

Resounding Generosity

\$1M legacy donation from Olga Yakimovich

Victoria Hospice is pleased to announce a \$1M donation from the estate of Olga Yakimovich, a leader in the local construction industry and a beloved mother and grandmother.

Among the three largest gifts received in the organization's history, this donation ensures Victoria Hospice can provide compassionate end-of life care to many people when they need it most.

Olga designated the gift in her will before she died in February 2020 at the age of 95.

"This gift speaks to Olga's deep generosity and tremendous foresight," Kevin Harter, Victoria Hospice CEO says. "The many ways she contributed to the community over the years and her commitment to improving conditions for people at the end of life and the elderly was absolutely wonderful. We are so grateful to her and the entire Yakimovich family."

A successful entrepreneur, Olga was as respected for her business acumen as she was for her kind-hearted generosity – she always gave back to the community that supported her. The Yakimovich family has helped shape Victoria's landscape over recent decades, constructing apartment buildings around the city that many local people call home.

"I marvel at my mother's history," says Olga's son Ernie Yakimovich. "As a child in her native Ukraine, her two sisters died during a pandemic. Mom then immigrated with her parents to The Pas Manitoba and that's where she met and married Dad before settling in Victoria," "For immigrants, they accomplished so much, bringing up a family and creating a building empire. Through hard work and without asking for any special assistance, Mother was a dominant woman pioneer in the Victoria construction scene. I look at her accomplishments with great pride that both Mom and Dad have been an inspiration to me as well as others."

When her husband George died in 1997, the bereavement support Olga received from Victoria Hospice inspired her to give back.

"Mother was able to connect with others in similar circumstance through her association with hospice. These outings were a great comfort to her and reinforce the value of hospice," Ernie says.

This is a very special legacy donation, Victoria Hospice Planned and Legacy Giving Officer Shelley Engelhardt says. "The richness of Olga's life is evident in the successful business she built, the myriad ways she gave back, and the large and loving family she



George
and Olga
Yakimovich

left behind, including five great-great-grandchildren."

Victoria Hospice is so grateful to be the beneficiary of her generous legacy gift on behalf of people facing end-of-life. It will carry her compassion forward by providing comfort and care to hospice patients and families in the very community her family helped build. Our deep appreciation goes to Olga and the Yakimovich family for their kindness, foresight, and generosity.

Victoria Hospice celebrates every legacy gift with gratitude. To find out how you can create your own legacy of compassion in support of hospice care, please visit victoriahospice.org/leavealegacy

No Matter How Old

Grief support for children and youth

If you are old enough to love, you are old enough to grieve. But no one, including children and youth, should have to grieve alone.

On November 18, National Children's Grief Awareness Day gave Victoria Hospice an opportunity to talk about how we recognize the unique ways young people experience grief and loss.

"We want the community to know although the experience of children and youth can be different from adults', they grieve. We're here to ensure children and youth are not alone in their experience," says Allyson Whiteman, Child & Youth Counsellor.

Support is available at Victoria Hospice for children and teens who are grieving, whether someone in their family is ill or dying, or they are experiencing bereavement. In addition to free counselling, the Child and Youth Counsellor provides a wealth of resources for parents,

families, and people who support a child or youth in grief.

We're here to ensure children and youth are not alone in their experience

A three-part podcast, video, booklet, and resource list provides parents and professionals with practical ways to support children and youth at every age and developmental stage.

Children and adults' response to death and loss differs in a number of ways, says Whiteman. Children communicate through behaviours, and their grief can be sporadic. "Teens can typically language their feelings better than children, but they're also going through big developmental changes, and that's taking up a huge amount of their time and energy," she says.

Whiteman also points to the losses that children, teens, and families have experienced during the pandemic. Some of those losses are not death related. But they are losses, nonetheless.

