

Celebration

The Campaign for Hospice
Southeast New Brunswick

La campagne pour l'Hospice
sud-est Nouveau-Brunswick

September 2019

Mayor Ann Seamans
Town of Riverview

Most of us are taken aback upon realizing that Southeast New Brunswick – the largest and fastest growing region of the province – does not have a residential hospice, a final home of comfort, dignity and support.

Our organization is working to change that.

This letter is to request your support in the amount of \$35,785 for the new Hospice Southeast New Brunswick (Hospice SENB) residential hospice facility, which will serve Westmorland, Albert and Kent counties and be located in Moncton. This new facility will be a bilingual, 10-bed residential hospice to care for palliative patients from throughout the region – free of charge – during their last days and weeks of life. It will serve approximately 120 – 150 patients per year and will be the first hospice in Atlantic Canada with a pediatric palliative care bed.

There is little question that this new hospice will provide valuable end-of-life support that will enhance our region, positively impact all its residents and help alleviate the current strain on our health-care system. As our population is aging, our health-care budgets are increasingly strained. Palliative patients in our region are left with few options. They can choose to die at home – with increasing burdens on caregivers – or in one of our hospitals, which are struggling every day with overcrowding and long waiting lists for patient care.

Currently, there are only 13 designated palliative care beds in the region's two largest hospitals – 7 beds at The Moncton Hospital and 6 beds at the Dr. Georges-L. Dumont University Hospital Centre. In 2017, The Moncton Hospital reported that 10% of its palliative patients died at home, while the remaining 90% died in hospital. That is a much higher rate than the national average of 70%.

Dying in hospital is also very expensive: cost per day for an acute-care hospital bed is \$1,164; for a hospital palliative care bed, it is \$770; a residential hospice bed costs \$460 per day for care that is equal to hospital care in an atmosphere that is quieter and more personal.

We are asking for support from all communities within this region, proportionate to their population. Your contribution will be reflected in the lobby of the facility so all citizens will feel welcome and supported in their final time of need.

We thank you for considering our request to support this important project and we are confident that you will see its merits. This is our chance to create a better ending to the life of our loved ones – and to our own – and we hope you will join us and donate generously to our fundraising efforts.

Sincerely,



Julie McKenna
Honorary Chair
Hospice SENB Célébration Capital Campaign



Dennis Cochrane
Chair, Board of Directors. Hospice SENB
Co-Chair, Célébration Capital Campaign

"Compassionate care, celebrating life... even when there is no cure."

"Soins attentionnés, célébration de la vie... même s'il n'existe aucun espoir de guérison"