



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

Annual General Meeting ~ February 5, 2018 (for the year 2017)

This year A-HSPC completed 16 years of outreach and support to seniors in Agassiz and Harrison. We held ten monthly business and client support discussions.

Our ten active members have concentrated most of our efforts on the Senior/Teen and Seniors Only lunches that were held on the second Tuesday of the months from September to June at the Legion in Agassiz. This outreach has been our best method of keeping in touch with seniors and also connecting with new people who would benefit from socialization. The average attendance is 60 seniors resulting in a significant connection to their interests and concerns. We are grateful for the grant from the *Kent/Harrison Foundation* for assistance with funding the lunches and purchasing necessary equipment.

Other regular outreach events are the weekly *Knit and Natter* groups held at *Cheam* and *Glenwood Care Facilities* and *Dogwood Manor*. We pay regular visits to several at home seniors and have phone contact with others.

For community exposure, we participated with *Community Services* in hosting a *Speakers Series* aimed at seniors, had an article in the *A-H Observer*, had a display at the Health Fair sponsored by *A-H Healthy Communities*, a table at the *Christmas Craft Fair* and were guests at the *ACE graduation* and *Christmas Grinch* dinner.

We were saddened by the loss of Jim and Bonnie Johnson who moved to Ontario before

Jim's death in October. They contributed a lot to our community and the Peer group, especially with the connection to *ACE* and the *Legion*. We wish Bonnie well in this new chapter of her life.

I must single out our president, Eunice Royle who continues to be the driving force behind the lunches and knitting groups. Special thanks also go to Bonnie Bozak who cooks the delicious meals and is a very thrifty shopper who keeps us within the budget. Our treasurer, Sheila Robertson who manages our business and Robin McCullough our secretary.

We appreciate the *Legion* for the use of their facilities for the luncheons and *All Saints Anglican Church* for our monthly meetings venue.

Our weakest point is in recruiting and training new *Peer Counsellors*. The future of our programs depends on energetic volunteers. Each year we vow to do better in order to continue the important work of *Senior Peer Support*.

Respectfully submitted

Betty Rajotte