Peace Arch Hospice Society

Resource and Information Guide for Palliative Caregivers



...a special kind of caring

PEACE ARCH HOSPICE SOCIETY

© 1996 by Peace Arch Hospice Society 15435 – 16A Avenue, South Surrey, BC V4A 1T2 Telephone: 604-531-7484 e-mail: contactus@pahospicesociety.org www.peacearchhospice.org Formerly White Rock South Surrey Hospice Society

Updated Dec 2017

Printed in South Surrey, BC, Canada

Initial funding for developing this booklet was made possible through the generosity of THE LEON AND THEA KOERNER FOUNDATION

And help from . . . Teresa Hotell, Pearl Skaien, Nacina Bakal, Pat Slatten, Curtis Metzger and Lorne Ginther

Table of Contents

Introduction	5
Emergency Contacts	6-7
Dying Person's Rights	8
Checklist	9
How To Set Up A Care Team	10-11
My Care Team	12-13
Continuing Care: Fraser Health Authority	14
Home Care Nursing	14
Long Term Care: Home Support	15
Community Rehabilitation	16
Other Support Services	16
Private Nursing	16
Meals On Wheels	17
Come Share (Daycare)	17
Seniors Support Services	18
Life Link	19
Special Products Information Centre	19
Palliative Care	20-21
Transportation	22
Financial Services	23
Legal Services	24
Advance Directive	25
Representation Agreements	26
Estate Planning	27
Legal Arrangements After Death	28-31
Funerals and Arrangements	32
Funeral Homes	32-33
Planning a Funeral	34
Cemeteries	35

Spiritual and Emotional Assistance	36
Peace Arch Hospice Society	37
Spiritual Care	38-42
Counselling	43
Support Groups	44
As Death Approaches/DNR	45
Signs of Imminent Death (What to Expect)	46-47
What To Do Once Someone Has Died	48
At Hospital	48
At Home	49-50
Checklist	51-52
Bereavement Support	53-55
Useful References	56-60
How Do We Do This?	61

INTRODUCTION

Someone close to you is seriously ill. You are experiencing a whole range of emotions, some new and quite unsettling. You are facing the need to make decisions about many matters which may be unfamiliar to you. Small wonder you are feeling overwhelmed!

This booklet, prepared by the Peace Arch Hospice Society, is designed to help you look at your situation and to access and plan the resources and/or help that you may need to care for your loved one.

It is important to consider the following issues. Caring for your loved one at home may not work for everyone, but it is worth considering. Your life and circumstances are unique, and you ultimately have to decide which actions are best suited to you. You may not always have the emotional and physical energy to seek and secure help. Many people who have provided home caregiving say they had sought out or accepted more help and that there were untapped resources among family, friends and community. Your knowledge of how to develop a supportive network to meet individual and family needs will shape the caregiving you can provide. Personal and nursing care of the patient, housekeeping, transportation, procuring medical supplies, and relief for the caregiver need careful planning.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

INHALATOR:	
AMBULANCE: EMERGENCY	
Non-emergency	604-872-5151
Pre-booking 24 hours advance notice	
Fee charged for services.	
POLICE: EMERGENCY	
Non-emergency (White Rock)	778-593-3600
Non-emergency (Surrey)	
FIRE:	
Non-emergency (White Rock)	
Non-emergency (Surrey)	
WHITE ROCK VICTIM SERVICES:	778-593-3608
SURREY VICTIM SERVICES:	604-599-7600
Police-based supportive service to victims of crime a	nd accident.
POISON CONTROL CENTRE: 604-682-5050 or	604-682-2344

HOSPITALS:

Peace Arch Hospital	604-531-5512
Surrey Memorial Hospital	604-581-2211
Langley Memorial Hospital	
Delta Hospital	604-946-1121

CRISIS LINES:

EMERGENCY LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION:

M.O.S.A.I.C (possible fee charged)	
City of Surrey (free translation service), call th	eir general # and a
translator will be provided	
After hours call	

PHYSICIAN'S NAME AND PHONE: _____

PHARMACIST'S PHONE: _____

OTHER EMERGENCY CONTACT: (FAMILY, SPIRITUAL ADVISOR):

THE DYING PERSON'S RIGHTS

The right to be heard and to have emotional support.

The right to be told all the facts.

The right to share in decision making.

The right to refuse treatment.

The right to maintain control over his/her own life.

The right to die when his/her body and spirit are ready.

The right to be cared for by professionals who have respect for the patient and his/her family.

CHECKLIST

In considering the decision to care for your loved one at home, use this checklist to help you get a clear picture of the services you might find helpful. This booklet is indexed to make it easier to match the resources available to the needs identified.

HOUSEHOLD HELP:

- Handyman
- Meal Preparation
- Cleaning
- Grass Cutting
- Homecare Equipment
- Gardening
- Shopping

PROFESSIONAL HELP

- Diet Counselling
- □ Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Nursing
- D Podiatry
- Dental Care
- Vision Checks
- Hearing Checks
- Legal Counselling
- Financial Counselling
- Personal Counselling
- Family Counselling

CAREGIVING HELP

- Grooming
- □ Bathing
- □ Feeding
- Rest/Relief
- □ Supervision: Day
- □ Supervision: Night
- □ Visiting
- □ Transportation
- Mental Stimulation
- □ Administering Medication
- Physical Exercise
- Emotional Support

HOW TO SET UP A CARE TEAM

During a terminal illness a family's energy and resources are taxed tremendously. Although the patient may receive Hospice Society, nursing, or homemaker support, further help for the family may be needed, especially when there are children involved. You may want as few people around as necessary. However, this is a time to receive help as you care for your loved one.

Who can you ask for help? There will often be friends, church members, neighbours who have offered to help and you have turned them down not knowing what to ask them to do.

How to prepare:

1. Make a list of people who you want on your team and their phone numbers. Do not include people you aren't comfortable with because you don't want to hurt their feelings. This is a time to care for yourselves and only have people near who are supportive and caring to you.

