



SAMARITAN NEWS

Winter 2026



Celebrating **14** years on the Samaritan Way

Mission: Guided by the healing ministry of Jesus Christ, Samaritan Place provides long-term care in the tradition of Catholic Social Justice teaching and service.

Upcoming Events

March 7

Vesnianka Academy of
Ukrainian Dance

March 13

Music by Pike Lake Singers

March 17

St. Patrick's Party with
Salt Water Joy

March 30

Easter Story with St. Kateri

March Birthday Party

March 30

Birthday Party with
Memory Lane

April 27

Birthday Party with Wes
Frose

We asked our Samaritan Place couples for their sage advice on building love, joy, and a happy life together. Here is some of their shared wisdom!

- Work together
- Be happy all the time
- Life is too short to fight
- Do things together, always
- Put up with everything
- Marry for money
- Be grateful for what you have



We want to extend our **deepest thank you** to all of the families and residents who so generously supported our Christmas giving initiative. Your kindness, thoughtfulness, and willingness to give truly exceeded once again, anything we could have imagined.

Because of you, every gift tag was taken, and our residents who do not have families were surrounded by love, encouragement, and the joy of being remembered this Christmas. The response was truly overwhelming and a beautiful reminder of the compassion and generosity within our community.

*Next meeting:
March 25
2:30 pm
Riverbank*



LIFE ENHANCEMENT

Tammy Reinhardt — Life Enhancement Director reinhardt@samaritanplace.ca



February is Therapeutic Recreation Month

It's time to celebrate the powerful role recreation plays in enhancing quality of life. Therapeutic Recreation uses purposeful leisure activities to support physical, emotional, social, and cognitive well-being, helping individuals build skills, confidence, and independence. From adaptive sports and creative arts to community outings and wellness activities, Therapeutic Recreation empowers people to focus on abilities, experience joy, and connect meaningfully with others. This month, we recognize the impact of Therapeutic Recreation professionals and the life-enhancing benefits of recreation for all.



Olympic Village takes over Happy Hour!

Over the month of February, residents were celebrating the Olympics! Medals were given were awarded for the curling bonspiel that took place during the Olympic games.

Happy hour was taken over by Olympic Village where residents could watch events from the day and cheer on Team Canada! Medal board was updated with highlights from the events over the week.. Olympic Village featured items inspired by Italian tastes. Fun was had by all who joined in to cheer on Team Canada at the Olympics!

Expanding Our Life Enhancement Offerings

We're excited to share several updates focused on enhancing resident's quality of life.

Over the past year, we've taken a close look at how our life enhancement offerings can better meet evolving needs and interests of residents. As a result, we're expanding and refining our programs to provide more meaningful engagement, greater flexibility, and a wider range of activities designed to enrich daily life. These updates reflect feedback from participants, families, and staff, and reinforce our commitment to person-centered experiences.

To support this growth, we are also increasing staffing with Activities of Daily Living Recreation Workers. Expanding our team allows us to deliver more consistent support, introduce new offerings, and ensure each individual receives the time, attention, and care they deserve. Additional staff also means more collaboration, fresh ideas, and stronger support for both participants and existing team members. Over the next few months you will see changes in the offerings, coverage on weekends and evenings in the neighborhoods and increased staffing in the cottages to cover daytime and evening support.

These changes mark an exciting step forward. As we continue to grow, our focus remains the same: creating enriching experiences, fostering connection, and building an environment where everyone can thrive.

