



# MERRY CHRISTMAS



## *Season's Greetings from CEO*

I love the seasons. Each time of year brings newness and change which we all need. The Christmas season is like this for me. I love the songs and carols which return every year. From Brenda Lee and Burl Ives to Mariah Carey and Michael Buble, everyone has a spin on Christmas songs. The traditions of Christmas help us turn our hearts toward hope and generosity. I think every heart needs a season of hope, and I encourage you to hope for better things for you and those around you. Then I encourage you to be generous of heart, word, and deed in support of our hope for all. Give to food banks. Support those in need. Don't forget about Ukraine, Gaza, and other places where humanitarian support is needed. Our generosity and action toward hope coming alive make this world a better place. And that's what Christmas is about: hope coming alive. May you experience joy, peace, and the fulfillment of hope this Christmas season.

**Marc Kinna**  
**President & Chief Executive Officer**



## *Baptist Housing Shines as Recipient of FortisBC's Energy Conservation Leader Award*

We are proud to be acknowledged for our efforts in creating sustainable and energy-efficient housing. With Erich Klein's (Director of Sustainability & Maintenance) leadership, we have surpassed our goal of reducing our energy usage by 700t GHG emissions per year. Through the efforts of our team, we have 4,080 GJ of natural gas savings (the next top 3 housing providers delivered about 2,300 to 2,800 GJ of natural gas savings). Baptist Housing projects account for 17% of the energy savings for BC's non-profit sector. This is fantastic to see as these savings can be used to support our residents and improve our buildings.



## Our Resident of the Year 2023

Meet Barb Ulch, nominee for BCSLA L.E.A.P (Let's Embrace Aging Passionately) Award for Resident of the Year. Since joining our Hallmark community in late September 2022, Barb has shown exceptional kindness and made a positive impact on everyone around her. Barb's creativity shines through her crafty skills. By Remembrance Day, she crocheted a poppy for every resident and team member. She further blessed us with beautiful crocheted daffodils. Additionally, Barb personally creates handmade towels embroidered with the names of new residents, offering them a warm and personalized welcome into our community.

## Smith Creek Village Resident on Global News

Peter Schebel, one of our beloved residents, has been spreading joy and kindness for the past three Christmas seasons at Smith Creek Village. Peter has become a familiar face in our lobby, where he dedicates his time to ring the Salvation Army kettle bell. With a warm smile and a giving spirit, he has touched the hearts of many within our community. His commitment to helping those in need is truly inspiring! Let's make this holiday season one filled with love, compassion, and generosity for all.



## Season of Giving

Thank you to our wonderful residents and team members at The Heights at Mt. View for their generous donation of 18 boxes full of clothing for our community! The Mustard Seed Street Church felt blessed by our support.



## Thank You Care Aides

It's such an incredible opportunity for our team to attend the Hearts and Hands Conference. Huge thanks to all the amazing healthcare aides out there! Your dedication and compassion make a significant difference in the lives of many.



## Gingerbread Decorations

One of our Shannon Oaks Oak Bay residents' favourite Christmas activities - gingerbread house decoration! The gingerbread houses were even homemade by our Chef Daryl!









May this holiday season be filled with love, joy and peace.