2. Decide as a family what you want and what kind of help you need, and if there is someone in particular you want it from.

food preparation: what are the family preferences? what foods should be avoided? Do you want small dishes or large sized casseroles? What kinds of sweets? Loaves? Breads? Keep in mind that small portions easily frozen and thawed can be more helpful than large casseroles which require several days to finish.

household chores: washing clothes, changing bedding for the rest of the family, housecleaning - vacuuming, dusting, ironing, washing floors, cleaning out the fridge/stove; polishing shoes, grocery shopping. **yard work:** mowing the lawn, weeding the garden, keeping flowers and lawn watered

<u>children:</u> drop off & pick up from school, driving to activities, babysitting

other areas:

3. Maybe this information has given you ideas that you want to try on your own, or maybe there is a natural team coordinator or leader among your family or friends. MY CARE TEAM: (See Weekly Plan Form inside back cover)

MEMBERS PHONE NUMBER _____ _____ FOOD PREPARATION **PREFERENCES:** Small Portions_____ Lg Casseroles_____ Freezer prepared_____ Sweets:

Loaves:_____ Breads: _____

ES		
Grocery Shopping		
Weeding	Watering	
Activities	School	
	Weeding	

CONTINUING CARE

Fraser Health Authority OFFICES:

Ladner/Delta	
Langley	
Newton	
Surrey	
White Rock/South Surrey	
CENTRAL INTAKE	
New Clients	1-855-412-2121

HOME CARE NURSING

Community Home Care Nursing is a service of the Fraser Health Authority Continuing Care Services. This service provides professional nursing care to eligible British Columbia residents of all ages with acute, chronic, and palliative health care needs, outside the confines of an acute care hospital.

A request for service may originate from the physician, client, client's family, other ministry programs, local hospitals or other community agencies. An initial assessment is conducted to determine if the request for care is within the jurisdiction of the service. Nursing visits are made between 8:30 AM and 6:00 PM seven days a week, and the service is free of charge to the client.

Community Home Care Nurses encourage the client to participate in, and to be responsible for his or her own care through teaching, mobilization of resources, and direct nursing care. Clients who qualify for palliative benefits are provided with certain supplies and equipment. They must be referred by their doctor.

LONG TERM CARE: HOME SUPPORT

Long Term Care is a service of the Fraser Health Authority Continuing Care Services.

The Long Term Care Program provides a variety of in-home support services, residential care services and special support services to assist people whose ability to function independently is affected by health related problems.

Case Management services are designed to assist clients and family caregivers to identify their health care requirements. Those professionals will work with clients/families to gain the best use of their own resources and community based services. Assistance includes assessment, consultation, teaching and linking clients with the most appropriate care providers.

There are eligibility criteria for services and depending on your income you may be required to make a financial contribution.

Arranging an in-home interview with a case manager from the Long Term Care Program is one way of familiarizing yourself with community resources. The case manager will describe in-home support services and develop a care plan specific to your needs. There are home support services to help you with routine chores such as bathing, dressing, grooming, and respite care, should you need this assistance. The home support worker can also assist with various household tasks such as laundry, vacuuming and cooking, if these are identified in your care plan. Private home support services are also available and local services are listed in the yellow pages.

COMMUNITY REHABILITATION

Community rehabilitation is a service of the Fraser Health Authority Continuing Care Services. Occupational therapy services help to promote and maintain functional independence by offering various services in the client's home. The assistance offered may include assessment, consultation, treatment, education of clients, caregivers and family members, and referrals to appropriate community resources.

OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES

PRIVATE NURSING AND HOME SUPPORT WORKERS

Private nursing care is also available to augment the Home Care Nursing program, if necessary. These programs provide RNs, RPNs, LPNs, care aides, home support workers, and live-in staff. (Please note that some Extended Health Care plans cover nursing care. Check what your plan offers.) Check the yellow pages under Nurses and Nurses Registry.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals can be delivered to the home three days a week by volunteers of the Meals on Wheels program. Dietary concerns can be addressed by the dietetic department of the local hospital but only with a doctor's referral.

White Rock/South Surrey Meals on Wheels: 604-541-6325

Surrey/North Delta Meals on Wheels: 604-588-6325

Langley Meals on Wheels: 604-533-1679

COME SHARE

Come Share Adult Daycare programs, which provide respite, are available through a referral by Continuing Care (page 14) or self referral (private). For information on this program call:

White Rock: 604-531-2502

Surrey/Newton: 604-599-0034

SENIOR'S SUPPORT SERVICES

LIFELINE

PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL 604-535-4560

This is a Personal Emergency Response System that is worn as a wrist band or necklace. Candidates are interviewed and assessed to ensure they are suitable. Installation and monthly rental charges apply. It offers reassurance to the client and family that help is only moments away. In the event of trouble, the subscriber can push the Lifeline button which sends an electronic signal via the telephone to the emergency room of Peace Arch Hospital where monitoring personnel will arrange for appropriate help. Clients must have family/neighbours/friends who live in the area and who are able and willing to assist the subscriber if asked to respond.

SPECIAL PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTION CENTRE

The Centre, located at Children's Hospital, supplies nutritional products, feeding devices, nasal gastric tubes and general tube feeding. Requires a medical referral, is subsidized by and under contract with Social Services, and does not compete with retail outlets. Phone number 604-875-2345.

PALLIATIVE CARE

PALLIATIVE CARE means no further curative treatment is sought. The goal is to provide the patient with comfort care symptom management. Home Care Nursing, medication, and equipment are available to Palliative Care patients at home, through the BC Palliative Care Benefits Program. Please contact your physician for further information.

PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL has 7 hospice beds in a distinct and separate Hospice Residence Unit. Although a patient can be admitted to the hospital and receive palliative care on any floor, Peace Arch Hospice has a smaller patient-to-nurse ratio and the rooms are private. WRSS Hospice Society volunteers are often present on the Unit. A special tea is prepared and served to patients and their families on Wednesdays and Sundays by the Peace Arch Hospice Society Volunteers.

