

May 5, 2023

Dear Families and Friends,

Finally the warm weather is revealing itself to us. A relief from a long, chilly winter season! I am reminded of the words of Anne Bradstreet who said “if we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant.” Here are a few updates of events and happenings around the Lodge.

Rooftop Garden

You may have noticed over the winter that the rooftop gazebos took quite a beating and gradually shredded with the sun and snow wear. So, we have opted to change them out for hard shell gazebos. This hit a hitch when our assembly crew realized that Lowe’s (not so reliable) sent us 8x8 gazebos instead of the 10x10s that were purchased. So, unfortunately, we are somewhat at the mercy of Lowe’s customer service as I work with them to fix this situation. As a result, we are delayed in presenting a fully comfortable rooftop space until this is resolved. I thank you for your understanding and patience as we strive to make the rooftop a special and comfortable refuge for all. In the meantime, we have added an 8x8 gazebo to the north patio on the main floor to provide some shelter there as well.

April 12th Broadway Group Fun Walk

On Wednesday, April 12th over 35 residents, staff, family, and volunteers attended our now annual Broadway Group Fun Run (walk!) in the spirit of the Vancouver Sun Run. Our sister site, False Creek Residence, has been doing the walk for years and they invited Broadway Lodge to join in the fun. And fun it was! There was great energy and enthusiasm as everyone bundled up on the sunny yet windy day to walk the seawall. We hope to repeat this fun event again in the summer – watch for the posters and please plan to join us – everyone is welcome!



Summer Students

I am pleased to announce that we were approved by our MP Dr. Hedy Fry's office to have two summer students (one recreation assistant, one rehabilitation support) this year. In past years we have had up to four students granted to us but this year were awarded only two. We were grateful for the student support (last year we did not receive grants) from the Canada Summer Jobs program. The residents always benefit from the support and enthusiasm that the students bring to enhance life at the Lodge. This year we are pleased to be able to hire students who have had long affiliation as volunteers at the Lodge. It is wonderful when we can pay them back for their dedicated service to the residents through additional learning and leadership opportunities.

National Nurses Week

Please join us in celebrating our nurses from **May 8-14th** during **National Nurses Week**. We celebrate our hard-working, dedicated, and caring nurses for all the work they do to keep our residents safe, healthy, and happy. When you see any of our nurses during this time please join us in extending gratitude for their committed service to the residents of the Lodge.

Tri-Shaw Bike Update

We have been the benefactors of the Vancouver Cycling without Age program for the past few years. This not for profit program provides residents, and family, with the opportunity to take a side by side ride propelled by a cycling pilot behind the passengers (sort of like a reverse rickshaw bike) around the False Creek Seawall. This has been a very successful program that supplements our single passenger duet bike rides. The beauty of the Tri-Shaw rides is that it accommodates a couple of people. So, family may ride with their loved one or spouses may go for a romantic ride together. Residents who are friends often will go out for a ride together as well. It is a wonderful program.

Having said all that, this is a charity and they are now having to prove to their grant funders (funding is for equipment, storage, and insurance – it is volunteer driven) that they can generate revenue to remain sustainable. So, going forward they will be charging each rider \$10/ride. This is a change from the \$15 for the season they charged last year. But their expenses have increased as they have acquired more tri-Shaw bikes.

Our scheduled day for rides through the season is Friday. If you are interested in participating with your loved one (there are criteria for participation such as being able to transfer to the bike), I encourage you to reach out to Fe Hernando, recreation worker, at fhernando@broadwaylodge.ca or at local 248. If you are already a participant, Fe will be reaching out to you to discuss the new price per ride to obtain consent to charge your loved one's comfort fund and set any limits you require to budget rides. I have



Two tri-Shaw bikes with our duet bike along the False Creek Seawall.

included a flyer attachment with this email so you may learn more about the Vancouver Cycling Without Age program.

Building Work

As mentioned in my previous newsletter, we are commencing the series of upgrades to the resident floors. This will include painting, flooring, and changes to ceiling tiles, hand rails, doors, and drapes for esthetics. The first step – lighting upgrades – is scheduled to begin now. At this time, we are simply waiting on supply chain for delivery of the fixtures to then be installed. I am told it will be 2-3 weeks. Once they arrive, the work will commence. So we are looking at an early June start at this time. This will be followed by ceiling tiles and then we will see how this rascally supply chain impacts other forward movement of projects.

Welcome Kathrin McMath – Broadway Group CEO

May 1st has come and gone and we welcomed our new Chief Executive Officer of the Broadway Group to the organization. We are pleased to have Kathrin McMath join the team and look forward to collaborating with her as she steadfastly leads us forward. Kathrin will be based out of our Shiloh Housing office on Powell Street but she won't be a stranger to the Lodge. We anticipate seeing Kathrin on a regular basis on site and, of course, she is available by phone, email, or in person by appointment.



Family Circle – BL Family Council

This self-driven group of family members meets on a monthly basis. Until now, the group has been meeting virtually and sharing on various topics. The next meeting is **Thursday, May 11th at 7:00pm** via zoom. The topic will be rooftop garden and outdoor accessibility experience. Everyone is welcome to join in and participate. The zoom link and access information for the meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85251384042?pwd=ODQ0Rm5UMWoxMHYzT2N3Z3ZPcC9Jdz09>

Meeting ID: 852 5138 4042

Passcode: 694353

We hope that future meetings may be held in the penthouse at the Lodge, now that restrictions have all been lifted. Please watch for details on future meetings in your email.

BBQ Season Will Soon Be Upon Us!

Now that all restrictions have been removed, we are excited to be able to return to normal with our special events. As the summer opens up, we will be hosting our annual BBQs for each neighbourhood.

Watch for invitations to attend. Remember, space is limited, so it is important to sign up right away to ensure you may participate in these fun Lodge events. More details to come as the dates get closer.

I watched a recent TED talk from an educator, Rita Pierson. She is a wonderful and inspiring speaker. I appreciated her message and took the liberty of adapting some of her words to fit our care environment. *Every person with dementia deserves a champion, a person who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection, and who insists on supporting them to be the best they can possibly be in spite of the challenges of dementia.* With our goal of *excellence in care* this is our deepest hope to be that champion who connects and supports our residents, your loved ones, to have the best quality of life in spite of the daily challenges they experience.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we move forward. I would like to take this moment to wish you a very bright and cheerful spring season.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rosemary Dunne".

Rosemary Dunne,
Executive Director