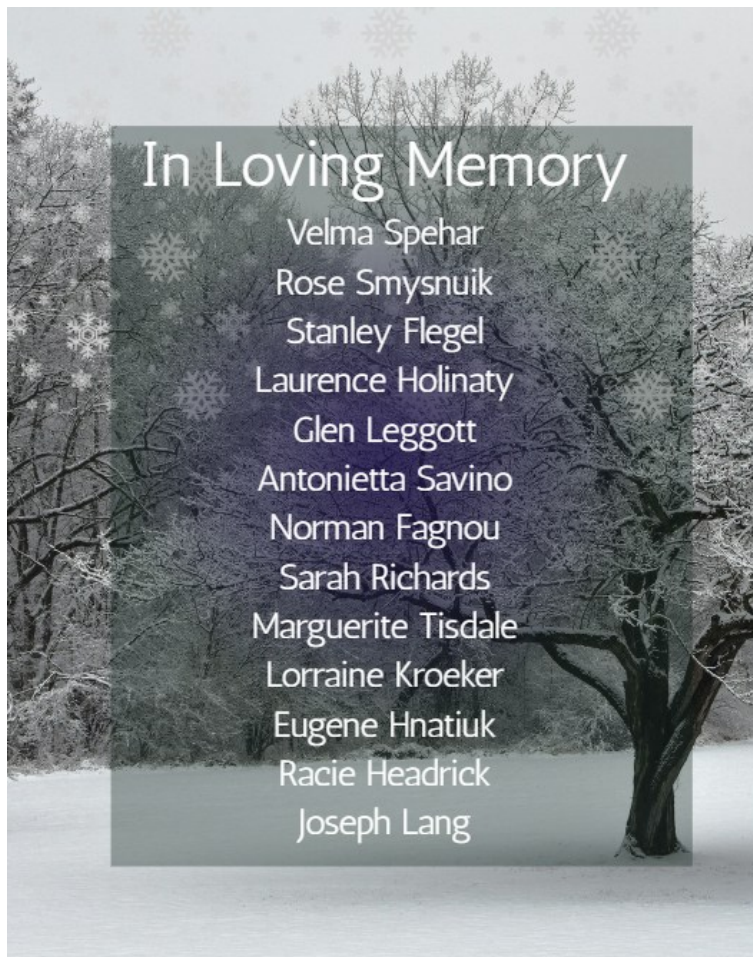
How you can help fund the bus?
Use Sarcan's Drop and Donate Program.



1. Drop off your recycling at Sarcan
2. Enter SAMARITAN
3. Funds from your donation will be paid to Samaritan Place Fund the Bus Campaign

SPIRITUAL CARE AND MISSION

Sunil Steephan Sugandhi — Spiritual Care Director ssugandhi@samaritanplace.ca



Advent in Review

Christmas at Samaritan Place was a joyful season focused on community, connection, and emotional well-being. Residents were surrounded by the spirit of the holidays through special activities made possible by the incredible support of families, volunteers, and community partners.

Students from **ED Feehan High School**, who have been visiting Samaritan Place since 2016, helped Life Enhancement staff decorate the halls and their choir to perform Christmas music in resident neighborhoods. Our **Giving Tree initiative** brought overwhelming generosity from staff, residents, families, and visitors, ensuring that residents without family or loved ones received gifts and shared meaningful moments with Life Enhancement staff on Christmas Day.

Residents also enjoyed heartfelt **Christmas cards** made by St. Kateri students and long-standing community families, many featuring handwritten messages that brightened their days. The season included **three Christmas dinners** for residents and families, Christmas Day meals shared with loved ones, and festive entertainment such as a **live-streamed Christmas concert**, a **Christmas recital by the Academy of Music**, and a **Nativity Play performed by St. Kateri School**.



Care Services

Susan Sweet — Site Lead ssweet@samaritanplace.ca

Marilee Lowe — Care Service Manager M-F mlope@samaritanplace.ca



Central Laundry has arrived!

We're happy to share an update about our central laundry system, which is now fully operational in the basement and already washing linens and towels used throughout Samaritan Place. Linens and towels have been stocked in the cottages and neighborhoods. The goal is to provide a consistent, reliable supply of clean linens for all residents.

Central Laundry will supply and launder the following items: Bath towels and hand towels, White face cloths and brown face cloths (for personal hygiene), fitted and flat sheets, pillowcases, slider sheets (fitted and flat), soaker pads, isolation gown. Because of this change, dry wipes will no longer be ordered or supplied.

Care Partners will continue to be responsible for laundering: Personal clothing, personal blankets, comforters, and pillows. These personal items should not be sent to Central Laundry.

What families should know? Resident-owned towels and bed linens have been removed from resident bathrooms. These personal items have been placed in black plastic bags and stored in the resident's closet for families to take home.

Storage of clean linens

In neighborhoods, Sodexo staff will restock daily each resident's bathroom shelf with a set supply of clean linens. In the Cottages, clean linens will be stored in the tub room closet. We're excited about this improvement and appreciate your support as we make this transition. If you have questions or need clarification, please don't hesitate to reach out to our team. Thank you for partnering with us to provide the best care and comfort for our residents.

Thank You Donors

- Alice Bremner
- Mary Ann Hamel
- Foundation of Canadian Catholic Congregation
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