Peace Arch Hospice: 604-531-5512 Ext 757425 or 604-535-4500 Ext 757425

WHITE ROCK/SOUTH SURREY HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE PROGRAM: The Peace Arch Hospice Society is partnered with the Fraser Health Authority's White Rock/South Surrey Hospice Palliative Care Program, which provides a team approach to coordination and provision of care for patients and families registered on the program. A centralized record is utilized to assure continuity of care from the time of acceptance into the program until post bereavement services are completed. Individuals with a life threatening illness may be referred to the program by professional caregivers or through self-referral at any time throughout the course of their illness. For more information on the White Rock/South Surrey Hospice Palliative Care Program, or to refer a patient to the program, phone 604-535-4500 Ext 757425. **SURREY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL** has a 10 bed Tertiary Care Unit.

LAUREL PLACE HOSPICE is a 20 bed Hospice Residence situated across the street from the Surrey Memorial Hospital. Anyone connected with the patient can make a referral to the palliative team 24 hours a day and a referral will be made concerning placement. The team participates in a comprehensive home/hospital support program which includes home care nursing, hospice volunteers, etc., and a bereavement program which addresses anticipatory grief, follow up after death, grief support groups for adults, teens and children.

- Surrey Memorial Hospital: (604) 581-2211
- o Laurel Place: (604) 582-6336
- Surrey Hospice Society: (604) 584-7006

LANGLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL has integrated palliative care throughout the hospital as well as 10 designated palliative care beds through Langley Hospice Residence located in the 'A' wing of the Maple Hill Extended Care Unit at 22051 Fraser Hwy. There is a palliative committee within the hospital. The attending physician designates the patient as palliative.

- o Langley Memorial Hospital: (604) 534-4121* loc.5780
- Langley Hospice Society: (604) 530-1115
- Langley Hospice Residence: (604) 514-6181

DELTA – The 10-suite Irene Thomas Hospice Residence and communal garden provides comprehensive and integrated services throughout the continuum of hospice palliative care for the community of Delta BC. The Delta Hospice Society manages and operates both the Irene Thomas Hospice Residence and the adjacent Harold and Veronica Savage Centre for Supportive Care.

- Centre for Supportive Care: (604) 948-0660
- o Irene Thomas Hospice Residence: (604) 948-4828

TRANSPORTATION

HANDYDART:

Door-to-door, shared ride, transportation service for passengers with physical or cognitive
disabilities. Same day service may be available, but you must usually book a few days in
advanceFees apply

SOURCES COMMUNITY RESOURCES SOCIETY:

TRANSIT AND BUS INFORMATION: 604-953-3333

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES/BUS PASSES:

Seniors receiving GIS, GAIN, or spouse's allowance may purchase a yearly bus pass. The pass allows unlimited free travel in Greater Vancouver Regional District.

On-line requests preferred. Go to sd.gov.bc.ca "bus pass program"

FINANCIAL SERVICES

PERSONAL SUPPORTS BC

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES

If your caregiving activities mean that you have to take a leave from work, this could cause financial hardship. You may be eligible for financial assistance through the Ministry of Human Resources. The patient may also qualify for a handicapped allowance and/or fully paid medical (including prescriptions, provided they are recognized by Pharmacare). Call and make an appointment to discuss your situation with a Financial Assistance worker.

Personal Supports Information Line (Mon-Fri 9am-4pm)1-866-866-0800

LEGAL SERVICES

Although difficult, it is a good idea for some pre-death arrangements to be made by the patient and family. The patient can provide for survivors and prevent legal problems for the family after death by having a current Last Will and Testament. The services listed below offer free legal information. In most cases a lawyer or notary should be consulted for Will preparation.

LEGAL AID	(Surrey/White Rock)	
-----------	---------------------	--

SOCIETY OF NOTARIES PUBLIC OF BC 604-681-4516

LEGAL SERVICES SOCIETY	
Legal Services Society provides information on legal aid, re	eferral service, and has a legal
resource centre for public use. (Hours Mon. to Thurs. 10 a.	.m. to 4 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m. to 1
<i>p.m.</i>)	

PUBLIC GUARDIAN AND TRUSTEE OF BC.... 604-660-4444 Protects estates and financial interests of mentally disordered persons. If you are dealing with an emergency situation, indicate this when you call.

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

Your Last Will and Testament deals with your estate (property, finances, etc.) <u>after</u> you die. Advance Directive addresses the kind of care you receive while you are alive, but are unable to communicate. If you want certain kinds of life sustaining measures done *or not done* you might wish to use an Advance Directive to guide those who will be making decisions on your behalf. If you are unable to answer for yourself, your next of kin will be consulted. Living Wills have no standing in law in British Columbia at the present time, but they are often deferred to and gratefully used by medical practitioners and family. Copies of these documents should be given to the people who might need to use them, including your family, doctor, notary, and/or lawyer.

REPRESENTATION AGREEMENTS

Representation Agreements can be drafted to give specific people power to manage routine financial affairs, minor and major health care, personal care, and obtaining legal service and instructing Counsel. On September 1, 2002, the Enduring Power of Attorney was replaced with the Representation Agreement with Additional Powers - for matters such as selling real estate, refusing life support, managing your business, and making temporary arrangements for the needs of minor children. If you want to arrange a Representation Agreement for someone to act on your behalf, your Lawyer or Notary can help you with that decision to confirm that you understand the effect of such documents. The original of these documents should be kept in a safe place where it can be accessed when needed.

Copies of these documents should be given to the people who might need to use them, including your family, doctor and/or lawyer.

ESTATE PLANNING

- 1) Have an updated Representation Agreement.
- 2) Have an up-to-date Last Will and Testament.
- 3) Make sure the house and/or cottage is held in Joint Tenancy and not as Tenants-in-Common.
- 4) Seek professional advice on how best to register your car, RV, boat, etc.
- 5) Ensure a beneficiary is named on life insurance, RRSP, RRIF, Canada Pension Plan and/or other pensions, trusts (do not leave to the Estate).
- 6) Seek professional advice on whether to have bank accounts, Government bonds, GICs, Stocks, Safety Deposit Boxes, held in joint names or not.

(If recommendations in #3 to #6 are followed, these assets will **not** form part of the estate and therefore no probate will be required.)

LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS AFTER DEATH

Following a death, there are a number of legal steps required to settle a deceased person's estate. If the estate is straight forward and there is no conflict, you may wish to do some of the business yourself, to save on the fees charged by a lawyer. You could do the following:

1. DEATH CERTIFICATE - You should request certified copies of the Death Certificate. These can be obtained from the Funeral Director or District Registrar, from the Division of Vital Statistics, 1515 Blanchard Street, Victoria, BC V4W 3C8. It would be wise to get three or four Death Certificates, depending on the number of financial institutions you are required to deal with. Notarized copies can be made from the original for a Will Search. The Land Title Office will require an original which will be returned on request.

2. WILLS SEARCH - A Wills Search must be conducted at the Division of Vital Statistics (address above). This is to ensure that the Last Will and Testament you have is indeed the "Last" or most recent Will made by the deceased. There is a small charge for the Wills Search. Once the Division of Vital Statistics has searched their registry, they will mail a Certificate of Response showing all Wills made by the deceased that are registered with them. If the form indicates there is no Wills Notice filed, but you have an original Will in your possession, you may act on the basis of the Will that you have. You will need to file the original Wills Search Certificate of Response with the other papers when applying for Probate (if Probate is required.)

3. BENEFICIARIES - You must send formal notice in writing to all beneficiaries and to all persons who would have been a beneficiary if there was no Will. If there is no Will, you must always send a formal notice to those persons who would at law receive a

part of the estate. If children or incapable adults are beneficiaries, the Public Trustee must also be notified.

4. DETERMINING ESTATE VALUE - If land or other property is involved that is not held as joint tenants, the Will must be probated. If you are going to a lawyer, get at least three estimates of cost and length of time required to complete the probate. Get this in writing. A Notary Public cannot probate estates - however he/she can act as an Executor of an Estate and can notarize the probate documents prepared by yourself and arrange for the transfer of land into the name of the surviving party. You must provide the approximate gross value of the estate. Gross value does not include property of assets going to a joint holder or trusts that now pass to someone else. If the lawyer does it all, the charge will be according to the total value of the work.

5. OTHER BUSINESS-

a) Notify and make application for benefits from Insurance companies, banks, pension offices (work pension, Canada Pension, Old Age Pension, Veteran's Pension). Canada Pension does have a death benefit; There may also be an Allowance for the survivor. It must be applied for by completing the Application for a Canada Pension Plan Death Benefit and address on sending it to the the form (download @servicecanada.gc.ca). A representative of Income Security comes at least once a month to the Kent Street Activity Centre at 1475 Kent Street, White Rock (telephone 604-541-2231). You can call to find out when they are coming and make an appointment to discuss your concerns.

You are entitled to the Canada Pension, DVA pension and Old Age Security Pension for the month of death. Send the cheque back to the issuer with the date of death and they will re-issue the cheque into the name of the Estate c/o the Executor.

- b) Transfer house and/or cottage to the name of the surviving joint tenant. In Surrey and White Rock, you contact the Land Titles Office, 88 6th St., New Westminster, BC (telephone: 604-630-9630). They will require an original of the death certificate (but they will return it if requested to do so).
- c) Transfer insurance on the house and/or cottage.
- d) Transfer bank account(s) and vehicle(s) to surviving joint owners.
- e) Notify the Medical Services Plan of BC, P.O. Box 1600, Victoria, BC, V8W 2X9. There may be a refund coming. (Automated service 604-683-7151, 1-800-663-7100)
- f) Cancel all credit cards. Ask that the accounts be closed and that they forward a final statement of the account to you.
- g) Cancel subscriptions and charge accounts or transfer them to another name.
- h) Check out Safety Deposit Box if held jointly, the other tenant may take the contents of the box after an inventory has been made. If not held jointly, you can take the Will, but other contents will be frozen.
- i) The deceased's Income Tax Return must be filed for the year of death.
- j) Cancellation of BC Driver's License. 1-800-663-3051 or 604-661-2800.

OTHER INFORMATION THAT MAY BE OF VALUE

- 1. If the estate is under \$10,000. it is usually not necessary to Probate the will;
- If the estate is under \$20,000 it may not be necessary to Probate the Will (unless there is real estate not held jointly). It depends on the requirements of the Institute holding the asset. Check with that Institution.
- 3. Wills Variation Act: A spouse who has lived with the deceased within the year or a legitimate child has the right to vary the terms of the Will for maintenance and support if action is commenced within six months of the Probate of the Will, if not adequately provided for by the Will.
- 4. Beneficiaries have the right to have fees charged by the Executor or lawyer reviewed by the District Registrar of the Supreme Court. A letter setting out the circumstances is sufficient to have a notice issued to the Executor or lawyer.

Prepared by the Peace Arch Hospice Society with assistance donated by J. Lorne Ginther, Barrister and Solicitor, Spring 1994, and Roy Cammack, Notary Public, Autumn 2001.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: PREPLANNING

Preplanning the details of a funeral or memorial gathering allows an opportunity for the patient to make his or her preferences known. It also removes the burden of decision making from family members at a time when they are experiencing great stress.

The following services may be of help to you and your family along with your spiritual/religious advisor, if applicable.

BC FUNERAL SERVICE ASSOCIATION 1-800-665-3899 Victoria, BC www.bcfunerals.com *For preplanning forms, free advice, consultation, details of cost, etc.*

FIRST MEMORIAL FUNERAL SERVICES...... 604-589-2559 14835 Fraser Hwy, Surrey, BC V3R 3N6

ALTERNATIVE FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES

203 - 7311 Vantage Way, Delta, BC V4G 1C9

VALLEY VIEW FUNERAL HOME & CEMETERY

VICTORY MEMORIAL PARK FUNERAL CENTRE

Funeral Home, Cemetery, Crematorium (& pre-planning)

14831 - 28th Ave., Surrey, BC V4P 1P3

PLANNING A FUNERAL

When a death occurs in a family and funeral arrangements have to be made, a person's judgment tends to be clouded by emotional stress. Planning funerals in advance not only saves a family a great deal of upset, difficulty, and expense, it also frequently helps people resolve concerns about death that might have gone unattended.

