



Newsletter

Winter 2011/2012

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

Baptist Housing loves to celebrate and what better reason than an anniversary. Shannon Oaks Vancouver recently celebrated its 10th Anniversary of providing exceptional care and service to Residents. More than a seniors community, Shannon Oaks is a home - enjoyed and loved by Residents and Team Members alike. In fact, some Residents have been living there since it opened in 2001. These Charter Residents were excellent hosts of the day, proudly wearing corsages and stepping in to help cut the cake. As family, friends and partners mingled, everyone delighted in their shared experiences with Shannon Oaks. Walking through the front door there is a sign above the fireplace that says *Welcome Home*. For the past decade and many more decades to come, Shannon Oaks truly is home.●



(l-r) Shannon Oaks Residents who have lived at Shannon Oaks since it opened 10 years ago are all smiles as they join in the cake cutting celebration.



(l-r) We are looking at you - and you all look amazing. Shannon Oaks Residents enjoying each others company during the 10th Anniversary.

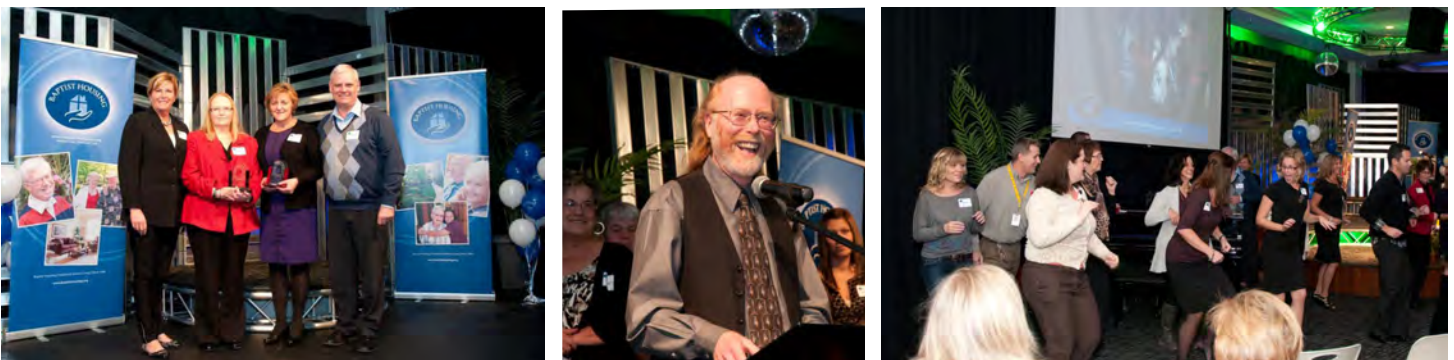
WHAT A GREAT TEAM

Our Archway of Excellence regional celebrations highlight our year of serving together.

In Victoria, Vancouver and Kelowna, Team Members gathered for evening celebrations to share stories, photos and even a few skits worthy of an off-Broadway performance. The purpose of these celebratory nights; to recognize our Teams Members for exemplifying Baptists Housing's values in their daily service and care of our Residents.



In Victoria (l-r) Brian Nelson shares a story, Marrion Village receives their Team recognition, while Team Members from Central Care Home, Marrion Village and Regional Office enjoy some food and conversation.



In Kelowna (l-r) Interior Health Partners are recognized, David VanEssen recounts the joys of being a Chaplain, while Village at Smith Creek Team Members kick off the festivities with a 'flash mob' rendition of 'Celebrate!'



In Vancouver(l-r) A gorgeous group of ladies, representing Sodexo, partners in care and service. The Grandview Towers Team entertains with a skit full of laughter, leaves and a chicken under the fridge? Not to be outdone, CFO Gord Braun proves that even accountants can have fun while recounting a story about Head Office.

PARTIES & PUMPKINS

Carver extraordinaire, Rohitha, So-dexo manager at Shannon Oaks Vancouver shows off one of his many amazing carvings. Hmmm, the face looks quite familiar.



Meanwhile, managers Ben and Rosella Friesen from Shannon Oaks Oak Bay show off their style at tacky tourist day. We're thinking they are ready for the next flight - to anywhere!



Not to be outdone, Residents from Village at Smith Creek from West Kelowna pose for their annual Christmas photo. Think they are definitely on Santa's nice list.



