



Coordinator's Report Agassiz-Harrison Senior Peer Counsellors (Peer Support)

Annual General Meeting ~ February 13, 2017 (for the year 2016)

A-H SPC is now well into plans for its 16th year of outreach and support to seniors in Agassiz and Harrison. We have become acquainted with many seniors who have first attended our programs and lunches. This has given our members an opportunity to offer support to many as they have moved from independence to assisted living, to care facilities or even hospice. We still visit four of our original clients.

Our monthly luncheons have proven to be a good first contact for seniors who may be new to the area or are finding a need for more socializing. Once we know them we are able to connect them to information about health, recreation, and social supports to which they are entitled. We see ourselves as a communication link between isolated seniors and available services.

We held ten monthly business and client support discussions, nine lunches (*five with the school students*), three Knit and Natter meetings weekly all year, plus weekly one on one visits with five regular clients. Two of our members volunteered for the *Senior Advocate's Survey* of Care Facilities. Our President, Eunice Royle, has outlined all our programs and activities in her report. We owe a great deal to Eunice for the enthusiasm, creativity and energy she gives to all our endeavors.

A-H SPC is represented at the *A-H Healthy Communities* monthly meetings. We participated in planning the *Seniors' Fair* held at Cheam on October 18, 2016 and in the *Information Kiosk* now located at Cheam.

We work closely with *The Agassiz Centre for Education (ACE)*, *Kent Elementary* and the *Legion* to put on the monthly luncheons. Thanks go to the *Kent- Harrison Foundation* for the grant to support the lunches. We use *Community Services* for our address and receive referrals from them.

We have worked with *Chilliwack SPC*, *Work BC*, *Community Drivers*, *Fraser Health* and *Cheam*, *Logan* and *Glenwood* facilities. Our provincial organization is *Senior Peer Counsellors of BC (SPCBC)*. Two of us attended the AGM in Richmond in June.

As Coordinator, I had nine referrals in 2016 either from friends, family, *Community Services* or *Home Health*. Each was followed up with a home visit assessment and a link to further supports when required. I receive many calls for information about services available and how to access them.

I want to express my thanks to our president, secretary and treasurer and all our dedicated members who have contributed a grand total of 3000 volunteer hours of service to more than fifty seniors on a regular basis.

Our website address is:
www.choicez.biz/SnPeer.htm or simply Google Agassiz-Harrison Senior Peer Counsellors.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Rajotte Coordinator