Regarding the choice between burial or cremation, cremation costs are usually lower. Costs of burial include the cost of the plot for internment, for opening and closing the grave, for the marker, and frequently for plot upkeep. Prices for these would be identified, and additional services frequently offered in association with traditional funerals and burial should be evaluated as to whether they are necessary or appropriate. The latter includes embalming, concrete liners, and burial vaults (e.g. embalming is only required if the body is to be transported by public conveyance for a period longer than 72 hours). Concrete liners must be provided - it is the law in British Columbia.

If an emergency funeral arises, and arrangements must be made without prior consideration, it is suggested that a close friend, executor, or minister accompany the family to the funeral home to assist you.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION FOR SOUTH SURREY/WHITE ROCK AREA

FUNERAL HOMES

Please see the list on pages 32-33.

CEMETERIES

There are three cemeteries in the South Surrey/White Rock area:

VICTORY MEMORIAL PARK

HAZELMERE, SUNNYSIDE LAWN, and SURREY CENTRE CEMETERIES

GARDENS OF GETHSEMANI CATHOLIC CEMETERY AND MAUSOLEUM

SPIRITUAL and EMOTIONAL ASSISTANCE

Some who read this book will want no outside help; others will quickly connect with all that is available. For still others, over the time span of your loved one's illness, you will come to need and accept some form of support which is in your community.
PEACE ARCH HOSPICE SOCIETY

604-531-7484

One option of support is the Peace Arch Hospice Society. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing a program of care for individuals and their families facing a life-threatening illness. It also offers support for people who are experiencing grief.

The Society's programs include:

- professional staff to counsel individuals and families and support volunteers.
- One-to-one support at home or in the hospital with a clinical counsellor or trained volunteer.
- A hospital visiting program.
- Bereavement support through private counselling, volunteers, grief support groups and relaxation groups.
- Resource and referral information for clients and caregivers.
- Community education regarding hospice philosophy, grief and loss.

Volunteers are carefully selected and specially trained in the grief process. This gives them an understanding of the unique stresses experienced by families living with a life-threatening illness. They provide emotional, practical, and spiritual support for families. There is no charge for the Society's services.

SPIRITUAL CARE

For some patients and their families, a religion, a church community or faith group and their personal relationship with God can be a source of strength during a difficult and searching time. You may want your local clergy or pastoral counsellor to become more involved with your family at this time.

Each person has a spiritual dimension which is expressed in religious or philosophical beliefs and practices. One's belief system varies greatly depending upon one's sex, age, experience, race and ethnic heritage.

Spirituality may be expressed in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, religious and secular, including but not limited to symbols, rituals, practices, art forms, prayers and meditations.

The search for spirituality is both intimate and personal and may be heightened as one confronts death. It is often a time when there is need to find meaning in one's life, hope and acceptance. It is important to find a place of comfort and peace.

Each person's needs and beliefs are different and will be respected by the Hospice Society workers.

"In answer to the cry of the spirit, hospice says we are here. We will be with you in your living and your dying. We will free you from pain and give you the freedom to find your own meaning in your life - your way. We will comfort you and those you love - not always with words, often with a touch or a glance. We will bring you hope - not for tomorrow but for this day. We will not leave you. We will watch with you. We will be there."

Dr. Dorothy D. H. Ley

COMMUNITY CHURCHES and FAITH GROUPS

ALLIANCE

Peace Portal Alliance (Christian & Missionary Alliance) ... 604-531-4733

ANGLICAN

Church of the Holy Trinity	
St. Mark's Anglican	

BAHA'I

BAPTIST

The Church on Oxford Hill	
Uptown Church	
Fellowship Baptist Church	
White Rock Baptist Church	
White Rock Life Church	

BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF CANADA 604-272-3330

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ Scientist	1
----------------------------------	---

EVANGELICAL FREE

White Rock Community Chu	rch 604-531-2131
--------------------------	------------------

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

Emmanuel Evangelical Covenant Church 604-535-0748

FAITH MISSION CHRISTIAN Faith Mission Conference Centre
FOURSQUARE Pacific Winds Foursquare Church
GOSPEL Hilltop Gospel Chapel
<u>GREEK ORTHODOX</u>
HINDU Vedic Hindu Society Temple 604-596-4777
INTER-DENOMINATIONAL White Rock Centre for Positive Living
JEHOVAH'S WITNESS Kingdom Hall
JEWISH (ORTHODOX) Centre for Judaism of the Lower Fraser Valley 604-542-5454
JEWISH (REFORMED) White Rock/S. Surrey Jewish Community Centre 604-541-9995
KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

LUTHERAN Mount Olive Lutheran Church
MENNONITE BRETHREN Grace Point Community Church
MORMON Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints 604-531-5911
MUSLIM (MOSLEM/ISLAMIC) BC Muslim Association
<u>NATIVE</u> Semiahmoo First Nation (Native Elders)
PENTECOSTAL Maranatha Fellowship Ministries
PRESBYTERIAN St. John's Presbyterian Church
<u>QUAKERS</u> Friends Religious Society of Quakers (Vancouver) 604-263-5015
<u>REFORMED</u> Hope Reformed Church (Vancouver)

ROMAN CATHOLIC	
Star of the Sea Parish	604-531-6316
Good Shepherd Church	604-531-5739
SALVATION ARMY (Protestant)	604-531-7314
SCIENTOLOGY (CHURCH OF)	
Vancouver	604-681-9121
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST - White Rock	604-531-6142
<u>SIKH</u>	
Guru Nanak Sikh Temple	604-594-8117
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC	604-524-8824
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX	
Church of St. Mary	604-581-2768
UNITARIAN - S. Surrey/White Rock	604-512-9032
UNITED	
Cloverdale United Church	604-574-5813
Crescent United Church	604-535-1166
First United Church	604-531-4850
Sunnyside United Church	604-531-2979

COUNSELLING

Although facing illness and death as a family may make it easier, not all families can be open and share their feelings. Sometimes sources outside the family can help with the situation. They can help bring family members together to talk, listen and help one another.

