



GUILDconnect

A newsletter to connect all members of the Children's Hospital Guild of Manitoba

September 2025

News from the President

The Council of Women of Winnipeg, celebrating their 130th anniversary, honoured Annie A. Bond by planting a tree in Michaelle Jean Park in Point Douglas. The park is located near 2 Beaconsfield Street, which was the site of the first Winnipeg Children's Hospital. Annie was the president of the Winnipeg Council of Women, forerunner of the Council of Women of Winnipeg, from 1906 to 1914. She was instrumental in establishing a hospital in Winnipeg for children and worked with many others supporting the hospital. We continue to honour her legacy. Several Guild members attended the ceremony on a very warm June afternoon.

On June 19th, Carol Gamby opened her home for our annual summer solstice social event. Thank you to Diane Kubas and Mary Jean Davis for organizing the delicious refreshments.

The Fashion Show & Luncheon committee has been hard at work preparing for the Saturday, October 25 fundraiser. Tickets are now available.

The Nearly New Shop volunteers took a well-deserved break in August and are now back on the job. Please remember to drop off your gently used items.

Hope to see you at our Volunteer Appreciation Tea on Saturday, October 4th!

Suzanne Munroe

Membership Report

The Membership Committee is pleased to report that as of September 2025 our Guild Membership now stands at 102 members. Since our last report we are pleased to have welcomed Marnie Ross as a new member of the Guild. Unfortunately, three of our members have had to resign due to ill health or for personal reasons. Notes have been sent thanking each of them for their dedicated service to the Guild and wishing them all the best.

It is with regret and much sadness that we advise of the passing of two of our dedicated volunteers. Carol Stephens passed in May 2025 and Bonnie Patenaude passed in June. Carol had

joined the Guild in 2020 and Bonnie in 1980. They will be deeply missed and will be remembered for their many contributions to the Guild.

Ilene Holmes and Liz Polakoff (Co-Chairs)

Nearly New Shop

The Nearly New Shop has returned after a well-deserved August break! Before closing, we held a \$5.00 bag sale that cleared out much of our summer stock. While the shop was closed, the carpets were refreshed, and our dedicated volunteers spent several days restocking shelves and preparing a wonderful selection of fall fashions.

We reopened right after the September long weekend to find eager shoppers lined up at the door. Since then, sales have been steady, and the shop is bustling once again.

Check us out on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wpgnearlynew> and/or Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/nearlynewshopwinnipeg/>

We're also on the Guild's new website at: <https://childrenshospitalguildmanitoba.ca/en/nearly-new/>

Marian Huebner
mthuebner@gmail.com

Sew4Kids Update

Thankyou to everyone who has donated their time, energy and material over the year for the many projects that Sew4Kids has provided. What you do is very much appreciated by the children and their families at the hospital and makes their stay very special.

Our emphasis and energy go to making these projects at home. Work at your own pace and drop off / pick-up can be arranged. If you would like to help with any of the following projects, and/or if you know someone who may be interested, please contact one of us and we will get you started!

Special projects each year continue to be:

- Stockings for the new babies born in the holiday season each year. We contribute with 50 - 60 sewn stockings, knit hats and mittens.
- Gala Bear Wear (usually held in Oct/Nov each year)
- Bear's Ears for Picnic (Teddy Bear Picnic is back and held in September each year)
- From time to time we receive special sewing requests from the Foundation and Children's Hospital and we will advise the group as necessary.

Current needs are:

- Book Bags for the Library
- Bags for Diabetes Dept
- Receiving blankets (regular size)

- Fleece blankets, pieced blankets; assorted sizes
- Doll Kits with scrubs
- Toiletry bags / drawstring /zippered ditty bags
- Games /activity sets /playmats (for siblings &patients)
- Pillowcases
- Finger puppets

Sizes are based on Children from 0 to 17 years old. Fun, child friendly/bright patterns as well as neutral colours are always appreciated.

Please reach out if you have questions, need more details on any of these projects and have time to help. We have no deadlines and projects are done at your own pace!

