



# HAUSPOST

## German-Canadian Benevolent Society of B.C.

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June 2016

All members are cordially invited to our  
**51st Annual General Meeting**

**Monday, June 20, 2016**

5:30 pm: BBQ with sausages and German music

6:30 pm: AGM

in the Atrium

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The 51st Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, June 20, 2016 at the Care Home with presentations of annual reports and elections to the Board of Directors. We will start the evening with a BBQ, sausages & sauerkraut. Beer and wine will be available for a nominal charge.

This year there are four positions to fill on the Board of Directors. The terms of Oliver Grüter-Andrew and Heike Roth will expire this year. They are willing to stand for re-election. The Board Nomination Committee would like to present the following candidate:

### Carola von Hahn:

Carola von Hahn is a German trained physiotherapist from the University of Göttingen. She worked for 18 years as head physiotherapist in a clinic specialized in Rheumatoid Arthritis. 20 years ago, she was invited as a speaker to the Mary Pack Arthritis Centre in Vancouver; met the love of her life and stayed. She now works as a Certified Personal Trainer and Group Fitness Instructor specializing in Older Adults. She looks forward to her second round on the board of the German Canadian Care Home.

### **News from the Home**

### **Volunteer Appreciation**

“Volunteers are the roots of strong communities”, was the theme Volunteer Canada chose for this year’s national volunteer week. This aphorism generates a powerful image that truthfully reflects the impact and meaning of volunteer work.

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On 14 April 2016, we celebrated our volunteers with a barbecue, presentation of certificates and a small gift. Despite cool temperatures, over 75 volunteers were in attendance. Although the ages of our volunteers range widely and their reasons for volunteering are equally diverse, the volunteers share the desire to do something positive and support and provide comfort to our residents. This altruistic, generous spirit is a significant part of our work.

The annual volunteer appreciation event is a small token of our gratefulness to our volunteers. We value their visits to the home and strive to create a meaningful and joyful experience for residents and volunteers alike.

## **Redevelopment**

Since February, there have been several meetings with Vancouver Coastal Health negotiating the proposal for the new care home. The negotiation process for the replacement of care beds in Vancouver is ongoing and a decision has not yet been made. The board of directors is expecting an update from Vancouver Coastal Health soon; this may occur prior to the annual meeting at which time we will share further news.

## **Leadership team changes**

At the end of March, Judy Rowbotham retired from her position of Director of Care. Judy had been in this role for nearly six years. Debora Sutherland joined our management team in early April. Debora is a registered nurse with many years of experience as a nurse and manager. She has a bachelor of nursing from the University of Calgary and a MBA from Royal Roads University. We are pleased to welcome Debora to our team and wish her much success in her new job.

## **Accreditation**

The care home will be participating in another accreditation survey this September. The last survey visit was four years ago and the care home then achieved the highest possible award “accredited with exemplary standing”. We hope to achieve again an excellent result. Many employees participate in the preparation work which is a comparison of our work processes and are outcomes with the national accreditation standards set by Accreditation Canada. It is a learning experience that supports our main goal, the provision of high quality care and services. The accreditation processes continually evolve; this time, the focus is on resident and family inclusion in decision making and care provision. The recent implementation of the Eden philosophy supports this change and is helpful for us.

I would like to thank you very much for your interest, your support and commitment. I look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting on Monday, 20 June 2016.

*Jutta Purchase, CEO*

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## **Eden at the German-Canadian Care Home**

We regularly report on the introduction of Eden at the German-Canadian Care Home. On 14 May 2016, several speakers presented general information on the Eden philosophy and on initiatives taken at the care home to date.

The Eden Alternative® is a global initiative focused on transforming care, as we know it, for the older person and other individuals living with frailty. The philosophy and work is guided by ten principles. These principles are not a prescriptive recipe but provide guidance for the way, care is provided and the design of the care home environment which is home to the residents and the workplace for staff. The implementation of Eden is a journey, an ongoing process with many steps.

The Board of Directors approved the Eden Alternative in 2013 and since then, many changes and initiatives have taken place at the care home. Six managers attended a three day training and became certified Eden Associates. An internal training program was developed and nearly all front line employees received training and education in the principles of Eden. This new knowledge triggered much enthusiasm and generated many ideas of initiatives which support human growth and a warm environment.

Resident and family involvement in care, service and program decisions is the number one priority. The following are some examples of initiatives that have been implemented in the care home:

- Residents on Berlin-Haus chose the paint colors for the lounge and dining room.
- Residents on Bonn-Haus suggested to send “get well” cards to co-residents who are in hospital.
- Residents asked for different destinations for day trips; typical tourist destinations in Vancouver are particularly popular.
- Residents on Dresden-Haus now have their daily breakfast in the Stuhlmüller Library instead of the large dining room upstairs.
- A “Boutique” was created with decorative items, pillow, pictures and others for residents who have little or no personal belongings and no family to assist them.
- Installation of a children’s playground.
- Installation of a greenhouse.
- Care staff is encouraged to tend to the social and recreational needs of residents and take time for a chat or a board game during coffee time.