ADDICTION SERVICES	
BC BEREAVEMENT HELPLINE	
LIVING THROUGH LOSS	
COUNSELLING SOCIETY	
MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION LINE 604-541-6844	
PEACE ARCH COMMUNITY SERVICES	
S.A.F.E.R. (Suicide Attempt Follow-up Education and Research)	
For friends and family of suicide victims; counselling & mutual support groups	
OPTIONS COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY	

SUPPORT GROUPS and INFORMATION

There are numerous support groups which provide information and support to patients and families coping with chronic/terminal illnesses and/or sudden death.

PEACE ARCH HOSPICE SOCIETY	
LANGLEY HOSPICE SOCIETY	
SURREY HOSPICE SOCIETY	
DELTA HOSPICE SOCIETY	
ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT	
White Rock Resource Centre	
LUPUS SUPPORT	
SENIORS INFORMATION &	
SUPPORT NETWORK	
S.I.D.S. HELPLINE	
COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS OF CANA	DA
Meet at Victory Memorial Park Funeral Cent	er 604-536-6522
PACIFIC AIDS RESOURCE CENTRE	
CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY	

Helps cancer patients and their families understand and cope with cancer. Volunteers are cancer patients or family members of cancer patients who make one-to-one visits with patients, upon patient or family request or medical referral. Volunteers have completed a training program prior to making visits, which can be at a patient's homes or in the hospital.

AS DEATH APPROACHES

"<u>DNR</u>": DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER

For an anticipated death

Patients who know they have a terminal illness or who are considered at the natural end of their lives can request beforehand that no active resuscitation be started on their behalf if they are dying. This should be done after discussions with their doctor. "Do Not Resuscitate" is defined as no cardiopulmonary resuscitation in the event of a respiratory and/or cardiac arrest.

The "Do Not Resuscitate" Order Form is provided by the doctor or home care nurse to allow a person to clearly state that they do not want active resuscitation to be given in circumstances where they can no longer make the decision for themselves. It instructs people not to start active resuscitation on the person's behalf whether they are at home, in the community or a long term care facility

The "Do Not Resuscitate" Form should be readily available to show to anyone attending a death. If a person's wishes are changed about this matter, then the doctor and community nurse should be informed and the form torn up.

You should be aware that the patient will go through a number of physical changes as his/her body "slows down" and prepares for the final stages of life. Please remember that each situation is different and not necessarily all of these signs and symptoms will occur in all dying persons.

SIGNS OF IMMINENT DEATH

The following changes are presented in the order in which they usually appear and may occur for many days prior to death. Some practical advice and comfort measures are included to help you cope with situations which may arise.

Sleeps longer periods and sometimes has difficulty waking.

- Plan conversation for times when he/she is more wakeful and alert.
- Keep visiting times brief or encourage visitors to sit at bedside.

Has a decrease in appetite.

- As the disease progresses people eat and drink less.
- Offer small servings of light foods.
- Encourage but do not force fluids.
- Keep the person's mouth moist and comfortable.

Becomes confused and unable to recognize familiar people and surroundings.

- Speak calmly and naturally.
- Remind him/her of time, place, and who is in the room.

May experience, see or talk to deceased family members - may use symbolic language (i.e. talk about "going home").

- Allow the person to express his/her experience
- Be reassured that this behaviour is normal.

Becomes restless, pulls at bed linen and clothing.

- Avoid physical restraint, if possible.
- Calm and soothing music or gentle massage may ease a restless patient.
- Contact family doctor if home safety becomes a concern.

Has difficulty swallowing or "forgets" to swallow.

- Give only what he/she wants and can handle. "Forcing" someone to eat or drink at this stage could cause vomiting or choking.
- Remind him or her to swallow.

Has irregular or shallow breathing.

• It is quite common to have 10 - 30 second periods when breathing may stop.

Has irregular pulse or heartbeat.

• Both of these are normal patterns and are signs of the "slowing down" process.

Develops "wet" sounding breathing.

- This is caused by saliva collecting at the back of the throat, which cannot be swallowed because of weak muscles.
- Turn patient on his or her side.
- Raise the head of the bed, or raise upper body with pillows.

Is unresponsive to voices or touch and may appear to be sleeping with eyes open.

• Continue to speak in a calm, natural way - everything you say may be heard.

Loses control of bladder or bowels

• Your Home Care nurse can give advice on appropriate protective padding or recommended whether a catheter may be necessary.

Has cool legs and arms with the skin acquiring a mottled blue/purple appearance.

• Use the usual amount of bedcoverings to keep the patient comfortable. He or she will not be feeling "cold".

AT THE TIME OF DEATH

There will be no response. There will be no breathing. There will be no pulse. Eyes will be fixed in one direction; they may be open or closed. There may be loss of control of bladder or bowels. (Adapted from Victoria Hospice)

WHEN SOMEONE DIES AT THE HOSPITAL

If your relative/friend dies at the hospital you will be notified if you are not present at the time. You may wish to spend time with you relative's body. Or you may not want to see the body. That you may have apprehensions is to be expected. Asking a close relative, friend or spiritual advisor to go with you could be a good idea. The deceased's valuables and clothes will be given to the family, who will sign for them. Rings or jewelry are not to be left on the body. If the physician has indicated the need for an autopsy, a member of the family must sign the form. It is the family's responsibility to make arrangements for a funeral home to pick up the body.

WHEN SOMEONE DIES AT HOME

When someone dies at home after a prolonged illness, it is often a "planned" death where the family has anticipated the death, a physician and the patient have signed a DO NOT RESUSCITATE order, and there is a plan for when the death actually occurs as to who will be called to "pronounce" the death. Pronouncement should not be confused with the death certificate: you do not need a death certificate to transport the body. It is in the best interest of the patient and the family to have carefully prepared for this so that the family is not put through the chaos that can erupt if emergency personnel from police, fire, coroner, and ambulance arrive and heroic resuscitation attempts are made and the family is questioned about the circumstances of the death. A DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER WILL NOT NECESSARILY PROTECT YOU FROM UNWANTED RESUSCITATION ATTEMPTS IF YOU CALL EMERGENCY SERVICES - THEY HAVE A PROTOCOL THEY WILL LIKELY FOLLOW.

It is not necessary to remove a body immediately after someone dies. It may not be possible if it is in the middle of the night. The funeral service will transport the body after a Registered Nurse or Physician has pronounced the death.