"For the past 20 months, our kids have experienced other large losses, such as contact with friends and school contacts," she says. "For those who have experienced the death of someone they



Access to bereavement services at Victoria Hospice is open to everyone, thanks to our generous donors.

have also had to experience waiting for a celebration of life, memorial, or funeral to happen, and that has been difficult for children and youth."

Thanks to the support of our donors, Victoria Hospice offers compassionate support through a range of services including volunteer calls, professional counselling, bereavement support groups, memorial events, and information about grief for adults, children, and youth. Services are currently available over the phone and online.

Access to bereavement services at Victoria Hospice is open to everyone. No prior connection to hospice or referral is required. Contact us at **bereavement@victoriahospice.org** or **250-519-3040**.





2020-21 Annual Report

Victoria Hospice is proud to release our 2020-21

hardships, our care team continues to care for patients and families with resilience, grace, and an enduring commitment to excellence in palliative and end-of-life care.

To learn more about the valuable work of our team and the impact of your donations over the last year, you can read our 2020-21 Annual Report on our website at victoriahospice.org. For a printed copy, contact our office at **250-519-1744**.

Annual Report, which highlights the many achievements made possible with the support of our generous community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for health care workers worldwide. Despite the many

Gifts of Gratitude

Honouring loved ones, ensuring future care



One Step Closer... to a potential new site for Victoria Hospice

An agreement between Greater Victoria School District (GVSD) and Victoria Hospice brings the possibility for a new home for Victoria Hospice one step closer.

The GVSD has agreed to sell 1.9 acres of land south of Lansdowne Middle School to Victoria Hospice for \$2.5M, subject to approval from the B.C. Ministry of Education and three readings of a disposal bylaw by the Greater Victoria School Board.

The triangular-shaped property is adjacent to the south campus of Lansdowne Middle School, formerly Richmond Elementary School, which retains 6.1 acres of the site.

If approved, the proposed site will be a new site for Victoria Hospice, with space for expanded services including grief support, community education, and practical programs for people on their end-of-life journey – from people diagnosed with a life-limiting illness to people who are bereaved.

“This special property bordering

Bowker Creek just six blocks from the Royal Jubilee Hospital offers so much possibility,” says Victoria Hospice Board Chair Paul Pallan. “The surrounding trees, sights and sounds of the creek, and vibrant neighbourhood community really connects to our vision for compassionate end-of-life care for all.”

If approved by the Ministry of Education and the GVSD Board, the Victoria Hospice Society will engage the land-use approval and corresponding public engagement processes required by the District of Saanich to advance plans for the property.

“The demand for end-of-life care programs and services is growing,” says Kevin Harter, CEO. “We identified a new home for Victoria Hospice as



a key goal in our Five-year Strategic Framework, Growing our Circle of Care. This agreement with SD61 is an important step in realizing our goal of continuing to meet the needs of our community.”

Compassionate end-of-life care is made possible thanks to our community’s longstanding involvement, investment, and engagement. Victoria Hospice extends sincere thanks to our generous and loyal donors, and we look forward to working together to shape the future of hospice care.

When Elan’s mom, Susan, was diagnosed with an advanced form of cancer, it came as a huge shock to the whole family. Susan had just retired and looked forward to spending time with her grandkids and building her dream home on Gabriola Island. Sadly, her health declined quickly. Elan cared for her mother at home for as long as she could. “When we arrived at Hospice, I felt a tremendous sense of relief and peace,” says Elan. “The staff and volunteers cared for my mom with the utmost respect and dignity. From calling her by name to the handmade quilt on her bed, they truly

understood how much the little things meant. They cared for me, too. I was finally able to let go of being a caregiver and focus on being a daughter again.” Elan’s wish is for all families to have access to this vital support when the time comes. That’s why she became a Victoria Hospice donor and joined this fall’s **Gifts of Gratitude** campaign. “With each gift, I am honouring my mom and ensuring the same compassionate care we received will be available for other families when they need it most.” Our care team is grateful for the

incredible support from the community. “As a nurse at Victoria Hospice, I see how your donations help families like Elan’s every single day,” says Teresa McFadyen, Victoria Hospice LPN. “It’s an honour and privilege to walk alongside patients and their loved ones on their end-of-life journeys. This deeply rewarding work is made possible by donors like you and for that I am so thankful.” Join Elan in our **Gifts of Gratitude** campaign to help families find peace and comfort at Victoria Hospice. Donate today at victoriahospice.org/gratitude

