

## Celebration & Inspiration

*Successes & Diversity on Vancouver Island*

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## Hello

- From the inception of idea of hospice, the amount of passion & creativity *on this Island* remains astounding and humbling
- It's a privilege to be with you today
- How many have met me?
  - ❖ If yes, then nice to see you again - now 5 yrs retired
  - ❖ If not – GREAT!!
- Why great???
- ❖ Means that after 46 yrs the hospice movement remains solid, fresh, growing, diverse

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## Vision & Reflection

1970's	Cries from Desert <small>(Saunders, Kubler Ross, Bal Mount, F Wald)</small>	<b>Success #1</b>
1980's	Emergence from Dark Ages	<i>"In those days, terminally ill patients went thru hell, and the family was never involved" (F. Wald)</i>
1990's	Exploration & Growth	
2000's	Expansion & Evaluation	
2010's	Consolidation & Centralization	
2020's	Fiscal Realities & Advocacy	
2030's+	New World – AI, Tech, unsettled	

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## Brief look back & Tributes ...

- 60's/70's London UK; Montreal, Winnipeg; New Haven CT
  - ❖ BC - A slowly rising call from public, people, ~~dying~~, grieving
  - ❖ Personal example - Stella
- **1978-83** Victoria Association for Care of Dying, VACD **#2**
  - ❖ Advocacy group
    - Nancy Reeves, Coordinator (Grief Counsellor); Pat Carffra (Chair Board)
    - Group of volunteers & professionals (e.g. P Coy, L Cummings)
  - ❖ Services
    - Vigil Volunteers
    - Grief support
    - Volunteer training
    - Advocacy - Kubler-Ross invited to speak Death & Dying

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## 1980 Tributes ...

- BC Deputy Minister of Health – Dr Chapin Key
  - ❖ Fund two 2-year pilot projects Victoria & Vancouver **# 3**
- Hospice Victoria opened Sept 1980 **# 4**
  - ❖ Steering (K Thornton, R LaHuquet, P Coy, N Reeves, P Carffra, CRD Home Care [P Bingham], +1 MOH)
  - ❖ Core Team (Ruthella, Jo, Gerry, Michael) + 8 Unit RNs
  - ❖ Program 7 beds, wards, homes, LTC in CRD **except Sooke/Islands**

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## ... 1980 Tributes

- Who, what, where, why
  - ❖ "What do you mean 'hospice'?" "palliative care'?"
  - ❖ "Fad", "wasting beds", "not need"
  - ❖ "just crank up morphine drip"
- Jan '81 (4 months after open)
  - ❖ Notified by RJH budget cut Hospice, Neonatal ICU, Youth Psych Unit
  - ❖ Formation of "Friends of Hospice" & outcry
    - MOH mandated Hospice to continue 6 month for research evaluation – successful remain open **# 5**

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*Some Things I've Learned Along the Way*

1. "Start" where you are – not look sideways
2. Find friends, colleagues - build what can
3. Measure progress in decades
4. A 'bed' is not a 'program'
5. Partnership is a 'process' not a 'decision'
  - It is necessary to remove hats
  - Real change only when awareness & attitudes change
6. Compassion the heart & drives all

M. Downing

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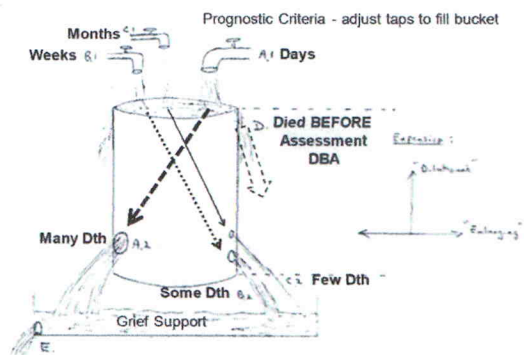
**The Angst & Joy of Diversity # 6**

