



Olds and District  
**HOSPICE  
SOCIETY**

## **Hospice Happenings March 2015 Spring arrives!!**

**The sole purpose of this column is our commitment to community to share information and keep you informed!  
Olds & District Hospice Society.**

### **WE HAVE BEGUN!**

The dream of many of us over the last 7 ½ years to offer hospice palliative care support in a home-like setting, has become a reality.

After our grand opening at the end of January, and the collaboration of all those vested in hospice palliative care in our community, we were able to welcome our first client and family to the suites at Sunrise Encore. This is truly a milestone for Olds & District Hospice Society, but more importantly a great support for those facing end of life in our area.

While Olds & District Hospice Society is assuming responsibility for the suite rental, and have defined admission criteria, there is an admission process through Alberta Health Services. Please contact your local home care nurse for more information.

It is our hope that this pilot project, 'A Rural Hospice Solution', can help other rural communities in our province to offer another option for good hospice palliative care in their communities. So far we have supported 9 other communities in Alberta as they look to offer increased options for hospice palliative care.

We appreciate all the support and collaboration to achieve this milestone!!

### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP.**

*"I walked a mile with pleasure; She chattered all the way, But left me non the wiser, for all she had to say. I walked a mile with sorrow; and ne'er a word said she; But, oh, the things I learned from her, When Sorrow walked with me!"*

ROBERT BROWNING HAMILTON

Olds & District Hospice Society is pleased to offer group support to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. This is an 8 week commitment every Tuesday beginning April 7th from 7 to 9 pm. The facilitators ask to meet with you one on one at the end of March. For more information and registration please contact Debbie at 403-586-9992

### **DID YOU KNOW?.....COMPASSIONATE CARE LEAVE**

Another milestone achieved in Alberta has been the approval of Compassionate Care Leave effective Feb. 1, 2015

This allows caregivers up to 8 weeks of unpaid, protected leave from work to car for a gravely ill family member. Family Care giving is an invaluable support for all those facing end of life.

According to the Canadian Hospice palliative Care Fact Sheet current estimates for replacement costs for unpaid caregiving in Canada indicates a significant economic contribution by caregivers; estimates for care provided in 2009 range between 25-26 billion dollars"

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 21/15 @ 6:30 pm at the Olds Legion

**Art Battle.** This is an amazing evening where artistic talent flies in competitive painting! Olds & District Hospice Society is excited to be invited to be a part of this exciting evening. For more information and tickets please contact us. 403-586-9992