

## 2013/14 Upcoming Events:

FREE Planned Giving Seminar **Oct 1**



Handbags for Hospice **Jan 24**  
*brought to us by Toyota*



Hike for Hospice **May 4**  
*brought to us by Toyota*



The Healing Cycle **June 22**



VON Oxford 100th Annual General Meeting **June 24**

For more information on all our events, including sponsorship opportunities, or how to host your own event to benefit Sakura House, visit [www.vonoxford.com](http://www.vonoxford.com) or contact Kyra McNamara at 519-539-1231

## Special Meeting for Lion and Guide Dog

Adapted from Sentinel Review article (Aug 17, 2012)

Bob Davis was an active member of the Tillsonburg Lions Club for 23 years. For about the last 7 years of that time, he started a fundraiser collecting pennies to sponsor Dog Guides. *(The Dog Guides program is operated by the Lions Foundation of Canada and all Lions clubs have a long history of supporting this worthwhile cause.)*

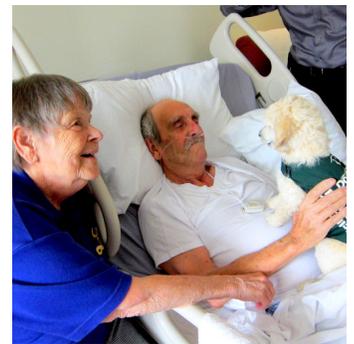
Because it costs approximately \$20,000 to provide each Dog Guide to an eligible Canadian, the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides organization seeks sponsors for each Dog Guide team to offset part of this cost. Sponsorship ranges from

\$4,000-\$12,000 depending on the type of Dog Guide dog being trained.

Through Bob's fundraising efforts, the Tillsonburg Lions club has been able to sponsor four Dog Guides. And although Bob was a patient at Sakura House last year, he and his wife, Marilyn and their fellow Lions met the fourth Dog Guide that his fundraising initiative has enabled him to sponsor – an eight-week-old standard poodle named Gerry.

Puppy trainer Merilyn Lethbridge from Dog Guides Canada brought the puppy to

meet Bob at Sakura House. It was heart-warming for all involved to have Bob meet the fourth Dog Guide he has sponsored – and based on the amount of puppy kisses he gave, Gerry obviously enjoyed meeting Bob.



Bob and Marilyn Davis meeting Dog Guide in Training, Gerry, at Sakura House.

## Care at Sakura House is provided FREE of charge



Number of patients Sakura House hospice can serve annually



Average number of days a patient resides at Sakura House



Number of residential hospices serving all Ontario (Pop. 13,505,900)



Cost savings to care for patient in hospice over hospital

## Smile Cookies for Sakura House

The six Woodstock Tim Hortons locations have been supporting Sakura House with their smiles for 5 years now. Smile Cookies, that is! These fun cookies are available for a very limited time, once a year, in October.

The three owners of our Woodstock Tim Hortons locations – Leslie Farrell, Jason Paquette, and Eileen Seabrook – unanimously

agreed on Sakura House to receive the smiley proceeds. To date, all the funds raised and donated from the sale of the \$1 cookies total over \$69,000!

"I think it's because every owner in Woodstock realizes how lucky we are to have something like this facility," says Paquette of Tim Hortons' continued support of Sakura House.



Sakura House volunteer, Janet Willmore (left) with Tim Hortons owner and VON Oxford Community Corp. Board Director, Leslie Farrell (right).



Hospice care involves not only ensuring the comfort and dignity of our patients, but it also includes addressing the needs of their loved ones who travel the end-of-life journey alongside them. After family and close friends have said goodbye to their loved one, they need to grieve. Grief is a necessary part of the natural healing process and it can often be more manageable with the help of Bereavement Support.

Sakura House offers Individual or Group grief support at no cost, facilitated by specially trained volunteers. VON volunteers are compassionate people who have chosen to participate as team members along with caregivers and healthcare providers. Volunteers are trained in the Fundamentals of Hospice Palliative Care, as well as Facilitation of Bereavement Support and receive ongoing professional education, guidance and support.

**VON Caring Circle – Group Grief Support:** This is an open-ended group, offered 2 times a month. Participants can come as frequently or occasionally as they need.

**One-on-One – Individual Support:** Grief is as unique as the person experiencing it. One-on-one grief support sessions are assessed and scheduled on an individual basis and are directed according to the needs of the bereaved.

For further information about the VON Oxford Bereavement Support services, please call (519) 537-8515 and speak with the Coordinator of Hospice and Volunteer services.

## Donor Dollars at Work

VON Sakura House residential hospice provides exceptional end-of-life care to our patients— supporting their physical, mental, emotional, & spiritual needs, as well as offering support to their families. This kind of compassionate care is made possible by the heartfelt donations from our supporters.

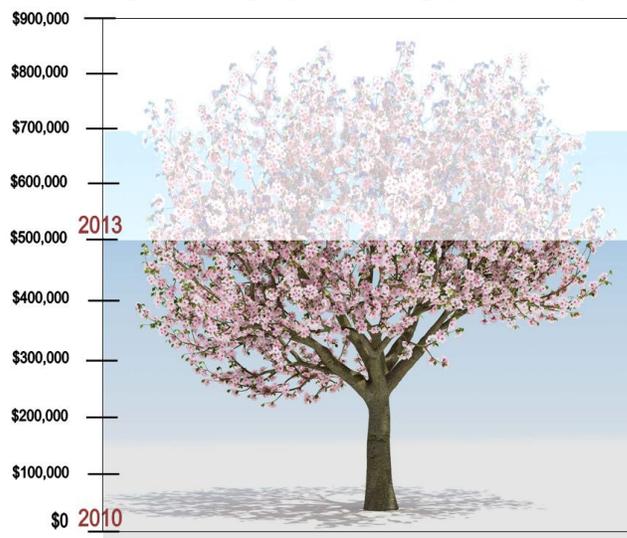
Sakura House currently fundraises for an Annual Campaign (the day-to-day operational & patient care costs), as well as a Capital Campaign (see image, right). To meet our hospice’s needs for both campaigns, **\$433,046 must be fundraised annually.**

Funds are raised in many ways, including signature events like Handbags and Hike for Hospice; in-memoriam, celebratory, & legacy donations; major gifts; community planned events; and more. The inspiring news is: thanks to our amazing community of donors, we have been able to meet this goal every year!

What you may find even more amazing is that **94% of the donations that help us achieve this goal each year are gifts of \$100 or under.** For anyone who has ever wondered, ‘did my donation really make a difference?’ – Yes! EVERY donation counts, every donor matters, and every dollar makes a difference.

For more information on Sakura House’s fundraising initiatives, please call the Fund Development office at (519) 539-1231.

Capital Campaign Loan Repayment Progress



**Q: What is the ‘Capital Campaign’?**

**A: The Capital Campaign is the fundraising initiative that covers the design and construction cost of converting a house into our 10-bed residential hospice. Although the doors of Sakura House have been open since 2009, our Capital Campaign continues as we work toward retiring the balance remaining on our loan\*.**

*\*In 2010, the County of Oxford assumed the \$900,000 balance of the Capital Campaign through a loan agreement with VON Oxford. We are proud to say we have made accelerated repayments on the loan every year thanks to the generous support of our donors.*