



The Compassionate Friends of Canada

National newsletter, March 4, 2016

This issue focuses on chapter development and support. Meet two more members of our TCF Canada board of directors: **Chapter Development: Eileen and Andy Bond, Ottawa**

Eileen and Andy Bond are co-founders and current leaders of the Ottawa Chapter of The Compassionate Friends of Canada. Their 20-year-old son Kevin died suddenly in 1994 from “cardiac arrhythmia” leaving their two surviving children – Jennifer (b. 1972) and Michael (b. 1982).

Eileen and Andy initially made contact with TCF in Winnipeg and found the phone calls and newsletters to be a lifeline during those terrible initial weeks and months. They founded the Ottawa Chapter after attending a TCF Conference in Kelowna, BC, in 1998.

While raising their family, Eileen held several part-time jobs and volunteer positions in the community and also ran a successful home-based bookkeeping business. She is now retired, after 12 years as Office Manager in a long-term care facility. She spends time with her grandsons and still volunteers with The Council on Ageing and TCF.

Andy retired in December 2015 following a career in program management and business development in the aerospace and defense sector and 14 years as a career and retirement lifestyle coach. He is still active with local business groups and on various TCF projects.

In 2012, Eileen and Andy were honored to receive Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medals in recognition of their work with TCF Ottawa. They joined the current TCF Canada National Board in 2015 and look forward to helping TCF Canada thrive as a national organization and making peer support as widely available as possible.



Kevin Geeves Bond

September 6, 1974—October 27, 1994

The Role of Chapter Development

As Chapter Development Directors, we support the strategic direction of TCF Canada which is, in part, to support the establishment and development of local Chapters across Canada. We build on two Guiding Principles:

- TCF Chapters belong to their members.
- TCF as an organization reaches out to and supports bereaved parents primarily through our community of local Chapters and secondarily through our website, social media and events and conferences.

Our goal is to facilitate communications both among individual Chapters and with TCF Canada to identify and address program, service and resource needs.

We plan to accomplish this through e-mails, telephone calls, written communications, and the Annual Chapter Report. We strongly encourage Chapters to complete the Annual Chapter Report as it is our principal source of current information. We communicate Chapter issues to the National Board at the monthly teleconference Board Meetings. At these meetings, we share information, requests for support, and event and conference dates that we have received from Chapters.

We intend that ongoing services will include:

- Providing resources to facilitate the setting up of Chapters, including distributing, editing and updating the Resource Manual which includes Policy, History, Vision, Mission and Purpose of TCF
- Providing samples of Brochures and Information Leaflets which can be requested directly or through the Annual Chapter Report Form
- Providing assistance with Facilitator Training
- Suggesting library books by providing links with Chapters who have a library
- Suggesting events and formats such as the annual World-wide Candle Lighting Celebration
- Promoting TCF through the TCF Canada web site
- Advertising events and conferences
- Encouraging networking between Chapters

If you have any questions, suggestions or information to share, please contact us directly at: chapterdevelopment@tcfcanada.net

Eileen and Andy

The Compassionate Friends of Canada

e-mail: NationalOffice@TCFCanada.net

phone toll-free: **1-866-823-0141**

Transforming the pain of grief into the elixir of hope.

— Reverend Simon Stephens, Founder, TCF

List of TCF Canada brochures:

- My Child Was Murdered
- When a Grandchild Dies
- Grief in the Classroom
- Sudden Accidental Death
- Grief: Understanding the Side Effects
- Seven Principles for Bereaved Siblings
- My Child Died by Suicide
- Seven Principles for Bereaved Parents
- How to Help When a Child Dies
- Ways and Words To Comfort
- Miscarriage, Stillbirth and Neonatal Death
- Coping With Grief After a Long-term Illness
- Grieving the Death of a Step-Child
- Caring For Surviving Children
- The Death of an Adult Child
- Sibling Grief