

Township of West Lincoln  
318 Canborough St.  
Smithville ON, L0R 2A0



148 Central Ave, Grimsby  
Ontario, L3M 4Z3 905-309-4013  
[www.mcnallyhouseyhospice.com](http://www.mcnallyhouseyhospice.com)

June 16, 2021

Mayor and Members of Council,

West Niagara is growing, and with that growth comes an increasing need for palliative care services. Since 2008, McNally House Hospice has been profoundly honoured to support hundreds of people in West Niagara as they face life-limiting illnesses and die with dignity.

McNally House provides 24-hour specialized palliative care, free of charge, to people with a life-limiting illness and their families. With the support of 160 volunteers, we have provided compassionate care for more than 1,100 people, their families and their loved ones since opening.

Since 2008, the demands on Niagara's palliative care infrastructure have grown, and McNally House is not alone in identifying the need to expand services to ensure all Niagarans, including those in West Niagara, get the compassionate care they need.

In other parts of the Niagara region, Hospice Niagara has noted they cannot serve all the requests – our six-bed facility, located adjacent to West Lincoln Memorial Hospital, has reached capacity. With substantial growth continuing in West Lincoln, Grimsby, and Lincoln, it is critical that McNally House change and grow to meet those needs.

### **Our Vision – Our Plan**

Over the last three years, McNally House has been developing a plan to expand our services and widen our care model to better serve West Niagara. Working together with our partners in end-of-life care, this plan would go a long way towards easing the strain on Niagara's hospice care system.

Our vision will see McNally House Hospice expand and transform our service offerings with the inclusion of a new Day Hospice, to provide desperately needed support and care from the time a person is first given a life-limiting diagnosis.

Dying is more than just a medical event. It has an existential impact on the lives not only of the patient, but of their family, friends and community. Nothing confronts us more than when we must confront dying.

There can be up to a two-year journey from the time a person receives the devastating diagnosis to when their life ends. It is a very difficult period, both for the person living with the diagnosis and for their family and loved-ones, and there are few supports to help those affected to get through this challenging time.

The current six-bed hospice will be converted to form the heart of McNally House's Day Hospice, providing unique services and programs for patients and families to fill that gap. Hospices across Ontario have added, or are adding, Day Hospices, and McNally's new program follows these best practices, expanding our services



beyond what we can currently provide. The new program will feature counselling and deep conversations, pain management, bereavement support and activities that make life worth living like art, craft, meditation, exercise, cooking and group talks: all in a compassionate and understanding environment.

The new McNally House Day Hospice will facilitate these needs with rooms for one-on-one counseling, a group area for people to share stories, spaces for caregivers to recharge, a space for people to learn to cope, and beautiful gardens to bring calm. This new space will bring relief and support for exhausted families, loved-ones, and caregivers at a time when they need it most and it will help those facing life-ending illness re-engage in many of the activities of life that give living its true meaning and value.

This is the future of palliative care. With Day Hospice services, we can support hundreds more people and their caregivers, compared to the 450 per year we serve today.

As part of this expansion, McNally House will also construct an all-new ten-bed hospice, increasing our in residence care capacity by almost 70 per cent. This new facility will incorporate an overnight suite for families and loved ones, a family recreation room, new outdoor spaces and a new memorial garden. New family spaces will provide dignity and comfort for those staying by the side of their loved ones.

### **The Needs – By the Numbers**

The evidence is clear: In Niagara, we have three hospice beds per 100,000 residents. Ontario's Auditor General has recommended more than twice that: ten beds per 100,000 people. Adding the McNally House expansion to Hospice Niagara's planned expansion in South Niagara would bring the region into the range for our growing and aging Niagara.

### **A Unified Campus of Care**

The expanded McNally House Hospice will come together with the rebuilt West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (WLMH) as part of a unified Campus of Care. The Campus project envisions shared gardens, landscaping and trails to physically connect WLMH to McNally House. This campus, which also includes Niagara Region's Deer Park Villa, will create a healthcare centre of excellence within West Niagara – a hub of care that can cover many of the healthcare needs in the community, from the beginning of life through to the end of life. We continue to work with Hamilton Health Sciences on the campus concept, building on the strong working relationship McNally House has always had with WLMH and particularly its palliative care program, we share both our Bereavement and Psycho-spiritual clinicians.

Planning for our expansion began in 2017 with the generous commitment of \$1 million by philanthropist Blair McKeil. Since then, McNally House has completed land transfer agreements with West Lincoln Memorial Hospital and finalized detailed designs with our architectural team. A rezoning application has also been completed and is going through the process.

### **Hospice Care is Essential to the Health of Our Community**

Hospice care can help the overall health of a community, not just in terms of medical health but in terms of the cost of care. Hospice care is delivered at a fraction of the cost of hospital care, and it helps to divert end-of-life care beds away from hospitals.



**Regional and municipal contributions to hospice care projects help demonstrate to the Province that communities recognize and support the importance of hospice care services. That's why we're asking you to support us as we move towards this important transformation in how we deliver end-of-life care for the West Niagara community.**

We've calculated that municipalities can have a significant positive impact on this project by supporting it at a ratio of less than five dollars per West Niagara resident, based on the 2016 census: to be precise, about \$4.83 per resident over five years, or less than \$1/year. That would amount to approximately \$14,000 annually for a total \$70,000 for the Township of West Lincoln.