WHAT TO DO AHEAD OF TIME

1. Discuss the option of an at-home death with your physician.

2. Make a plan with your family physician so you are clear about what will happen and family/friends will know what to do at the time of death. Your plan will need to include:

- who will pronounce death
- how your physician can be reached
- what alternate arrangements have been made should your physician be unavailable or cannot be reached
- which funeral home will be called to transport the deceased

3. Make pre-arrangements with a funeral home. Such arrangements will normally involve selecting the funeral home and making plans with the funeral director for transportation of the deceased after death and the method of final disposition.

4. Communicate your plan to family, friends and others, such as your spiritual advisor so they may support your decisions and respect your wishes.

5. Ensure that the original copy of the DO NOT RESUSCITATE form is easily available in your home (often posted on or put on top of the refrigerator). If you are away from your home for any reason, take the form with you so it may be presented to emergency services personnel should it be necessary.

CHECKLIST

If you want help with the following things that need to be done, don't be afraid to ask a friend or relative. **DO NOT** call 911, police or ambulance. This would mean resuscitation attempts and a transfer to the hospital.

 Call your family doctor: Telephone:
Birth Place:
Date of birth:
Names and birth places of parents: Mother:
Father:
Call family members, friends, or spiritual advisor you would like to be with you:

 \Box Call the funeral home to remove the body in preparation for

cremation or burial: Telephone:

Decide on time and place of funeral/memorial service.

□ Notify Executor. If a lawyer is to be involved with the will, notify him/her.

☐ Make lists of the immediate family, close friends, and employer or business colleagues. Notify each by phone.

Uvrite obituary and deliver in person or phone to newspapers.

 \Box If flowers are to be omitted, decide on memorial to which gifts may be made.

A Make arrangements for answering door or telephone, keeping careful records of calls.

Arrange appropriate child care.

Coordinate the supplying of food for the next days.

Consider special needs of the household, such as cleaning etc.

Arrange hospitality for visiting relatives.

□ Select pallbearers and notify.

Arrange for flowers at the funeral/memorial.

Arrange for disposition of flowers after the funeral/memorial.

Prepare list of distant persons to be notified and by what means.

□ Prepare list of persons to receive acknowledgments of flowers, calls, etc. and send appropriate acknowledgments. When you start to receive condolence cards/letters, remember that you do not have to read them all at once or answer them all.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

After a death you may feel a wide variety of emotions. People often tell us of not only intense sadness at their loss, but we also hear of anger, guilt, jealousy, anxiety, bitterness, resentment, detachment, frustration, relief, and numbness (physical and emotional). Grief can also bring many physical manifestations including, tightness in the chest or throat, sleeplessness, shortness of breath, headaches, loss of appetite and many others. If you are concerned about physical symptoms or manifestations after a loss it is important to consult your family doctor.

It is important to remember, however, that intense sadness after a loss which may be accompanied by some physical signs does not translate into clinical depression. It is normal to feel intense sadness after the loss of someone we love. It is in fact a profound sign of our love and helps to define us as human beings. Most people do not need prolonged psychotherapy or drugs to help them through their loss. However, most of us do need some time and a few good and faithful listeners to 'walk along side' as we move through grief. It is important to know and affirm that each of us have our own unique ways of grieving and to express this to others who are worried or upset that we are not grieving the way they would have us grieve.

There are a variety of places where you might reach out for help in dealing with your grief. A number of these places are listed under counselling resources earlier in this booklet. It is important not to underestimate the value of old friends or existing support through church, clubs, and organizations of which you have been a part. It is also good to recognize that people you have been close to, may not respond in a way that is most helpful to you because of their own thoughts, beliefs, and experiences of grief. Some people are too frightened of grief to get close to you after a loss, and others will want to prescribe what you should think, feel and do. Remember this is your loss and your grief, others may be similar, but you relationship with your loved one is unique.

At the Hospice Society you will always be safe with your grief. As time goes by you may still have pangs of sadness long after others feel you should not be feeling sad. We understand this is true and we hear this often. Our counselling staff and volunteers are here to assist you.

Take time, be gentle with yourself and breathe deeply.

Individual and family counselling is available with our Registered Clinical Counsellors. We also offer the following programs:

Adult Grief Support Program:

For adults experiencing loss through the death of someone significant to them. Support groups are offered as needed and run for 6 weeks.

Bereavement Walking Group:

Provides on-going support to bereaved people as they move through their grief, adjusting to life without the person who died. The informal atmosphere of the group helps members invest their energy in new activities with others who share a common experience.

Emergency Room Support:

24-hour, on call response to families at Peace Arch Hospital *Emergency Department, in cases of unexpected death.*

Friends Helping Friends, Children's Day Camps:

A support program for children 6-12 who have experienced the death of someone important to them.

Individual and Family Counselling:

Registered Clinical Counsellors assist people with the often strong and unfamiliar emotions that accompany change and loss.

In-Service Workshops:

Our Counsellors will come to your facility to speak to residents or staff on grief and related issues.

Relaxation Program:

1-1 sessions or a 6 week program for adults who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Includes visualization, relaxation, and gentle touch.

There is no fee for any Hospice Society Service, however preregistration is required for some of our programs. For more information on these and other Peace Arch Hospice Society Services please call our office at 604-531-7484.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR LIBRARY...

Peace Arch Hospice Society has a small library available to the public. Topics cover a range of issues, but are generally categorized by:

- Death and Dying
- Grief and Bereavement
- Personal Growth
- Inspirational
- Children/Teens

The following books are ones that we have found to be helpful. We have some of them in our library.

USEFUL REFERENCES

These publications should be available from your local public library.

Buckman, Rob, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY

Callanan, M., & Kelly, P., **FINAL GIFTS:** Understanding the special awareness, needs and communication with the dying. Bantam, 1993.

Carroli, D., **LIVING WITH DYING:** A loving guide for family and close friends. McGraw Hill, 1985.

Duda, Deborah, COMING HOME: A guide to dying at home with dignity. Aurora Press, 1987.

Grollman, E., **CONCERNING DEATH: A practical guide for the living.** Beacon, 1974.

