



Hospice Whitby Roger Anderson House

Comfort, care and dignity for all in Durham Region

Our Journey

July 2026



Use this code to check out
our time lapse video of
construction progress!

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A Message from Eva Reti

Chair, Hospice Whitby

Happy Canada Day!

The weather couldn't be more perfect for celebrating our beautiful country with family, friends and the community.

It is due to all of you, our amazing community of donors, that the Hospice Whitby-Roger Anderson House construction project has reached 60% completion. I hope you have had the chance to watch some of my on-site videos, or the photos showing the progress of construction.

It is very exciting to see the rooms take shape with the framing, plumbing and electrical wiring. I can already envision the kitchen where special request meals will be prepared for our residents, and the adjoining dining room where anyone is welcome to gather over a cup of coffee or tea, and a snack. If you drive by the site, you will see the gorgeous stonework on the outside walls. Our architects at ROA Studio Inc., have taken extra care to ensure that our hospice residence is a beautiful building, inside and out, where comfort, care and compassion will be provided to everyone.

If you have been following our social media posts, you will know that our local business partners have been busy with fundraising on our behalf. We truly appreciate the extra work they undertake to help us reach our Capital Campaign goal. Every dollar really does make a difference!

Hospice Whitby-Roger Anderson House is being built by the community for the community. You are our community, and you are helping us build something truly amazing and necessary.

On behalf of our board and staff: Judi, John, Joyce, Roz, Jim, Tanya and Andrea, I want to thank every donor and sponsor for your contributions and support. We cannot wait to take you on a tour later this year!

Have a wonderful and safe summer.

Eva Reti



Our Community. Our Progress.
Our Hospice. Donate today. [Click here.](#)

Legacy of Care

At Hospice Whitby–Roger Anderson House, we are at an important stage in our journey. While the building continues to take shape, the vision behind it remains clear—to create a place of comfort, care, and dignity for individuals and families across Durham Region.

Hospice care is about ensuring that no one faces the end of life alone. Hospice Whitby–Roger Anderson House is being built to reflect that commitment through a warm, home-like environment where residents and their loved ones can focus on what matters most—time together.

Community support remains essential to completing this hospice residence and ensuring a sustainable future for hospice care in our community.



Ways to Maximize Your Impact

There are many meaningful ways to support Hospice Whitby–Roger Anderson House through financial and estate planning. Each option offers flexibility and the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy that reflects your values and commitment to our community.

Immediate impact gifts:

- Gifts of publicly traded securities create an immediate impact while also offering potential tax advantages.

Longer-term planned gifts:

- A gift in your will
- A gift of life insurance
- A residual gift from your estate

These options ensure support can be directed where it is needed most – both now and in the future.

Why Legacy Giving Matters

As construction progresses, the vision extends beyond the walls being built. A building alone does not sustain care—communities do.

These gifts play an important role not only in helping to complete Roger Anderson House but also in strengthening its long-term sustainability.

When Hospice Whitby opens its doors later this fall, these contributions will help ensure we can:

- Provide compassionate end-of-life care at no cost to families
- Support residents and loved ones with dignity, comfort, and compassion
- Offer grief and bereavement support when it is needed most
- Sustain hospice programs well beyond the initial build and launch

Continued...

Legacy of Care

Help Shape What Comes Next

Although our hospice residence is still under construction, its future is already being shaped by the generosity, support, and shared vision of our community.

A legacy gift is a great way to help build that future.

If you are considering a legacy gift or would like more information about including Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House in your financial or estate plans, we would be honoured to connect with you.

Together, we can ensure compassionate end-of-life care remains available for generations to come—built not only with bricks and mortar, but through lasting acts of generosity.



Scan the QR Code for more details or contact Andrea Russell, Director of Development – Major Gifts at andrea.russell@hospicewhitby.ca

Bringing Hospice Care Closer to Home

Every year, families across Durham Region face one of life's most difficult journeys. While many wish to spend their final days in a peaceful, home-like hospice residence surrounded by loved ones, access to hospice care remains limited, leaving too many families without this important option close to home.

Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House is being built to change that. Our new 10-bed hospice residence will provide compassionate, specialized end-of-life care at no cost to residents and their families, ensuring that no one has to leave their community to receive the care they deserve.



Why Community Support Matters

With construction now well underway, many may conclude that the funding required to complete Roger Anderson House has already been secured. While Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House has received government funding, it covers only 25% of the total project cost. The remaining 75% must be raised through the generosity of our community to build and sustain the warm, compassionate, home-like environment that is at the heart of hospice care.

We still need to **raise the final \$4.5 million** to complete this important project. Every donation helps bring us closer to opening our doors later this fall and ensures that compassionate, dignified hospice care will be available close to home for families across Durham Region.

Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House is more than a building—it is a promise that compassionate end-of-life care will be available closer to home, ensuring more individuals are surrounded by those they love when it matters most.

Community Events in Action



From left to right, band members Sharon Pees, Bunny Ryan, Steve Pees, Ron Woodcock, Susan Candy, Al Candy, and Stan Gordon, joined by Jim Wallace, Andrea Russell, and Eva Reti, Board Chair, Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House. Not pictured: Band members Patricia Browne and Brett Woodcock.

A Basement Band With A Big Mission: The Fabulous Finucanes

What began as a simple basement jam session during the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic has grown into something far greater than anyone could have imagined, a vibrant group of musicians, friends, and neighbours brought together by music, laughter, and community spirit.