GIFT GIVING

One of the true highlights of my life is being invited to sing to Residents at the Village at Smith Creek. When they know I'm in town, I'll get an email or a text asking if I have time to sing and play guitar with them. Today was my lucky day.

They chose 'How Great Thou Art', 'Amazing Grace', and the barn burner, 'I Saw The Light'. And indeed, I saw the light today. We went from community to community, from the Supportive Housing and Assisted Living Dining Room, downstairs to the Residential Care communities, and we finished on the Paynter Community. Paynter is a secure community where we provide special care for special people.

We were singing 'How Great Thou Art', and that's when I saw the light. The light in the eyes of these precious Residents who may not acknowledge much else in their days, or who may acknowledge and respond to things they are experiencing that we cannot even see or perceive around us... Some sang along. Some sat very still and shut

their eyes. And one special lady, with her back to me, rose from her chair, and started to gently move her hips.

Figure eight motion. Think Elvis or Hula dance. It was an awesome sight.

Then she came over and stood very close to my guitar with her face close to mine. She moved to my neighbour and held his hands, as if to dance with him. Then she moved back to me. And as we sang the last chorus, 'then sings my soul... my saviour God to Thee... How Great Thou Art...' she sang with us, her sweet voice so clear, blessing my ears as she stood close to me.

We finished the song and I held her hands and thanked her for singing with us. And my entire busy month and hectic schedule found fulfillment in the eyes and voice and touch of my new friend. I saw the light. Indeed. They always thank us for singing to them. We always thank them back. Our gift to them is an even greater gift back to us. / *Team Member*



A Hole in One! Representing Baptist Housing in Kelowna, this foursome hit the green all smiles. The day long tournament was to raise funds and support for the Westside Health Network Society - an organization dedicated to enhancing senior's wellness through volunteerism, education, referrals and social programs.

(l-r Elizabeth Harris, Tracy Moss, Shirley Walrod, Karen Wasden)



A coordinated effort and look goes a long way towards great Team work. An unexpected surprise, the Team at Central Care home arrived in black & white for the day - even Resident dog therapist and beloved pet Squeakers got in on the action.

**For more fun photos -
Check us out on Facebook!**



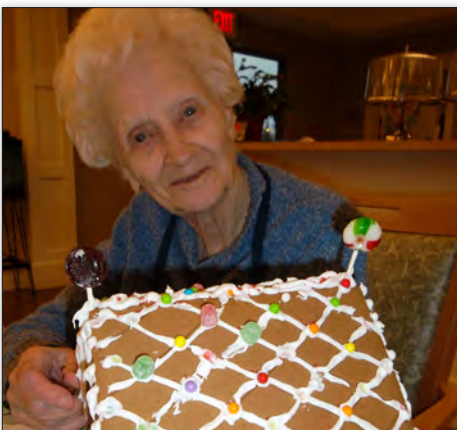


Carey Place construction proceeding well with opening scheduled for late Spring 2012.

AND THE ROOF IS ON

Construction of Carey Place is going well with the roof on well in advance of heavy rains and snow. But then again, Carey Place is in the warmest and driest part of our country. Exterior finishing continues and the roadway has been paved. Under the direction of our construction partner, Lark Group, attention is moving indoors to complete walls, windows, plumbing and electrical.

Carey Place, an affordable seniors rental building, is a partnership between Baptist Housing, BC Housing and Capital Regional District. The 55 one-bedroom suites will provide greatly needed affordable housing for seniors in Greater Victoria. ●



Speaking of roofs, Residents at Village at Mill Creek were busy with their own construction. (l-r) Helen puts some finishing touches on her roof then joins May and Edna as they admire their finished gingerbread home.

ACCREDITATION

Baptist Housing's three Kelowna campuses; Village at Mill Creek, Village at Smith Creek and Sun Pointe Village have received full accreditation with no recommendations. This is a significant achievement for our Team Members representing a commitment to achieving excellence in the care of our Residents.

The Chair of Accreditation Canada Decision Committee writes, "Congratulations! This achievement demonstrates your organization's determination and commitment to ongoing quality improvement. We applaud your leadership, staff, and accreditation team members for their efforts, and dedication to the provision of safe, quality health services."



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