We're asking for this support on a one-time basis to help push the project forward, to demonstrate to the Province and to Niagara that our communities recognize the critical importance and unique needs that come with end-of-life care, life-limiting illnesses and dying with dignity.

We need your support, and are now turning to our local communities, our local leaders and our local councils, to deliver this care.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Yours,



Murray Bain  
Life in Every Moment  
Campaign Co-Chair,  
McNally House Hospice



Debbie Zimmerman  
Life in Every Moment  
Campaign Co-Chair,  
McNally House Hospice





# Life in *Every Moment*

McNally House Hospice Expansion and Capital Campaign



- Introductions – Campaign Co-Chairs Debbie Zimmerman and Murray Bain, Executive Director Pam Blackwood
- About McNally House Hospice
- West Niagara Hospice Care Challenge
- The Expansion
- Project Status
- The Capital Campaign
- Our Request



## *About McNally House Hospice*

- Community-led initiative to bring a residential hospice to serve west Niagara – opened in 2008
- 24 hour specialized palliative care, free of charge, to people living with a life-limiting illness and their families
- 6 beds – private rooms, nursing and personal support staff
- Supported by 160 volunteers, providing care and companionship (pre-COVID)
- Have cared for over 1,100 people, their families and loved ones since opening





## *About McNally House Hospice*

- Help manage the pain, fear and the anxiety of a diagnosis of a life-limiting illness, and sorrow of bereavement
- Located on the same campus as West Lincoln Memorial Hospital and Deer Park Villa Nursing Home
- Strong Partnerships with Niagara West Palliative Care Team, West Lincoln Memorial Hospital and other specialized end-of-life care providers
- McNally House shares a bereavement and psycho-spiritual clinicians with WLMH

# *West Niagara Hospice Care Challenge*

- Since 2008, the need for palliative care resources in Niagara have grown
- McNally House has reached capacity and with West Lincoln, Grimsby and Lincoln continuing to grow, this problem will only worsen
- **Ontario's Auditor General recommends 10 hospice beds in a community for every 100,000 people; Niagara currently has 3 per 100,000**
- In 2017, McNally House began the planning for expansion through a commitment of \$1M from Blair McKeil





# *The Expansion – Day Hospice and Four New Beds*

- The existing McNally House six-bed hospice will be converted to an **all-new Day Hospice**
  - a transformative approach to how hospice care is delivered
- A **new 10-bed Residential Hospice** will be constructed, increasing our residential care capacity by almost 70%
- Together with the rebuilt West Lincoln Memorial Hospital and Deer Park Villa, the expanded McNally House will form part of a complete **Campus of Care**





McNally House Hospice

McNally House Expansion

Deer Park Villa and Suites

West Lincoln Memorial Hospital



# *The Expansion – Day Hospice and Four New Beds*

- **Campus of Care** project envisions:
  - hub of care covering the community from the beginning of life through to the end
  - Shared gardens, landscaping and trails to physically connect McNally House to WLMH
  - Connections with Deer Park Villa
  - We are continuing to work with Hamilton Health Sciences on this concept









## *The Expansion Part 1 – All New Day Hospice*

- **The Day Hospice** – fills the very real gap that exists from the time of a diagnosis of a life-limiting illness to the final days
- Up to a two-year path from diagnosis – this is a very difficult period, and there are few supports for those affected to get through this challenging time
- McNally House joins the growing number of Day Hospice Programs across Ontario that have been in existence for over 25 years.





## *The Expansion Part 1 – Continued*

- In 2019 over 450 people used the Hospice's psychological, spiritual and bereavement support programs, exceeding our current capacity
- The new Day Hospice will transform our ability to provide these services - we can provide support to hundreds more people per year and their families
- Provide support to help people stay engaged, or to re-engage in many of the activities that give life it's true meaning and value

## *The Expansion Part 2*

### *4 additional beds in an All New 10-Bed Residential Hospice*

- An all new 10-bed residential hospice
- New features will include:
  - An overnight suite for families and loved ones
  - A family recreation room
  - New outdoor spaces
  - A new memorial garden
  - Family spaces to provide dignity and comfort for those staying by the side of their loved ones



## *Progress To Date*

- Land transfers from WLMH have been completed with HHS
- Architects have completed detailed designs
- A rezoning application has been submitted and is currently under review by the Town of Grimsby
- Campus of Care planning is underway
- Fundraising consultants were hired in 2019
  - The early phase of the campaign began in early 2020
- COVID-19 put the campaign on hold, began getting ramped up again in November 2020
- Our Campaign Cabinet was chosen in March of 2021 and are actively fundraising





# *The Capital Fundraising Campaign*

- **Campaign Co-Chairs** – Murray Bain, Debbie Zimmerman
- **Campaign Goal:** \$9.5M
- \$1M Transformational gift commitment from Blair McKeil bringing our current fundraising to over 2M
- \$800,000 from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care **(pending)** - \$200,000 for each of the 4 beds
- **The Town of Lincoln:** Has approved funding at a ratio of \$4.83 per resident over 5 years for a total of \$115, 000
- A request has been submitted to the Niagara Region for a total of 1.1M



## *Municipal Asks*

- Our request to the Township of West Lincoln: Support the McNally House Hospice Expansion at a ratio of \$4.83 per resident over 5 years
- Based on the 2016 census figure: Approx. \$14,000 annually for 5 years for a total of approx. \$70,000
- Less than \$1 per year per resident





*Thank You!*