin Flooring Inc., Forwell W Electric, G&A Masonry, Homestead Woodworks Inc., Kieswetter Excavating Inc., Linesteel (1973) Limited, Strassburger Windows & Doors, Velocity Mechanical Inc., Westmount Craftsmen, William Knell and Company Limited

## ***Tech Support***

Buchanan Technologies, Network Telecom, Pinnacle Digital Solutions Ltd, Wilmot Technologies Inc.

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## ***Public Sector Funding***

Ontario Ministry of Health, City of Waterloo, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Region of Waterloo, Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network

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- ▶ Our Capital Campaign Committee and the amazing community of donors who made it all possible.
- ▶ Our hundreds of Volunteers who are so dedicated to the clients we serve.
  - ▶ Our Board of Directors for the courage to dream big.
  - ▶ Prisma Light Ltd. and Royal Blue Events Management.
- ▶ All of the contributors to our event, but especially Donna Gauthier for sharing her story.
- ▶ All our staff for their patience and perseverance, but especially Lori, JoAnn and Leslie for their incredible work making it all come together.

There are a great many people to thank for the hard work and effort involved in creating this amazing new facility, but there is always the risk that someone might be missed. Please know that if you are not listed here, you do still have our sincere thanks and gratitude for your contribution to our new home.



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