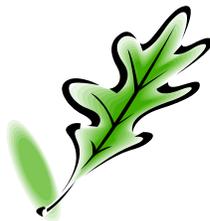
The institutional setting of many nursing homes does not foster a sense of home and normalcy. When implementing Eden one faces many obstacles. It is imperative to remind oneself of the Eden’s core values and use creativity when developing alternatives to the status quo. Observing the positive transformation of the people we serve and the people who work with residents is rewarding work.

## **Thank you for your donations**

### **Oak Leafs**

Oak leaves are placed on our donor wall in recognition of donations of \$ 500 and more. We thank the following donors for their generosity:

Dr. Hans & Helga Worster  
Marie-Luise & Walter Boytinck  
Frithjof Grohne  
Kurt & Else Maurer  
Margaret & Lajos Solar  
Regina & Otto Lukat  
Helmut & Lieselotte Hannig  
Adolf & Joyce Schueck  
Sodexo



### **Wishlist**

In response to our Wish List in the last Hauspost Sodexo donated a new 75” TV, the funds

received will be used for two new TVs for Bonn– and Berlin-Haus respectively. Thank you to the following donors:

Sodexo  
Hildegard & Roman Frydrychowicz  
Heide & Gerhard Rueter  
Edith Jerominski  
Hildegard Penski  
Renate & William Steen  
Rita J. Kobza  
Gisela Bleim  
Gisela Knowles  
Anke & Anton Mayer  
Dineke van Renesse van Duivenbode  
Caroline & Andrew Heidrich  
Adolf & Joyce Schueck  
Anonymous

## **Wishlist**

**We are fundraising towards the purchase of outdoor gardening containers and plants. They will be placed in our newly created outdoor area on the south side of the Care Home. We thank you very much for your support. We will issue tax receipts for amounts of \$ 10 or more.**



**Please contact Jutta Purchase at 604-713-6503 if you require more information.**

## Society Events

### Outreach Committee

We hope you will enjoy our program in June before the summer break. Please come bring your friends and family, have coffee and cake, relax and immerse yourself in German humor and music. All the events will take place in the German-Canadian Care Home on Saturdays and start at 2:00 pm. Please keep in mind that there could be changes to the program. If you have questions or suggestions please call or e-mail Waltraud Custer at Tel: 604-713-6562, e-mail: outreachprogram@gcch.ca. For more information please go to our website www.gcch.ca. Many thanks to our tireless and devoted volunteers - their help make these events possible!

### Program for 2016

#### Saturday, June 11

A happy afternoon with "Loriot". Videos and clips put together for your entertainment, highlighting sketches of the famous comedian, humorist and cartoonist Vico von Bülow.

#### Saturday, June 25

Start summer with videos with André Rieu. Uplifting, well known melodies played by André Rieu and his famous orchestra.

### July and August Summer Break



#### Saturday, September 10

*Film:* „Der Schimmelreiter“ The rider on the White Horse is a 1934 German drama based on the novel

of Theodor Storm. Introduction to the movie by Melanie Kage Ph.D. Candidate, Germanic studies at UBC.

#### Saturday, September 24

*Presentation:*

„Medicinal Herbs, History & Importance“ by Gudrun Penselin, M. Ed. M. Phys. Ed., a clinical Herbal Therapist and Bach Flower Practitioner for over 30 years.

#### Saturday, October 13

Celebrating Fall with songs, poems and stories.

#### Saturday, 29, Oktober

*Theme:* Johann Sebastian Bach, speaker to be determined

#### Saturday, November 12

*Presentation:* „Die Niebelungen, ein deutscher Mythos“ by Prof. Dr. Karl Zaenker

### Welcome to the Society

- Frithjof Grohne
- Franz Wissmath



- Heidi McDonald
- Dr. Hans Worster
- Adelheid Prevot

### Board of Directors

Oliver Grüter-Andrew	<i>President</i>
Ulf von Dehn	<i>Vice President</i>
Mark Sulzberger	<i>Treasurer</i>
Irene Schmid	<i>Director</i>
Heike Roth	<i>Director</i>
Merry Wood	<i>Director</i>
Jutta Purchase	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>

### Society Office

The Society office is staffed by Ruth Windisch every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ruth speaks German and English. You may phone her at 604-713-6562 or e-mail: society@gcch.ca.