It all started in 2020, when Al Candy, a drummer practising in his basement studio (aka Studio 488) unknowingly caught the attention of neighbour Ron Woodcock, a guitarist and vocalist who could hear the music from the street. Ron introduced himself and suggested a casual jam session. From there, friends Ziggy Pflanzner and Bunny Ryan joined in, and what began as four neighbours simply looking for connection during lockdown quickly turned into something special.

They called themselves the “Finucane 4,” named after the street where three of the original members lived. The basement studio became their creative home, a place where music, friendship, and a few well-earned laughs came together.

By 2022, the group had grown to six members with the addition of Steve Pees and Brett Woodcock, and a new name was born: “The Fabulous Finucanes.” The name wasn’t about ego, it was about humour, connection, and the idea that everyone deserves a little fun along the way.

Like any great story, there were changes along the way. Ziggy later stepped away, but the music never stopped. The spirit of the group continued to grow, and today The Fabulous Finucanes are a nine-member collective with the addition of Patricia Browne, Stan Gordon, Sharon Pees, and Susan Candy.

Continued...

Community Events in Action

What makes this group truly special is not any single performer, but the shared energy of all. They are neighbours, friends, and families who come together not only to make music, but to build community.

Each year, The Fabulous Finucanes host their annual Lawn Party, a celebration of music, friendship, and generosity. Together with their families, friends, and neighbours, they raise funds in support of local Durham Region charities, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to the chosen charity.

This year marks their **6th Annual Lawn Party, which raised an incredible \$1,400 in support of Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House**, helping advance the future of compassionate, dignified end-of-life care for families across Durham Region when they need it most.

"Hospice care is something every community needs, says Al. It brings important support to families at one of life's most emotional and difficult times, and we are proud to play even a small part in helping to make that work possible."

From basement jam sessions during COVID to a beloved community tradition, The Fabulous Finucanes are proof that something powerful can begin with something simple: a few neighbours, a shared love of music, and a willingness to connect.

Get Involved

Inspired to make a difference in your own way? Host your own community event in support of Hospice Whitby – Roger Anderson House. Visit our Community Event Guide to learn how you can get started and help bring compassionate care closer to home.

Scan the QR code to download our [Community Event Guide](#)



In Memory

We are deeply grateful to family and friends who, during difficult times, choose to honour their loved ones with a donation. Below are the latest In Memory donations since the last newsletter.

- Anna Maria Banducci
- Doug Bredewold
- Scott Cawfield
- Wayne Clark
- John and Mary Fox
- Alan Hruska
- Jayamma
- Maureen Littlejohn
- Stanley and Nan Moffatt
- Ed Paty Sr.
- Jose Ransom
- Mary Rycroft
- Ann Maree Sandiford
- Jane Smith

Behind the Design: *Creating a Space of Comfort and Care*

by Sue Pitchforth

When I was approached to join the team at Hospice Whitby–Roger Anderson House, I was deeply honoured. Almost immediately, ideas began to take shape as I envisioned how the space could look, feel, and support those who would spend time there.

One of the questions I am asked most often as an Interior Designer is, "How do you know where to begin?" For this special project, the inspiration was clear from the start: the residents, families, and friends who would spend precious moments within these walls.

Our goal was to create an environment that feels comforting, welcoming, warm, and supportive. Every design decision was guided by how the space could best serve residents and their loved ones.

Early in the design process, we decided that each resident room would have its own unique look and feel. Just as every resident is unique, we wanted their surroundings to reflect that individuality and create a more personal experience.

The furnishings became the foundation of each room's design. Comfort, functionality, and style were carefully balanced in every selection. From the beds to the bedside tables, each piece was chosen with the residents and their loved ones in mind.

I often describe design as putting together a puzzle. At Hospice Whitby–Roger Anderson House, those pieces included furniture, colour palettes, window coverings, artwork, and lighting.

Together, they create spaces that feel less institutional and more like home.

The common areas were equally important. The entrance and gathering spaces were designed to welcome family and friends, offering places where they can feel comfortable and supported.

Visiting a hospice can be an emotional experience. Our hope is that through thoughtful design, every person who walks through the doors immediately feels the care, compassion, and warmth that make this such a special place.

It has been a privilege to contribute to a project dedicated to comfort, dignity, and support, and I look forward to sharing more of the journey with you.



More Than a Night Out

Handbags for Hospice Whitby 2026



Our committee is hard at work preparing another unforgettable Handbags for Hospice Whitby. Gorgeous handbags are already arriving, sponsors are stepping forward, and exciting auction packages are coming together.

On Wednesday, November 4, 2026, we invite you to join us at Deer Creek Golf & Banquet Facility for an evening filled with laughter, inspiration, and heartfelt moments. Get ready for lively bidding on designer handbags and incredible auction packages, along with the contagious energy of Layne The Auctionista, whose enthusiasm always gets the room buzzing. Most importantly, we will hear a moving story that reminds us why hospice care matters and the impact it has on families in our community.



Tickets are now on sale

and with last year's event selling out, we encourage you to purchase your seats early. Individual tickets, tables of 8, and tables of 10 are available.

<https://hospicewhitby.ca/events-handbags-for-hospice>

For the latest event updates, handbag reveals, sponsor spotlights, and auction previews, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @handbagsforhospicewhitby.

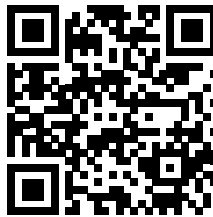


Hospice Whitby Roger Anderson House

Comfort, care and dignity for all in Durham Region

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Donate today!