



Lisaard House celebrates 10 years of care and compassion

With its rustic stone exterior, forest-like setting, well-tended gardens and scattering of Muskoka chairs, it resembles a quiet country get-away. And in many respects, it is. Yet for its residents and their family members, Lisaard House is also a place where someone's final days can be lived to their fullest.

"Lisaard House isn't about death," explains Sheila Ainsworth, President of the organization's Board of Directors of Waterloo Region's first and only residential hospice for adults dying of cancer.

"It's about giving people – our residents, their families and friends – the comfort and care they deserve during a difficult time. It's about supporting them through the end of life journey. I'm very proud of what we do, how far we've come in 10 years and our reputation within the community."

Registered as a private foundation on August 1, 1998 by Cambridge couple, Val and Sheila O'Donovan, Lisaard House got its start in 1996 when Mrs. O'Donovan was invited to Cambridge Memorial Hospital (CMH)

with a group of individuals (including Dr. Charmaine Jones, former head of palliative care at CMH). The reason? To discuss alternatives to institutional and in-home care for local residents with limited life expectancy due to cancer. Soon after, the O'Donovans provided a founding gift and created a charitable foundation for the future hospice which would open its doors in July 2000.

Recalls Connie Dwyer, Executive Director of Lisaard House: "When the discussions first began, I was working in the community on a palliative care team ... and we constantly came across people who didn't need to be in the hospital but really couldn't be at home any longer, either. Hospice was something we always wished for."

"And it isn't just for the residents," adds Jackie Hatherly-Martin who serves as the Board of Directors' Vice President.

"Families get to be families here, not just caregivers ... people get to spend quality time together at a very important time in their lives."

Named by the O'Donovans after a picturesque part of Ireland, Lisaard

House is located at 990 Speedsville Road in Cambridge, nestled amid mature trees and home to plenty of wildlife. Within its lovely interior are six private rooms, a four-season sunroom, a cozy living room and a country-sized kitchen where guests – particularly children – gather often to make (and eat) cookies. Annual celebrations such as Thanksgiving and Christmas add to the homey atmosphere as do occasional special events.

"We've had two weddings and some christenings in the sunroom," shares Connie of the family-oriented festivities hosted by Lisaard House in its 10-year history.

With regard to care, the hospice is staffed by a dedicated team of Registered Nurses and Personal Support Workers who look after residents twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. Among the services they provide is expert pain and symptom management to each resident at no cost to residents or their families. This onsite team is backed by four family physicians with expertise in palliative care whose 24/7 on-call rotations are supported

by twice-a-week visits.

Volunteers at Lisaard House – those from Hospice of Waterloo Region who spend time with residents and those who provide clerical, maintenance and general support – also warrant special mention.

"Together, our staff and volunteers make a very good team," says Connie.

Agrees Sheila: "We just had a gentleman tell us that this was the

most amazing place. He felt the staff loved his wife just as much as he does. And I think it's because they have a real passion for what they do ... and their care has reflected that since day one. That's one of the reasons we've come so far in 10 years and why I believe we'll continue to play an important part in the community."

For more information about Lisaard House, please call 519-650-1121 or visit www.lisaardhouse.com.



From left to right - Sheila Ainsworth, President, Board of Directors; Jackie Hatherly-Martin, Vice President, Board of Directors; Connie Dwyer, Executive Director

Did you know?

- Lisaard House is open to adult residents of Waterloo Region who have cancer, whose anticipated need for care is three months or less, have ceased active treatment and can't receive the necessary care in their own homes.
- Lisaard House has no religious or cultural affiliations.
- As a registered charitable foundation, Lisaard House has been partially funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care since 2008. Yet donations from individuals and the community remain vital to its operations as Jackie Hatherly-Martin explains: "Our funding is a little less than half of our budget so we can't underestimate the importance of the donations we get from the community."
- The most effective way to support Lisaard House is through financial gifts and fundraising events.
- Through its 'Donate a Day' program, individuals and groups can donate an amount that covers one day of the house's operating budget. For 2010, this equates to \$2,000 CDN.

UNIGLOBE
Donaldson Travel

Congratulations
on Providing
Cancer Care for
10 Years!

87 Main St., Cambridge
519-623-7570

R001729938

Congratulations!

We wish you
continued success!



ALS Environmental

60 Northland Rd.
Waterloo
519-886-6910

R001736489

BDO congratulates Lisaard House,
Waterloo Region's first and only
residential cancer hospice, on its
outstanding tenth anniversary.

Assurance | Accounting | Taxation | Advisory Services

The Bauer Buildings
150 Caroline St S Suite 201, Waterloo
519 576 5220
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP, a Canadian limited liability partnership, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms. BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.



R001738593



CAMBRIDGE &
NORTH DUMFRIES
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**Congratulations on
your 10th Anniversary!**

Your Community Foundation
is proud to be a partner.

Thank you for
making moments matter!

R001733023

Congratulations
We Appreciate
your Service to the
Community

HAMMOND
PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

625 Wabanaki Dr., Kitchener
894-1888

R001731071

VitalAire
Homehealth provider

**Congratulations
to Lisaard House
for 10 years of
making moments
matter.**

R001729943

KERR & KERR
LANDSCAPING & PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE INC.

*Congratulations
on your
Anniversary!*

2008 Morrison Rd., R.R. #1,
Cambridge
519-622-9702

R001731079

*Thank you
Lisaard House
for your contributions
to our community!*

WATERLOO REGION
RECORD

R001736092



Connecting you with care
Votre lien aux soins

CCAC CASC
Community
Care Access
Centre Centre d'accès
aux soins
communautaires

The Waterloo Wellington
Community Care Access Centre
wishes to thank the Board of
Directors and the Staff of Lisaard
House for providing 10 years of
residential hospice services to
people in our community.

Congratulations!

R001731066



A Praxair Company

Congratulations to the caring team at
Lisaard House who are celebrating
10 years of
"making moments matter".

Medigas... proud supplier of home
medical equipment and oxygen to the
residents of Lisaard Home.
For information about our services and
products call 519.893.3250 or
1.866.446.6302
Visit us at www.medigas.com



Breathe well. Sleep well. Live well.™

R001729932