



Hospice Fredericton

**Hospice Fredericton Celebrates
Hospice Palliative Care Week and National Nursing Week
May 5-12, 2019**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – In the wake of Canada’s evolving Hospice Palliative Care landscape, it is paramount to bust myths that surround Hospice Palliative Care. Hospice Palliative Care week is observed from May 5th – 11th and aims to celebrate and share achievements in the hospice palliative care field, while also providing an opportunity to recognize areas needing improvement. This year, the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association (CHPCA) designed a “Busting the Myths” campaign as a response to the need to educate Canadians including caregivers, physicians, citizens and political leaders around common myths about hospice palliative care.

The “Busting the Myths” campaign aims to empower Canadians through education by identifying and clarifying misperceptions about Hospice Palliative Care in Canada. Myths about accessibility, ease of access, illness criteria and cultural misperceptions of Hospice Palliative Care impacts the care that is accessed. These topics, among others, are addressed within the “Busting the Myths” campaign.

Hospice Fredericton, and its staff, are dedicated to breaking down the myths surrounding end of life care and the stigma that may be associated with this difficult time. The nursing staff at Hospice House, in Fredericton, have made a lasting impact on the 350+ families who have been supported since opening its doors in 2016. One family member recently mentioned that, “I can’t imagine how our three weeks spent at Hospice could be made any better. The staff and volunteers are so compassionate. I had never experienced end of life and they made it easier for both my husband and I than I could imagine. They cared for me as much as my husband and I’m forever grateful.”

Stories like these are all too common, and that is why celebrating nurses during National Nursing Week is so important in the health care sector. The theme for the 2019 campaign, from May 6-12, 2019, is “Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Health for All”. It was developed by the International Council of Nurses (ICN). According to ICN, A Voice to Lead reflects the fact that “every nurse has a story and every story has the potential to improve the health system and enable individuals and communities to achieve their highest attainable standard of health. From these insights comes the power for change.” Health for All means “not just the availability of health services, but a complete state of physical and mental health that enables a person to lead a socially and economically productive life.”

About Hospice Fredericton:

Hospice Fredericton is a federally registered not for profit organization which provides support services to individuals and families coping with advanced illness, death and bereavement. Just over 2 years ago we expanded our services to open Hospice House – which is home to a 10 bed residential hospice and the JT Clark Adult Day Centre

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