Meredith McArthur	204-255-5314	<u>meredithmcarthur@gmail.com</u>
Val McCartney	204-257-7495	<u>val.mccartney@shaw.ca</u>
Anna Sikora	204-510-1535	<u>m.anna.sikora@gmail.com</u>

Please PASS INFO to friends and family that may be interested in helping with our projects

Anna Sikora

Fashion Show Update

Mark your calendar for this year's fabulous fashion show and luncheon.

On October 25th the Guild presents Gilded Harvest at The Hotel Fort Garry. This year we are focusing on all things local. Local food, local designers and local independent retailers. We have a stunning fashion show planned along with fabulous auction prizes. This year, all funds raised will go to the amazing researchers at our own CRIM Centre (Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba).

Tickets are available online on the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Website. Click on Events and stop at the Fashion Show! Tickets are \$140 with a portion being tax deductible. See you there!

Pattie Moore

Social Committee Update

Our June windup was held on June 19th in Carol Gamby's very summery backyard. A special thank you to both Carol and George for accommodating our group so nicely. A delicious dinner was catered by the Greek Market with desserts by Eric Bari. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to sit and chat with other guild members and participate in a few games.

Diane Kubas and Mary Jean Davis

News from the Children's Hospital Foundation

Capture Island Vibes – October 18

Last year, we had a boot scootin' good time with everyone at the Ice Crystal Gala Rhinestone Rodeo! [This year's Ice Crystal Gala captures Island Vibes!](#) Join us, Saturday, Oct. 18 for our award-winning family fun event at the RBC Convention Centre. All proceeds will help kids who need HSC Children's Hospital.

Children's Hospital Book Market – Fall pop-up sale – October 18

The next one-day-only [Children's Hospital Book Market pop-up sale](#) is happening just in time for Halloween on Saturday, Oct. 18! Join us at St. Vital Centre from 10 am to 5 pm and stock up on new and gently used fantasy, horror, science fiction, occult, paranormal romance, Christmas, and all genres of children's books!

Support the development of the Indigenous Community Healing Space

Let's give kids a culturally connected space for healing within Children's Hospital. Additional funds are needed to support this vital project for kids needing care!

The project is Indigenous-led and has included consultation from First Nations, Métis and Inuit community members including children to ensure input is heard for the elements that will provide families with a culturally safe space for healing and offer a place where children and families can connect with each other and nurture their whole selves – physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

The work done and supported by Children's Hospital Foundation to build the Indigenous Community Healing Space is officially endorsed by Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

Your support of the Indigenous Community Healing Space will help create a more welcoming, culturally safe environment at HSC Children's Hospital for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit kids and their families while they're away from their home communities and cultural supports. [Please give today.](#)

Dr. Goodbear and the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba are so grateful for the Guild's support of the 35th annual Teddy Bears' Picnic! Thank you for making kids and families smile!

The goal of Teddy Bears' Picnic is to help kids learn about what they may experience in a hospital or research environment, in a fun and developmentally appropriate way. You helped achieve this. With an attendance topping over 30,000 people, more than 1,900 teddy bear patients treated in the *Dr. Goodbear Clinic* and over 1,650 bears learning about health sciences at the *I Want To Be a Scientist* tent, this year's Teddy Bears' Picnic was beary successful.

Proceeds from Teddy Bears' Picnic help kids who rely on Manitoba's only children's hospital and go towards critical equipment, life-changing research, and programs that bring comfort to kids and families.

Thank you!

Looking Ahead

Please mark your calendar for the following events:

Saturday, October 4, 2025: CHGM Volunteer Appreciation Tea from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Lindenholtm Place, 2nd floor Multi-Purpose Room, 885 Wilkes Avenue. Please RSVP to Leigh-Anne Peterson at leizabethp885@gmail.com or phone 204-261-9723.

Saturday, October 25, 2025: Gilded Harvest Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Fort Garry Hotel, Crystal Ballroom. Tickets are available online on the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba Website. Click on Events and stop at the Fashion Show! Tickets are \$140 with a portion being tax deductible.