- Pushes and Pulls over decades
  - ❖ 'Free standing' vs 'Scatter beds' vs 'Care all' vs 'Comprehensive'
  - ❖ Natural evolving health oversight
    - Hospital/MOH to CHB/CRD to GVHS to VIHA to IH
  - ❖ Hospices as people, heart, humanity, community need collaborate with system growth, efficiency, regulations
    - Normal ongoing process – varied roles should not make 'sides'

Brief look at beds (next 2 slides)

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**Water Bucket – Dying with Limits 1981+**



It was too painful to see the DBA # higher than the registry #

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**Island Health**

More # 7-21

Dr. Jody Anderson, MD  
Michelle Crosby, Prog Dir PEOLP  
Jodi Meacher, Mgr PEOLP  
Katie Hennessy, CNS PEOLP

<p><b>SOUTH ISLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Hospice Society, 1980</li> <li>• Royal Jubilee Hospital</li> <li>• Saanich Peninsula Hospital</li> </ul> <p><b>CENTRAL ISLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nanaimo Regional Hospital</li> </ul> <p><b>HOSPICES</b></p> <p><b>SOUTH ISLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Hospice Society 1980</li> <li>• RIH LTC Fairfield HC, 1990</li> <li>• Sooke Hospice Society 1986</li> <li>• SS/LM/Besse Dane</li> </ul> <p><b>CENTRE ISLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cowichan Valley Hospice, Duncan, 1981</li> <li>• Nanaimo Hospice (L Green, O Thomasson), 1981</li> <li>• Pacific Rim Hospice Society, 1994</li> <li>• Chemainus Health Care Centre, 2011</li> <li>• Alberni Valley Hospice Society, Port Alberni, 2018</li> <li>• Oceanside Hospice Society, 2015</li> </ul> <p><b>NORTH ISLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campbell River Hospice Society (CRHS), 1966</li> <li>• Valley Hospice Society (CVHS), 1983</li> <li>• Mount Waddington/Strathcona</li> </ul>	<p><b>Specialized Palliative Care Units</b></p> <p>RP3 Unit, 7 PCU bed 1980; D/C moved to RIH, 2020 RIH 8 South - 12-bed PCU 2020 10-bed PCU, 2004</p> <p>34 beds</p> <p>6 scatter beds 1990?, increased to 12-bed PCU 2005</p> <p><b>Community Hospices &amp; Beds Beds</b></p> <p><b>HOSPICE BEDS (LTC OR SEPARATE)</b></p> <p>50 beds</p> <p>Hospice RP3 – 7 beds 1980, 7-10 beds 1996, now 18 beds 10 beds 1990, moved to RIH/VHS 1996 Ayre Manor - 2 beds 2017 Lady Minto Hospital – 1 EOL bed</p> <p>Cowichan Hospice House, Cairnsmore, Duncan - 7 bed 2020 Chemainus Health Care Centre, 1 EOL bed</p> <p>7Respite, Vigil Hospice at Chemainus Health Care Centre - 1 bed, 2011 Ty Watson House, - 4 beds, 2008 Hospice at Trillium Lodge, Parksville - 6 beds, 2014</p> <p>Hospice at Yucalta Lodge, Campbell River - 4 beds, 2017 Aithen Community Hospice, Courtenay – 6 beds, 2022 Port Hardy Hospital – 1 EOL bed</p>
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*A whole new 'wrinkle' of diversity began in Victoria & ripples even now throughout the world*

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**Diversity or Divided?**

#22



DOCTORS  
Michael Downing  
and Debra Bratt-  
waite fuel the de-  
bate over as-  
sisted suicides.  
By Bratt/Pearl-  
Corbett



Sue Rodriguez died Feb. 12, 1994



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lastly ... my hope is

*“Whoever we are,  
what ever we do,  
wherever we care for one another,  
may it always be rooted in  
kindness & compassion”*

*Oh yes, and .....*

*Make this be the BEST ISLAND of CARE in the WORLD!!*

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???? The Future ????

- A few thoughts
- Maybe later if time
- It really is:
  - You as Hospices
  - You as Volunteers & Public
  - Island Health as oversight

**But NOW very keen to hear from  
Professor Dr. Kelli Stadjuhar**

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