Hooyman, Nancy and Lustbader, Wendy, **TAKING CARE OF YOUR AGING FAMILY MEMBERS - A practical guide**. Free Press.

Horne, Joe, CAREGIVING - Helping an Aging Loved One. ARRP.

Kubler-Ross, E., **TO LIVE UNTIL WE SAY GOODBYE**. Prentice-Hall.

Kubler-Ross, E., **LIVING WITH DEATH AND DYING**. MacMillan, 1981.

MacLean, Helen, **CARING FOR YOUR PARENTS:** A resource book of options and solutions for both generations. Dolphin/Doubleday.

Mace, Nancy & Rabins, Peter V. **THE 36 HOUR DAY**. Warner Books.

Thompson, Wendy, **AGING IS A FAMILY AFFAIR:** A guide to quality visiting long term care facilities and you. Available from the author. (phone 604-275-0091)

Watt, Jill & Calder, Ann, I LOVE YOU BUT YOU DRIVE ME CRAZY. Forbes Publications.

<u>GRIEF</u>

Colgrove, M., Bloomfield, H., & McWilliams, P., HOW TO SURVIVE THE LOSS OF A LOVE. Bantam, 1991.

Freese, A., LIVING THROUGH GRIEF AND GROWING WITH IT. Barnes & Noble Books.

Grollman, E., WHAT HELPED ME WHEN MY LOVED ONE DIED. Beacon, 1981.

Miller, W. A., WHEN GOING TO PIECES HOLDS YOU TOGETHER. Augsbury, 1976.

O'Connor, N., LETTING GO WITH LOVE: The Grieving **Process.** LaMariposa Press, 1984.

Rando, T., A., **GRIEVING: How to go on living when someone you love dies.** Lexington Books, 1988.

Temes, R., **LIVING WITH AN EMPTY CHAIR.** Irvington, 1984, 2nd Edition.

Westburg, G., GOOD GRIEF, Fortress Press, 1962.

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS

Caine, L., **WIDOW**. Morrow, 1974. Written by a widow about what not to do.

Gates, P., **SUDDENLY ALONE:** A woman's guide to widowhood. Harper Collins, 1991.

Kohn, J. B., **THE WIDOWER: What he faces, what he feels, what he needs.** Beacon, 1978.

Lewis, C. S., A GRIEF OBSERVED. Seabury Press, 1963. A widower's response to his wife's death.

Peterson, T. A., WIDOWS AND WIDOWHOOD: Creative approach to begin alone. Association, 1977.

Singer, L., Sirot, M., Rodd, S., **BEYOND LOSS: A practical guide through grief to a meaningful life**. Dutton, 1988.

Wylie, B. J., **BEGINNINGS: A book for widows**. McLelland & Stewart, 3rd Edition, 1988.

DEATH AND CHILDREN

Grollman, E., **TALKING ABOUT DEATH:** A dialogue between parents and child. Beacon, 1991.

Krementz, J., **HOW IT FEELS WHEN A PARENT DIES**. Knofp, 1982. Good for teens.

Brian, M., Ingpen, R., **LIFETIMES:** A beautiful way to explain death to children. Bantam Books, 1983. Suitable for 3-7 year olds.

Leshan, E., **LEARNING TO SAY GOODBYE: When a parent dies.** MacMillan, 1976.

Knowles, D., & Reeves, N., **BUT WON'T GRANNY NEED HER SOCKS?** Kendall/Hunt, 1983. Deals with concerns of children.

Kushner, H. S., WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD **PEOPLE.** Schocken, 1981. Parent writing about the death of his child.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN: FICTION

Cazet, D., CHRISTMAS MOON. Bradbury Press, 1984. Suitable for 3-7 year olds.

Clifton, L., **EVERETT ANDERSON'S GOODBYE.** H. Rinehart and Winston, 1983. A little boy has a difficult time coming to terms with his father's death. Suitable for 3-7 year olds.

L'Eagle, M., **A RING OF ENDLESS LIGHT**. 1980. Suitable for 11-15 year olds.

Little, J., **MAMA'S GOING TO BUY YOU A MOCKINGBIRD.** Penguin Books Canada Ltd., 1984. Suitable for 8-12 year olds.

Lowry, L., A SUMMER TO DIE. Houghton, 1984. Suitable for 11-15 year olds.

Smith, Buchanan, D., A TASTE OF BLACKBERRIES. Harper and Row, 1988 Edition. Suitable for 8 year olds.

Most of this list has been compiled by the Canadian Mental Health Association.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

Peace Arch Hospice Society: www.peacearchhospice.org

Griefworks BC: <u>www.griefworksbc.com</u>

Compassionate Friends of Canada: <u>www.tcfcanada.net</u>

Canadian Virtual Hospice: <u>www.virtualhospice.ca</u>

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

The funds for Hospice Society services are generated largely by donations, bequests, grants, fundraising initiatives and proceeds from our Thrift Store. Raising the money needed for our work is a continuing challenge. If this booklet has been helpful to you, please consider a donation to the Peace Arch Hospice Society (a \$20 minimum is required to receive a tax deductible receipt).

Peace Arch Hospice Society

- Phone: 604-531-7484
- E-mail: contactus@pahospicesociety.org
- Website:

www.peacearachhospice.org

Peace Arch Hospice Society

...a special kind of caring

15435 - 16A Avenue, South Surrey, BC V4A 1T2 604-531-7484 www.peacearchhospice.org Charitable Registration # 11929 7513 RR0001

hospice is about living

care

When you or your loved one are told the illness you have may end your life, come to Peace Arch Hospice Society for information, resources and people who can ease the pain and stress.

compassion

We offer emotional, practical, and spiritual support – inclusive of all cultures, faiths and beliefs – to the residents of the Semiahmoo Peninsula, and their families and friends, facing advanced illness, grief & end of life.

commitment

The Peace Arch Hospice Society is a community-based, registered charitable organization that complements hospital and home care.

Peace Arch Hospice Society ...a special kind of caring

15435 - 16A Avenue, South Surrey, BC V4A 1T2 604-531-7484 www.peacearchhospice.org Charitable Registration # 11929 7513 RR0001