



Cornhole for Hospice Raises Almost \$30,000!

What do you get when you bring together 18 teams, 72 players, creative costumes, a little friendly competition and a community that loves to support hospice? One very fun and successful Cornhole for Hospice!

Our annual Cornhole for Hospice Tournament, held on September 19, was a fantastic afternoon filled with laughter, team spirit and some surprisingly competitive cornhole. This year, 18 teams of four took part, bringing 72 players together in support of Hospice Huronia – Tomkins House.



And the teams definitely understood the assignment. Matching shirts, themed uniforms, costumes, mullets and moustaches all made appearances, adding to the fun and festive atmosphere. The creativity and enthusiasm of the teams has become such a great part of this event, and there was no shortage of cheering and good-natured rivalry throughout the day.

Most importantly, the event raised almost \$30,000 to support hospice care and programs for individuals and families across North Simcoe.



Cornhole for Hospice (continued)

That incredible result was made possible by far more than the games themselves. Participants collected pledges and rallied friends, family members and coworkers behind their teams. Our generous sponsors helped make the event possible, and community supporters contributed in so many different ways.

We are extremely grateful to every sponsor who supported this year's tournament. Their generosity allows us to create a fun community event while helping ensure that the funds raised can make a meaningful difference for Hospice Huronia and the people we serve.

The fun continued with The Great Cornholio Raffle, which featured an incredible lineup of prizes donated by generous community supporters. Prizes included \$2,000 cash, an Electra e-bike donated by Total Sports – The Bike Shop, a Napoleon patio flame table, "Beer for a Year," and a beautiful handstitched, queen-size quilt. Congratulations to all of our raffle winners, and thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. Proceeds from the raffle also supported Hospice Huronia's programs and services.

A huge thank you also goes to volunteers and staff who put so much time and energy into planning and running the day. From set-up and registration through to food, prizes, activities and clean-up, an event like this takes a lot of hands behind the scenes.



And of course, thank you to our 72 players who gathered their teams, raised funds, dressed up and brought such great energy to the tournament. Whether you came determined to win or were mostly there for the costumes and camaraderie, you helped make the day a success.

Eighteen teams. Seventy-two players. Almost \$30,000 raised. Most importantly, it was a day that brought people together in support of compassionate hospice care in our community.

We're already looking forward to next year and seeing how our teams manage to top this year's costumes!



Celebrating Our Teams, Winners & Sponsors





Todd Lalonde, Agent | 705-526-8333

Michelle Deschamps, CIM, PFP, FCSI
Portfolio Manager and Wealth Advisor,
Financial Planner

Supportive Care in the Community

Whitney Faragher

Hospice care extends well beyond the walls of Tomkins House. Through our Supportive Care programs, Hospice Huronia helps caregivers and families in the community feel more supported, prepared and connected while caring for someone with a life-limiting illness. These services are led by Whitney Faragher, our Supportive Care Lead.

One of the key services Whitney coordinates is our Home Visiting Volunteer Program. This program connects individuals and families with trained hospice volunteers who can provide companionship and practical support in the home. Whitney helps assess each referral, matches clients with volunteers, and provides ongoing follow-up and support throughout the connection.

Whitney also provides caregiver support and education. This can include caregiver support programming, one-to-one psychosocial support, practical information and coping strategies, as well as referrals to other community resources when additional help is needed.

Another important service is our Community Bathing Program, which allows community clients to access supportive bathing services through Hospice Huronia. Whitney coordinates the program and works with clients and families to develop an individualized plan based on their needs, preferences and safety considerations.



She also supports community education and outreach, helping families and community members better understand hospice care, caregiving and the supports that may be available to them. Whitney works closely with our clinical, volunteer and community teams so that caregiver needs can be identified early and families can be connected with the right support as their circumstances change.

If you are caring for someone with a life-limiting illness and are unsure what support may be available, we encourage you to reach out to Hospice Huronia. You do not have to wait until things become overwhelming to ask for help. Call 705-549-1034.



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Looking Ahead Together: Our Strategic Plan Launch Day



On October 8, Hospice Huronia officially launched the development of our next Strategic Plan with a full day focused on connection, wellness, reflection and the future of hospice in our community.

Around 50 staff members, volunteers and Board members came together to begin this work, making the launch a true organization-wide conversation about where we are today and where we want to go next.

