

Yarmouth County Hospice Society

Presentation to Municipality of Argyle

April 13, 2023

Palliative Care vs Hospice care

- ▶ Palliative Care starts when a patient is diagnosed with a terminal illness.
 - ▶ aims to improve patient quality of life during treatment for the underlying condition by addressing issues such as fatigue, weakness, anxiety or depression.
- ▶ Hospice Care refers to end-of-life care.
 - ▶ commences in-hospital or at-home when there is no hope of patient recovery, and end of life is imminent.

What does the Society do?

- ▶ Support organizations that provide palliative, and dignified end-of-life care services:
 - ▶ Nova Scotia Health,
 - ▶ Yarmouth Hospital Foundation,
 - ▶ Victoria Order of Nurses.
- ▶ Hospice rooms supplement the NSH mandate
 - unique space environment where people can end life with dignity and comfort
 - provides families with a more peaceful and less stressful experience.

Society History

- ▶ Established as a Charitable Society in 2004
- ▶ Evaluated Hospice Options
 - ▶ Free standing building
 - ▶ Located within Existing Nursing Home
 - ▶ Located within the Yarmouth Regional Hospital
- ▶ July 2019
 - ▶ Approval granted by HSH to locate 7 hospice rooms within 4N
- ▶ Jan 2021
 - ▶ Hospice rooms placed in service
- ▶ Society has funded ~ \$145,000 in total

In 4N - Palliative Care Unit at YRH

- Secured/furnished seven hospice rooms on 4N:
 - ▶ One Cuddle bed.
 - ▶ Folding beds for family support members.
 - ▶ SMART TVs.
 - ▶ Blinds.
 - ▶ Quilts.
 - ▶ Lamps.
- Secured/furnished family room on 4N.
 - ▶ Furniture.
 - ▶ Service Cart, coffee machine, kettle, water pitchers, coffee mugs.
 - ▶ Mini Fridge.

VON Support

- Purchased 42 Oximeters.
- Purchased 10 pain pump pouches
- Purchased a mattress for a stretcher for the Yarmouth Office.

Current Municipal Requests

- ▶ Mun of Clare - \$1,530 to fund 5 pain pump pouches
- ▶ Mun of Barrington - \$ 1,530 to fund 5 pain pump pouches

- ▶ Fund a \$21,000 cuddle bed
 - ▶ Mun of Argyle - \$5,000
 - ▶ Mun of Yarmouth - \$5,000
 - ▶ Town of Yarmouth - \$5,000
 - ▶ Society - \$6,000



Future of Hospice Care in the Tri-Counties

- ▶ Discussions are being initiated with NS Health to discuss future needs