



# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025



## Auxiliary to the Abbotsford Regional Hospital

### Welcome Spring!

It's hard to believe that we are already well into our spring season. Despite February snow and March atmospheric rivers of rain we enjoyed a more spring like April. We are all looking forward to more warm days to enjoy outdoor activities.

### Gift Shop

Our gift shop had brisk sales during the Christmas season. Despite inflation and increased delivery costs, we still managed to gain a reasonable profit.

Unfortunately, the New Year did not start out well. A leak occurred in the ceiling above the shop on January 4, forcing a closure to the shop until January 9. Fortunately, no merchandise was damaged, and the leak is hopefully repaired. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who helped with the cleanup and the reorganizing of the displays.



### Shoplifting

As with any retail business, there is always a concern regarding shoplifting. As a giftshop volunteer, please be vigilant when customers browse in our shop. Be cautious about customers toting big bags!

## Workroom Ladies

Our talented ladies continue to work hard at home and in the Volunteer Workroom every Tuesday, creating beautiful baby items for our shop. Thank you, ladies for your dedication. We are so fortunate to have you as part of our membership.

Here is one happy baby, enjoying his nap covered in one of the giftshop handmade blankets!



## New Supplier – Native Northwest

These lovely items are from a new-to-us company that focusses on products that are decorated by Indigenous artists. They will provide a splash of color to our shelves.



## New Baby Clothing Supplier Needed!!

Maggie, our gift shop manager, has been frustrated this past year with the unsuccessful search for a reliable supplier of baby clothing, especially onesies, mitts, and hats for preemies and newborns. If any member comes across baby merchandise when shopping, please check with the retailer to enquire about their wholesaler and pass the information along to Maggie.



## New Auxiliary Executives!



At our Annual General meeting in March, our new executive was voted in. We have some new faces which include our new Co-Presidents. They will make a great team leading our Auxiliary!

Presidents– Rose McDonald and Ranjot Kaur

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Gillian McWhinney

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Ryan Tandiana

Secretary – Marie Kerber

Treasurer – Janet Hutchinson

Past President – Janet Hutchinson

Thank you to these members who will continue with important roles in the operation of our gift shop:

Manager – Maggie Gardiner

Assistant Manager – Anna Mutadi

Gift Shop Treasurer – Marilyn Goodwin & Assistant Jo-Anne Murray

Scheduler – Judie Dreger & Assistant Pat Thomas

Confectionary Buyer – Margaret Cornies

Card Buyer – Carroll Daly

### **Important Dress Code Reminder**

As we approach summer and some potentially warm days, please be reminded that you are working in a hospital environment where safety and appropriate grooming are required. So, no open toed sandals or flipflops. No jeans with holes or rips. No short, shorts. No perfume or cologne. If you work in patient care areas of the hospital, there are further restrictions that are part of Fraser Health's Professional Image Policy that can be obtained from our Volunteer Management.

Here are two lovely newer members, Ranjot and Daman!

Warm welcome to our newest Volunteers and Volunteer members, Anveet Grewal, Alisha Thandi, Gunntaj Gill, Marika Ashmall and Harnoor Khun Khun.



### **Volunteer Week April 27 – May 3**

For the past week our volunteer management provided members with various acts of kindness, including a lunch, treats and kind messages. Volunteer



Manager, Julie and her staff Sally and Laurie ensured that all volunteer members are appreciated for the work they do in the hospital – supporting care for patients, assisting staff, and fundraising.



Our Historian/Scrapbook Convenor, Gail Bostrom, was front and center during Volunteer Week displaying our scrapbooks and history books to ensure the public is aware of the contribution the Auxiliary and Volunteers have made to their hospitals.

### **Spring Bake Sale – April 4**

Our Auxiliary held another successful bake sale. Gail Bostrom is our dedicated lead organizer of the bake sale. Her leadership and the contribution of delicious baked goods from our members, earned \$1,033. With the vendor sales added, the grand total for the day was \$1,185. Thank you to Gail, bakers and helpers!



### **Auxiliary Supported Purchases and Activities**

A Colposcope was recently purchased by our hospital, using funds that were submitted by our Auxiliary. It will be put to use for diagnosing abnormal tissue that lines the cervix and vagina allowing for early treatment.

The Puppy Love Program will continue to be supported by our Auxiliary after a positive email vote in December. The program is funded by the sale of used books from the cart that sits outside our giftshop. The next Puppy Love event is on May 22 from 1:15 to 3:30 in the ACE unit. If you are free to help, please contact Laurie in the Volunteer Office.



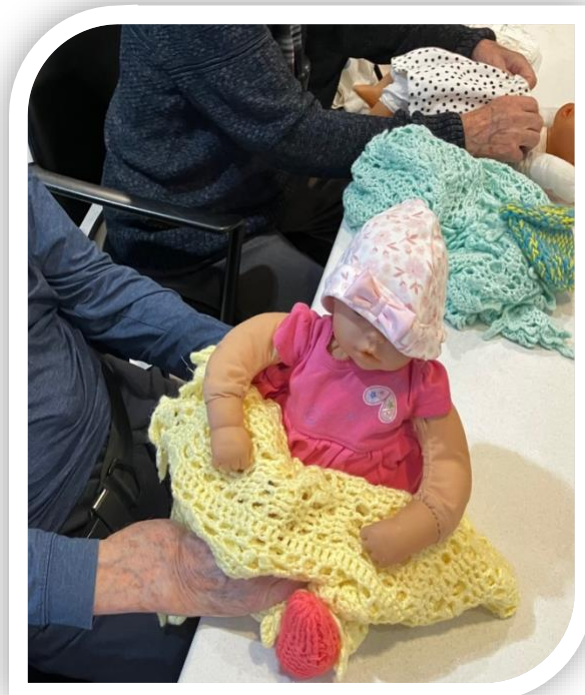


A Wellness Lounge on Baker 2 requires \$10,000 to \$12,000 of furniture and accessories to establish a visitor friendly area for patients and visitors to meet. More information will follow soon to help members decide if this is something we would like to support.

**Help Wanted!** The Forensic Nursing/Resource Depot needs a Convenor and Co-convenor to ensure that supplies of clothing and other essentials are available to patients in need. Our auxiliary funds and purchases the supplies as required. Please reach out to one of our new Co-Presidents for more information if you are interested.

### **Cottage Worthington**

Some of our dedicated auxiliary members are often attending social events that take place at this extended care pavilion. As you can see from the photos, the residents truly enjoy these festive events and fun games such as dressing a baby doll.





### Multi-tasking Caroll

As with many of our members who volunteer in a variety of capacities, here is Caroll contributing her talents by providing happy music in our hospital lobby after her shift in the Gift Shop. Thank you Caroll!



### June Year End Dinner – June 16



Our annual year end dinner will take place on Monday, June 17 at 6pm. This will be a special evening with a complimentary dinner, the installation of our new executive and the distribution of pins for years of service.

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend to enjoy the fellowship of your colleagues and to honor your fellow Auxilians.

### Upcoming Events

May 10	Auxiliary Day
June 16	Puppy Love
April 19, 2026	BCAHA Provincial Conference in Vernon
June 16	Year End dinner 6PM

### Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation Events

May 11	Fun for Mom
June 8	Draw for 2005 Mini Convertible
June 15	Big Spring 50/50 Draw
September 9	Golf Fore Your Hospitals