FIVE GREAT REASONS TO MAKE OR UPDATE YOUR WILL TODAY

1. Show you care Lessen the stress loved ones may carry during their time of grief.	2. Clarify wishes Identify who you trust to handle your estate and ensure it is managed as you intend.	3. Save money Minimize tax and fees and avoid costly legal representation to settle your estate.	4. Leave a legacy Celebrate your life and extend compassionate support for causes you care about.	5. Be prepared Have peace of mind that you have provided for your loved ones and ensured your legacy.
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LEGACY GIVING MAKES UP 15-20% OF VICTORIA HOSPICE’S ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET.

A gift in your will is an extraordinary way to support end-of-life care in our community. The impact of this foresight and generosity is truly astounding.

Curious about how to include a legacy gift in your estate plans? Contact us at legacy@victoriahospice.org or 250-519-1744. Visit victoriahospice.org/leavealegacy to learn more.



Your Donation Makes a Difference

☐ **YES!** I will join the Hospice Hearts Monthly Giving Club!

My **monthly donation** will be: ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other

☐ My **one-time donation** will be: ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other

Name
Address
City/Province
Postal Code
Phone
Email

Credit card type: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx
Card #
Expiry date: __ __ / __ __
My donation is in memory of
Please send an acknowledgement letter to
Name
Address
City/Province
Postal Code

☐ Please send me Victoria Hospice Connections e-newsletters.
☐ I have included Victoria Hospice in my will.
☐ I would like to find out more about including Victoria Hospice in my will.
☐ I wish to remain anonymous.

Celebrate a Life

— BY DEDICATING A STAR —

In Memory of

Celebrate a Life

The holiday season is a time for sharing memories of family and friends who are no longer with us.

Join us in celebrating a life.

★ DEDICATE A STAR ★

to remember your loved one, online:
victoriahospice.org/celebrate

★ REQUEST A STAR ★

be mailed to you.
Give us a call at
250-519-1744.

★ CUT OUT THE STAR ★

and fill in the name of your loved one.
Return it to Victoria Hospice in the prepaid envelope to be hung on our tree, or **keep it** to hang at home.

★ HANG A STAR ★

on the Hospice Tree at our Community Support Centre and/or make a donation in memory of your loved one.
Dec. 6-10, 9am-5pm
Dec. 11 & 12, 10am-2pm
102-4450 Chatterton Way

Celebrating Tyler

"Tyler taught us what it meant to show up. He never let cancer dictate how he was going to live. Tyler was in charge of his life, and he made it clear that he was going to continue doing what he enjoyed most with the people who were important to him until the very end. He held everyone else up with his positive outlook and superman-like strength and bravery. Ty was our hero and we are holding his lessons close as we enter the holiday season."

Anna Wormell, Tyler's mother

Read Anna's full story and others at victoriahospice.org/celebrate



Grief and the Holidays

The holidays can be the most difficult time of the year for many. Memories of celebrations with loved ones who are no longer here can magnify feelings of loss, and you may feel unsure about how—or even if—to celebrate this year.

Find our tips for coping with the holidays when you are grieving at victoriahospice.org/celebrate or call Bereavement Services at **250-519-3040.**

Our grief support and programs are open to everyone and most are free of charge thanks to generous donor support.

Hike for Hospice knocks it out of the park!

Committed teams of hikers and walkers went the distance to raise more than \$41,000 at this year's Hike for Hospice.