Food for Thought ... and Fond Remembrances

On July 21, 2025, ten members of CHGM gathered at the Elmhurst Golf and Country Club for the "Celebration of Life" for our Guild member, Bonnie Patenaude.

Bonnie was a long-time member of the Chown Guild and CHGM and volunteered for 45 years at many fundraising events and served on numerous committees as well as Guild Council. She, truly, had the "volunteer spirit"!

Members of her family spoke of the lifelong joy she found in helping others. She made many friends along the path of her life, not only through Children's Hospital endeavours but also with Girl Guides of Canada. One of her "Guide" friends spoke about their instant friendship through Girl Guiding and the many fun adventures and travels they enjoyed together.

A tribute to Bonnie was given, on behalf of the Guild, by Meredith McArthur and it read as follows...

I met Bonnie in 1984 when we moved onto Algonquin Avenue and we became neighbours. By then, Bonnie had been a Chown Guild member for four years and was also the mother of three beautiful daughters and was a Brown Owl in the local Brownie Troop. She convinced me to join the Chown Guild in 1987 when she was president of the Guild. Her commitment to the children in our province was inspirational to me. I am not sure what roles she had held in the Guild up to that point but being President indicated that there were several. I know that after serving her two years as President, she went on to be the Guild Liaison to the Children's Hospital Research Foundation where she served as an advocate for all five Guilds.

Bonnie was always a keen volunteer for whatever project the Guild was undertaking, whether that was selling Bear Wear T-shirts, helping put on fashion shows, country western nights and other fundraisers. Bonnie was involved with the Book Market and the Teddy Bears' Picnic. Her contributions were so valued and her legacy lives on with all those Guild members who knew and appreciated her efforts.

In this issue of GuildConnect, we are sharing one of Bonnie's recipes from the 2006 "Chown Guild Holiday Entertaining Recipes" as a FOND REMEMBRANCE and some FOOD FOR THOUGHT ...about the dedicated volunteer we enjoyed working with and will miss greatly.

Hot Taco Dip

Brown and drain one pound of hamburger

Add: 1 chopped onion
 1 package taco seasoning
 1 can of green chilis
 1-8 ounce can tomato sauce
 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
 1 tsp. Velveeta cheese

Heat together in fondue pot and serve with plain taco chips

From the Desk of your GuildConnect-editors

As I write a conclusion to our Fall edition of the newsletter, I sit in the verandah looking out over the lake at my family cottage. We have a pillow on our vintage wicker couch that says, "Advice from a Lake"... *Be clear, Make positive ripples, Look beneath the surface, Stay calm, Shore up friendships, Be full of Life!*

I am sharing this with you, as it feels like autumn is in the air at the lake and with that comes Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is an opportune time for reflection on the past year and that could be another bit of advice from a lake...*reflect.*

We can reflect on friends who are no longer with us. They each had a hand that reached out to touch the lives of so many. We would love to hold the hands of these dear friends (volunteers) again. Sadly, their work with us is done ...but our hope is that each one of us will understand and embrace some of the work that is left for us to do, and what kind of difference we are supposed to make in the lives of children and beyond.

The Gilded Harvest Fashion Show will be a part of our Guild season of Thanksgiving. It will give us the opportunity to do some of the work that is left...we will be making a difference.

*Gilded suggests warmth in our hearts along with a bit of sparkle.
Harvest is the result of dedication of time and energy that will turn into joy and thanksgivings.*

Let's hope we all feel the warmth and joy of the event and a gratitude for having a group of friends that make it possible!

Leigh-Anne

Leigh-Anne Peterson and Diane Wilson Mate
Co-Editors of **GuildConnect**

The Children's Hospital Guild of Manitoba (CHGM) was established in 2012. It combines the previously existing Guilds (Annie A. Bond, St. Agnes, McKinnon, Chown, St. John's), the Nurses Alumnae and the Peter Pan organization.