



Coordinator's Report, Agassiz-Harrison Senior Peer Support

Annual General Meeting ~ February 3, 2020 (for the year 2019)

This year *A-HSPC* completed 18 years of outreach and support to seniors in Agassiz and Harrison. We held ten monthly business and client support discussions at the *All Saints Anglican Hall* in Agassiz.

Again, this year 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 65 – 70 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. *Agassiz Centre for Education* students and principal Sandy Balascuk, and students from grade 6 at *Kent Elementary* assisted with the *Senior/Teen Luncheons*. They do a great job of serving, chatting with the seniors and assisting with Bingo. Our president Eunice Royle is the driving force behind the lunches as she coordinates the participation of the schools, lines up entertainment and maintains a list of seniors to attend. Treasurer, Sheila Robertson takes care of the reports to *Kent/Harrison Foundation* that secure their support.

We appreciate the *Legion* for the use of their facilities for the luncheons.

The success of our lunches owed a great deal to the talents of Bonnie Bozak who cooked the delicious meals, shopped for specials on meat and kept us within the budget. We missed her valuable help for several months due to her health challenges and managed with less elaborate lunches but are pleased to welcome her back in 2020. The seniors enjoy the getting together even for a simpler meal.

Other regular outreach events are the weekly *Knit and Natter* groups held at *Cheam* and regular visits and phone calls to several at home clients.

Eunice Royle organized a *Seniors Christmas Brunch* again this year with community help and donations.

The coming year will be a challenge to add new members if we are to continue our work in the community. The biggest challenge is finding clients who welcome a one-on-one visitor. Many feel they don't need that attention but at least they come to the luncheons and we keep in touch that way. I appreciate the dedication of all our hard working and loyal members who have done so much for *A-H Senior Peer Support* in 2019.

Betty Rajotte, Coordinator