



Olds and District
**HOSPICE
SOCIETY**



Hospice Happenings

July 2014

The Olds & District Hospice Society is excited to offer this monthly segment in our local newspaper to increase awareness and education of hospice palliative care in our communities.

It was started to provide support in the end of life journey for residents of the Mountain View County area.

Going into its 7th year, the vision and mission of the Olds & District Hospice Society (O&DHS) has not changed. While the ultimate goal was to have had a 4 to 6-bed residence hospice, we have come to realize that improving hospice palliative care in our area means more than building a specialized facility. Good hospice palliative care is “bigger than a building” and some major gaps in end-of-life care are being addressed with extremely positive results.

In the last year, O&DHS has worked toward the development of an innovative pilot project for rural hospice palliative care in Alberta. The proposal is called “**A Rural Hospice Solution**” and entails partnering with existing private and public health care stakeholders allowing O&DHS to lease two private suites in the new Sunrise Encore facility in Olds, Alberta.

Slated to open in the Fall of 2014 this partnership enables O&DHS to utilize services in an existing facility - staff, security, grounds keeping, insurance, laundry, food services, purchasing, etc. - rather than duplicating them in a free-standing hospice facility. The hospice society will continue to supply a team of trained local palliative care volunteers and a solid community connection both in and outside of the facility.

Clients facing end of life who use the hospice suites will receive the same support they would have had in their own homes, such as Home Care. For those who choose not to, or for some reason cannot, stay in their own homes, the hospice suites will be a valuable option. The end-of-life journey can be in a home-like environment with consistent support. That support extends to the caregivers, friends and family of clients.

We are delighted to offer this new opportunity to share information with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Olds & District Hospice Society
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