The day began with a staff meeting and wellness activities designed to give our team time to connect before moving into the strategic planning work. Dr. Anita Federici provided mindfulness and mentorship, Bronson Black led a smudging ceremony, and Pamela Brodie guided the group through gentle yoga.

Later in the morning, volunteers and Board members joined us as we reviewed our current mission, vision and values, along with the results of the strategic planning survey completed by members of the Hospice Huronia community. Participants then worked together at mixed tables, sharing ideas, perspectives and priorities for the future.

Our strategic planning process is being facilitated by Kathy Elsdon-Befort, who is helping guide the conversations and ensure that the voices of staff, volunteers, Board members and community partners are reflected throughout the process.

The October 8 event was an important beginning, but it was only the first step. Over the coming weeks, we will continue the work through four to five additional working sessions, focused working groups and stakeholder conversations.



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Looking Ahead Together (continued)



Each stage will help us refine our priorities and build a plan that reflects both the needs of our community today and where hospice care is headed in the years ahead. Bronson also shared a reflection about the importance of seasons and timing in his cultural teachings. He spoke about fall as a time for planting seeds and beginning the work, with the hope of seeing what takes root and grows in the spring. It felt especially fitting as we began shaping Hospice Huronia's next Strategic Plan.

We anticipate presenting the final Strategic Plan to the Board in December.

There is something especially exciting about starting a brand-new plan at this point in Hospice Huronia's journey.

We have grown, our programs have evolved, and the needs of our community continue to change. This process gives us the opportunity to think carefully about what comes next and how we want to continue supporting individuals and families across North Simcoe.



The day included time for wellness and connection, including gentle yoga led by Pamela Brodie.

We're just getting started. This is our next chapter.



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HOSPICE PROGRAM CALENDAR

Please call 705-549-1034 to register

MON

Meditation Mondays



Guys Group

6pm-7:30 pm
4th Monday



TUES

Yoga for Grief

11:30am -
12:30pm
every Tuesday



Reiki
4-7pm

Pet
Therapy
with Bo



WED



**Coffee and
Conversation**

2pm-3:30pm
1st and 3rd
Wednesday



THURS

**Spousal Loss
Group**

12:30pm-2:30pm
2nd Thursday

**Virtual Art
Therapy**

1 - 2:30 pm
2nd Thursday



**Parent's
Circle
Group**



FRI

**"Let it Go"
Fire Circle**



Pet Therapy
with Thor



A Fall Message from Team Tomkins

As fall settles in, we find ourselves reflecting on a season of growth, connection and new beginnings at Hospice Huronia. The past few months have been full of activity, while we have continued the everyday work of caring for individuals and families across North Simcoe.

Fall often feels like a season of transition, and that seems especially fitting for us this year. We are looking ahead, asking thoughtful questions about the future of hospice care in our community, and beginning to plant the seeds for what comes next. At the same time, the heart of our work remains the same. It is found in the quiet moments of care, in a volunteer sitting with someone who needs company, in a caregiver finding support, in a family spending meaningful time together, and in the many people who help make those moments possible.

We are grateful for the staff, volunteers, donors, sponsors, community partners and supporters who continue to stand with Hospice Huronia - Tomkins House. Your generosity, time and trust allow us to keep growing while staying grounded in the compassionate care that has always been at the centre of our work.

As we move through this season and into the next chapter for Hospice Huronia, we are excited about what is ahead.

♥ Team Tomkins



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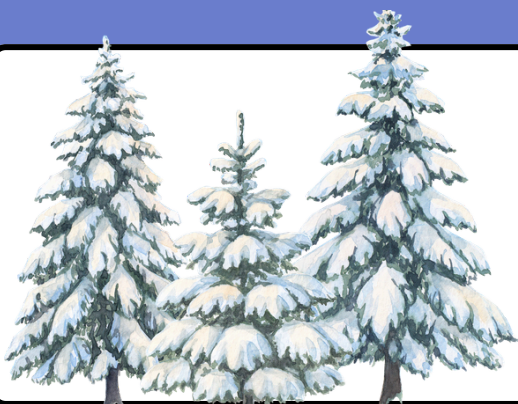
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SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING EVENTS

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

December 4
watch for your invitation



WINTER MEMORIAL

December 10

1:30 pm

Brooklea Golf & Country Club

Call 705-549-1034 to register

CHILDREN'S GRIEF GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

December 17

Call 705-549-1034 to register



UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRIEF

**An 8-Week Support Group
January 19-March 9, 2027**

Call 705-549-1034 to register