The September 15-29 event included a Tree of Remembrance at the Victoria Hospice Community Support Centre decorated with leaves in memory of loved ones, and a 50/50 raffle presented by Bayshore Home Health. The raffle raised more than \$20k with Joan

Obee taking home half! Congratulations, Joan! Thank you to everyone for your generosity and spirit! Special thanks to this year's sponsors, including Heart Pharmacy IDA, First Memorial Funeral Services, Comfort Keepers, Bayshore Home Health, KPMG, Used.ca, CTV Vancouver Island, CFAX1070, Virgin Radio 107.3, Hotel Grand Pacific, and Pets West.



Compassionate care at Victoria Hospice is made possible through the generosity of our community. The individuals listed below have been remembered by friends and loved ones with gifts to Victoria Hospice, **In Memory** and **In Honour**, between July 6 and November 4 2021. These meaningful gifts honour precious lives and help to enhance quality of life for other patients and families in need.

IN MEMORY

Gisela E. Adrian ♦ Margaret E. Alexander ♦ Elgin G. Ambrose ♦ Alice Anderson ♦ Iris Anthony ♦ Myrtle E. Ashwin ♦ Penny Authier ♦ Irene Baines ♦ Jeannette Ballard ♦ Grace Barlow ♦ Herta Barolewen ♦ Pamela Barry ♦ Alex Beattie ♦ Bonnie Bell ♦ Fred Benesck ♦ Janet Benning ♦ Gwen Bentley ♦ Joan I. Bertrand ♦ Patricia L. Bings ♦ Peter Boldt ♦ Marie Boudreau ♦ Peter Bousfield ♦ Hazel Brooks ♦ Beverley Brown ♦ Arthur R. Bryant ♦ Bob Buckingham ♦ Craig Butler ♦ Robert Cameron ♦ Iren Cameron ♦ Johnathon Cameron ♦ Margaret E. Campbell ♦ Pam Campbell ♦ William Campbell ♦ Cecilia Carawan ♦ Ann Chaland ♦ Robert Chaland ♦ Les Chan ♦ Juliana Chupick ♦ David R. Coell ♦ Barbara J. Coffey ♦ Keri L. Coles ♦ Gerri Cosgrove ♦ Eleanor Crosby ♦ Wanda Dalzell ♦ Mavis DeGirolamo ♦ Dominic DeMeo ♦ Betty Denning ♦ Bert Denning ♦ Anne Douglas ♦ Veronica Druce ♦ Lester Duckett ♦ Agnes Dudek ♦ Stewart W. A. Duncan ♦ Sandra Dyck ♦ Shirley Dyson ♦ Marge Elphick ♦ Eileen Elson ♦ Donald P. Evans ♦ Timothy Faunt ♦ Dennis Ferrill ♦ Dianne Fox ♦ Larry Friedlander ♦ Susan Fritz ♦ Charlotte Funston ♦ Don Gard ♦ Sheila Gaunt ♦ Alvarina Gonzalez ♦ Shirley Goodwin ♦ Marguerite Green ♦ M. Gropp ♦ Robert Guskey ♦ Elizabeth Haggins ♦ Susan J. Hall-Patch ♦ Jim Hannah ♦ Bunny Hawkes ♦ Garry Hayes ♦ William Hil ♦ Patrick Hirst ♦ Sandra Hjorth ♦ Richard Hobbs ♦ Sylvia Holm ♦ Claire L. Holmes ♦ Carolyn Holroyd ♦ Donna Hooper ♦ Lesley Hulme ♦ Teresa Humphries ♦ Joyce Hussen ♦ Don Irish ♦ Mary Irish ♦ Paul Jeffery ♦ Alan A. Jones ♦ Richard Jordan ♦ Donald Joyce ♦ Barbara Kemble ♦ Lis King ♦ Edward Knapp ♦ Ryan C. Krisher ♦ Sandra J. Kurvers ♦ Middleton Lambert ♦ Jeanne Lamon ♦ Shirley