



German-Canadian Benevolent Society of BC Deutsch-Kanadisches Hilfswerk von BC



HAUSPOST

MAY 2025

60th Annual General Meeting

All members are invited to the 60th Annual General Meeting on **Monday, June 16, 2025**, in the Atrium of the German-Canadian Care Home with presentations of annual reports and elections to the Board of Directors. We will start the evening at **5:30 pm with a BBQ**, sausages and sauerkraut. Beer and wine will be available for a nominal charge.

This year, the **terms of two directors** are expiring. Vice-President **Richard Wittstock** has served two terms and agreed to remain on the Board. Board Director **Carola von Hahn** has completed her third term and must step down from the Board as per the Society's by-laws.

We thank Carola for her dedication and valuable contribution to the Society!

If you are unable to attend the AGM, you can join via zoom. Please request the zoom link in advance by sending an email to society@gcch.ca.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

**June 16, 2025, BBQ, sausage & sauerkraut at 5:30, AGM starts at 6:30,
2010 Harrison Dr, Vancouver, B.C. V5P 2P6**

Dear members & friends,

60th Anniversary

The German-Canadian Benevolent Society of BC was incorporated on April 1, 1965. The founding members had a vision, to build a home for German-speaking seniors' where they will receive support as they age and are able to live with others who share their history, culture and language. A home for seniors of the German-Canadian community in BC. This year, as we are looking back on the past 60 years, we celebrate the realization of the dream of the founding members, the resilience of the Society, and the organization's ability to continuously adapt to a changing environment.

This diamond anniversary will be celebrated with an Oktoberfest-themed event on Thursday, 25 September 2025. The planning of this party is underway, and we will share more information at the Annual General Meeting in June.

A team of staff and Board Members are working on a commemorative book that narrates the story of the Society with photos, information and anecdotes. This book will be available in both hardcover and online format.

Moving forward

During the past few years, the Society has been undergoing a transformation that started with planning for a redevelopment of the physical structures, the buildings that have lovingly been maintained and renovated over the past 56 years and have been home to many seniors who received care and compassion at this stage of their lives. The redevelopment of the physical buildings was initiated because the existing buildings are no longer adequate for providing long-term care to residents with complex care needs. The Society's Board and leadership have been working towards a new, state-of-the-art building and we are now very close to making it a reality.

The second element of the transformation is a change of our care model, moving from a medical, institutional model to a social and resident-directed model that we have named Comfortzeit®. We trademarked the name and are passionate about fully implementing this innovative approach to seniors' care in the coming years.

The third, and equally important aspect ensuring the Society's future, is addressing the generational change that is taking place within the Society's community. The Society will need to build a new community of supporters, a community of people who see the work of our Society as meaningful and as something that is worthwhile of their support.

I look forward to welcoming you to our Annual General Meeting in June where we will report on the progress made thus far and our plans for a successful future of the German-Canadian Benevolent Society of BC.

Jutta Purchase, CEO

OUTREACH EVENTS

Liebe Mitglieder und Freunde,

Wir freuen uns sehr, wenn Sie unsere nächsten Outreach-Veranstaltungen besuchen kommen.

Freunde & Familie sind wie immer herzlich eingeladen!

Wir freuen uns auf Ihren Besuch an den folgenden **Samstagen** bei Kaffee, Kuchen und guter Unterhaltung:

16. Juni – 17:30 Uhr Annual General Meeting – Jahreshauptversammlung

21. Juni – 13:00 Uhr „Diabetes in the Elderly“ – “Diabetes im Alter”

Ein Vortrag in englischer Sprache von **Leila Pirmoradi, PhD**, spezialisiert auf Diabetes, Stammzellen- und Krebsforschung. Mit einem absolvierten Stipendium in Spanien für Diabetes und Physiologie.

19. Juli – 13:00 Uhr Sommerfest – Operetten Nachmittag

Eine Reise durch die deutsche Operetten Landschaft

Sommerpause bis September

Bouquet

“I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the entire team at the German Canadian Care Home for the exceptional care and compassion you showed to our beloved uncle over the past nine years. He passed away surrounded by the place and people who had become a second home to him.”



Wishlist - Wunschliste

We're hoping to purchase **a gas barbecue** for our resident and society events. Your support will help host outdoor events with memorable moments for our residents and bring family and friends together through shared meals. A tax receipt will be issued for donations of \$10 and more.

OAK LEAVES



Barbara Seidel-Schuster

Gisela Knowles

Kurt & Else Maurer

In memory of Max Weber

In memory of Eberhard & Traute Häusler

Donations of \$500 or more are recognized with an Oak Leaf on our Donor Wall

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rudolf Kischer

President

Richard Wittstock

Vice President

Mark Sulzberger

Treasurer

Alex Sayn-Wittgenstein

Director

Carola von Hahn

Director

Christine Weber

Director

Petra Kuret

Director

Dr. Robert Shaw

Director

Ulf von Dehn

Director

Jutta Purchase

CEO

EVENTS & INFORMATION

Family Day BBQ – August 16th, 2025, starting at 11:30am

Our annual **Family Day BBQ** at the German-Canadian Care Home will be on **Saturday, August 16th, 2025** from **11:30 am to 2:30 pm**. This free event will be outside in the garden, rain or shine.

We invite you and your family to participate in a day of sharing food, drinks and laughter with us. There will be sausages and buns, games, face painting, music and a bouncy castle for the kids!



HAPPY 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Save the Date – September 25, 2025

Join the Society for an **Oktoberfest-themed celebration** on **September 25, 2025**, as we honour this exciting milestone with friends and family.

An official invitation will follow in mid-summer.
We can't wait to celebrate with you!

***Do you have photos from past events,
the building or special moments at the
care home?***



We are in the process of creating a **photo book** to reminisce the past and anticipate the future. If you have any photos to share, please send a scan, screenshot etc. to **society@gcch.ca**

Your help is very much appreciated!

Society Office availability: Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 4:30pm

Contact: **Maj-Britt Rosier**, Coordinator of Community Engagement,
society@gcch.ca, (604) 713-6562