



"Your Home Away From Home"

November 28, 2022

P.O. Box 125 Kentville, Nova Scotia. B4N 3W4 • Phone: 902-679-6567

Alain Muise
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of Argyle
5 Rue JF Hatfield Court
Tusket, NS B0W 3M0

Dear Mr. Muise,

Situated on the grounds of the Valley Regional Hospital in Kentville, Fidelis House has been offering a welcoming 'home away from home' for patients and their guests since 1992. We are a small, fairly low-profile organization with a big reach. Staffed around the clock by dedicated volunteers, and funded exclusively through donations, guests are only asked to contribute \$25 a night towards their stay. Our guest population consists primarily of senior citizens and those living in rural areas – and our services help them comfortably access medical care while keeping community connections strong. Last year alone, our guest nights totalled 3,443.

Fidelis House is now embarking on a new role, and with that, needs new support. We are now playing a vital role in keeping medical services accessible in Western Nova Scotia, providing that same 'home-away-from-home' for visiting physicians and medical staff. "Before Covid-19, we were at capacity and often had to put people on a waiting list — in some cases, we could not accommodate them. Since Covid-19, the backlog of patients and the need for rooms for traveling physicians and nurses has made it necessary for us to expand," explains Ralph Comeau, President, Fidelis House Board of Directors. "We'd like to shape our services to help both patients and medical staff."

"All regional hospitals in the province are looking for emergency physician coverage," says Dr. Ahmad Ahmad, Emergency Physician at Valley Regional Hospital and a regular guest at Fidelis House. "Fidelis House makes Valley Regional Hospital the most convenient hospital for me. It provides me with a reliable, accessible place to stay between my shifts." With the increase in demand, Fidelis House needs help to expand. More than 25% of the guests now using Fidelis House are visiting medical staff servicing the Valley Regional Hospital. The twelve rooms currently available are no longer sufficient. The addition of four new rooms, each with a private bathroom and shower, will allow the organization to continue meeting this new need and better service our disabled guests. With the total cost of the addition topping \$600,000, Fidelis House has \$300,000 left to fundraise.

Will you help support us in meeting this new goal? As a registered not-for-profit organization, Fidelis House relies on the generosity of individuals, community groups, and local businesses to provide guests with an affordable place to stay.

Please feel free to get in touch with any questions or to learn more about how you can help us be a part of keeping families and friends close when it matters the most – and keeping medical care in the Annapolis Valley accessible to all. You can read more about the Fidelis House story at our website: www.fidelishouse.ca.

Thank you for all you do to support our community!

Ralph Comeau, Fidelis House Board of Directors

Lodging GUEST-NIGHTS by County

3225 TOTAL NUMBER OF GUEST NIGHTS from **2022-01-01** to **2022-11-26**