A. Lavoy ♦ Kenneth C. Lawrence ♦ William J. Lawson ♦ Lisa J. Layton ♦ Dolores Leavitt ♦ Kan Lee ♦ Bill Lester ♦ Edmond Letain ♦ Victoria Lindgren ♦ Joseph W. Lundquist ♦ Mike Macfarlane ♦ Ruth Mackie ♦ Alan Margison ♦ Robert Marks ♦ David Martin ♦ Dani Mashford ♦ Shirley Mawdsley ♦ Hazel McCudden ♦ Jim McKibbin ♦ Betty J. Miller ♦ Les J. Miller ♦ Ron Mitchell ♦ Tara Mogentale ♦ Molly Morgan ♦ Jean Mozley ♦ Maryann Muistolle ♦ Thomas Murray ♦ Stan Neal ♦ Eliane Nugent ♦ Helen J. Oldershaw ♦ Douglas A. Ottenbreit ♦ Gail Owens ♦ Mukand L. Pallan ♦ David Parry ♦ Patricia Parsons ♦ Evalyn Partridge ♦ Robert Paterson ♦ Rita J. Paulhus ♦ Paul Perry ♦ Kevin Peterson ♦ Sylvia B. Plumridge ♦ John Plumridge ♦ Gordon J. Pynn ♦ Donald A. Rahrack ♦ Olive Randall ♦ Elizabeth Rayner ♦ Candy Reed ♦ Doreen J. Renton ♦ Barbara Renton ♦ Lisa M. Richdale ♦ Ron Rickards ♦ Irene Roberts ♦ Graeme Roberts ♦ John Robertson ♦ David Rolfe ♦ Milforde Rose ♦ Shirley A. Ross ♦ Tara S. Ross ♦ Robert Rouse ♦ Margaret Rowe ♦ Glen Roy ♦ W. D. Sanders ♦ Gerald Sauder ♦ Denise Schauback ♦ Bob Searle ♦ Jon Sedlacek ♦ Paul Sekhon ♦ Keith O. Simonson ♦ Suzanne Skedgel-Hill ♦ William Snow ♦ Patricia Steele ♦ Sheryl Steeves ♦ Terry Stewart ♦ Cordelea Stokes ♦ Edna Szabados ♦ Harvey Taggart ♦ Marilyn Terrillon ♦ Sam Todd ♦ Eileen Ullathorne ♦ David Vaillancourt ♦ Edmond Vlaszaty ♦ David Walker ♦ Robert J. Waller ♦ Anita Walt ♦ Don Ward ♦ George Waugh ♦ Jean Waugh ♦ William J. West ♦ Maxwell White ♦ Gloria Whitehead ♦ Ron Williams ♦ Jessie L. Wilson ♦ Lewis K. Wilson ♦ David Winn ♦ Barbara Woodruff ♦ Valerie Wouters ♦ Jörg Wybranietz ♦ Wendy E. Wyles ♦ Laurie Young ♦ Bill Young

IN HONOUR

Frankie Elder ♦ Ted Morrison ♦ L. Woodburn

Victoria Hospice Vision

Quality palliative and end-of-life care for all

Victoria Hospice Mission

To enhance the quality of life for those facing life-limiting illness, death and bereavement, through patient and family centred care, education, research and advocacy

Victoria Hospice Society Board of Directors

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Wendy Hill, VICE CHAIR
Angus Izard, TREASURER

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transitions

THE NEWSLETTER OF

VICTORIA  HOSPICE

Would you like to share your Hospice story? We would love to hear from you.

Contact Raisa Frenette
Philanthropy Coordinator
at 250-519-1744 or
Raisa.Frenette@VictoriaHospice.org
Thank you.

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www.VictoriaHospice.org

Charitable Registration Number
11928 4230 RR0001

Victoria Hospice respects your privacy, and we do not sell, trade, lend or rent any of your personal information.