

ABOYNE RURAL HOSPICE UPDATE

DECEMBER 2023



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WWW.ABOYNERURALHOSPICE.ORG

ABOYNE RURAL HOSPICE

UPCOMING EVENT

Curl For A Cause in Support of Aboyne Rural Hospice – We are thrilled to announce our partnership with the Curl For A Cause team. They have run an extraordinarily successful and well-regarded curling event for the past 15 years, to the great benefit of many local charities and causes. We are honoured they have chosen to support the Hospice effort.

Date: March 23, 2024 at the Fergus Curling Club.



ABOYNE RURAL HOSPICE: OUR PAST AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Aboyne Rural Hospice Advisory Committee has had a busy summer and fall of 2023, with major strides made in the launch of our planning and fundraising efforts. We also held our first major event, the “Aboyne Rural Hospice Community Kick-Off”, serving as a showcase of our efforts.

OUR ACTIVITIES TO DATE:

- We achieved Charitable Status, meaning we can now accept donations! Our Canada Helps account has been activated: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/aboyne-rural-hospice/>
- Our new website has launched: www.aboyneruralhospice.org. Information including our vision for the hospice, our Board of Directors, and How to Support the hospice are now available in our new digital home.
- We continue to work with Wellington County to assess the possibilities and design considerations of the site they donated. Robert Turner and his team at Fryett Turner Architects Inc. are shaping the vision for our hospice design, guided by our consultation with other experienced hospices and the Hospice Palliative Care Ontario Design Build group.
- The plan for ten hospice beds to serve our community continues to shape our plans for the size of building and staffing considerations. Each resident room is designed in the style of a suite, with an ensuite bathroom and sleeping space for family members and caregivers.
- We have been generously asked to partner with the well-loved community event, Curl For A Cause, now in support of Aboyne Rural Hospice (see sidebar left). Please reach out if you’d like to donate, volunteer or curl!

NEXT STEPS INCLUDE:

- Our Fundraising Campaign has officially begun, and we seek Founding Donors to fund our Capital Campaign. We are grateful to have received several generous pledges, as well as donations from across the community in support of the hospice and in memoriam of many beloved community members.
- We must raise \$2.5 million in order to apply for Ministry of Health approval for our project. These funds are proof of viability to receive matching funds from the Ministry, under the Hospice Capital Program. We require Ministry approval to proceed with a hospice, and meetings with Ministry representatives suggest we are in a favourable position for approval based on our geography, population needs, and project specifications.
- Our Business Plan is being developed with tremendous effort by our Advisory Committee and multiple subcommittees, including Clinical Operations, Building and Volunteer committees.
- We are connecting with North Wellington residents, to ensure our vision of Hospice is shaped by their knowledge and experience, to best serve all members of Wellington County.



Sept 15th Community Kick-Off attendees



Cheque Presentation from Rotary Club of Fergus-Elora

SEPT 15 COMMUNITY KICK-OFF EVENT A SUCCESS!

We were thrilled to have generous support from so many local businesses, an incredible team of volunteers, and overwhelming community participation for our first Aboyne Rural Hospice Event. Under the beautiful event tent donated by Wellington County, we enjoyed plentiful food from Fergies Fine Food, Le Chien Chaud and many others, and the musical entertainment of Jiggity James, Kelsey Walker and Adrian Jones. Over 500 community members came to hear our vision for the Aboyne Rural Hospice, words of support from local leaders, and see concept renderings of the future hospice building. More event pictures and a complete listing of our generous donors can be found on our website.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: THE ROTARY CLUB OF FERGUS-ELORA

The Rotary Club of Fergus-Elora’s history begins in 1965, when the idea was first proposed to establish a Rotary club in Fergus. The Charter Executive held their first meeting in March of 1966, and their name was officially changed to Rotary Club of Fergus-Elora in 1979. Their motto of ‘service above self’ has been reflected in the incredible work they have done to support countless local causes, including Kids Ability and Groves Memorial Hospital. Rotary is also committed to eradicate Polio worldwide. Since the mid 60's, Polio cases have been reduced from approximately 250,000 cases down to a handful of cases per year through Rotary's financial support to vaccinate children against Polio throughout the world.

Over four years ago, the Rotary Club of Fergus-Elora met with Dr. Alan Simpson and Dr. Sarah Gower, the Co-Chairs of our hospice team. On that day, the Rotary Club became one of our first major supporters of our goal to bring a new hospice to Wellington County, and the Hospice remained a priority through the difficult years of the pandemic. Their pledge of \$500,000 over the next ten years is yet another testament to their commitment to our community and their strength as a service organization.

Talk at St John’s Men’s Night

On November 1st 2023, Dr. Alan Simpson and Dr. Sarah Gower had the pleasure of speaking to the St John’s Elora monthly Men’s Night group about the Aboyne Rural Hospice’s background, current and future plans. It was very well attended with nearly fifty people present, and a lively discussion ensued with many interesting questions and suggestions. Thank you for being such wonderful hosts!

If you’re interested in having our hospice come and speak to your group, please contact us at aboynerruralhospice@gmail.com.

OUR GOAL IS TO BRING END -OF-LIFE CARE CLOSER TO HOME. CURRENTLY, RURAL FAMILIES MUST TRAVEL TO GUELPH OR WATERLOO TO RECEIVE HOSPICE CARE. THIS DISTANCE CAN BE A BARRIER TO CARE & FAMILY SUPPORT, ESPECIALLY IN BAD WEATHER OR FOR PEOPLE WITH NO TRANSPORTATION.

(from our website: aboynerruralhospice.org)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT IS CRUCIAL TO BRING THE ABOYNE RURAL HOSPICE INTO REALITY



Ways To Support Us:

For donations under \$500 or transfer of securities, you can now donate through Canada Helps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/aboyne-rural-hospice>. You can also e-transfer your gift to aboyneruralhospice@gmail.com and add your contact information in the “notes” section to receive a tax receipt or attach a copy of our Donor Form (available through our website). We are happy to accept gifts on behalf of loved ones or special events and will notify the acknowledgement recipient at your request. You can also mail cheques to Aboyne Rural Hospice, PO Box 3004, Elora ON N0B 1S0 – don’t forget to include your contact information!

For donations of \$5000 or more, please contact us at aboyneruralhospice@gmail.com to request information about our Founding Donor program and Naming Opportunities.

Pledges are gratefully accepted and recognized by the Ministry as “counting” towards our fundraising goals. Please contact us at aboyneruralhospice@gmail.com and we will provide you with a form.

For in-kind donations or planned giving, please email us at aboyneruralhospice@gmail.com and a representative will contact you.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST!

For further information, please email our team at aboyneruralhospice@gmail.com

Follow us on Social Media for news and updates!

Aboyne Rural Hospice Advisory Committee:

Dr. Sarah Gower, Dr. Alan Simpson, Hilary Blackett, Dr. Clarissa Burke, Andrea Hall, Angela Hammond, Shelley Lillie, Dr. Chris Lund, Ian MacRae, Cory McKay, Jeff Ostic, Carolyn Skimson and Robert Turner



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