



The Compassionate Friends of Canada

When A Child Dies...

National Newsletter - February 2019

National Office

The Compassionate Friends of Canada
1346 Ravens View Drive
Victoria BC
V9B 6P7
Canada
E-mail: nationaloffice@tcfcanada.net
Website: www.tcfcanada.net
Toll-free number:
1-866-823-0141

National Executive:

Andy Bond (Ottawa, ON) - President
Donna Rodin (Medicine Hat, AB) -
Past President
Susan Doyle Lawrence (Victoria, BC) -
Vice-President and International Liaison
Cathy Sosnowsky (Vancouver, BC) - Secretary
Kathy Brooks (Victoria, BC) - Treasurer
Eileen Bond (Ottawa, ON) - Chapter
Development Committee
Directors-at-Large
Barbara Kachur (Saskatoon, SK)
Gary Kachur (Saskatoon, SK)
Diana Cadigan (St. John's, NL)

Transforming the pain of grief into the elixir of hope.

- Reverend Simon Stephens, Founder, TCF

HELLO AND GOODBYES

The Beatles' song from 1967 comes to mind as we note recent changes in the membership of the TCF Canada Board.

We are pleased to report that Diana Cadigan has rejoined the TCF Canada Board and will take over the role of Treasurer as of April 1st 2019. Diana's previous experience with the Avalon (NL) Chapter and the National Board as well as her bookkeeping / accounting expertise are valuable assets that will further strengthen our team.

It is with regret that at the end of March, we will be saying farewell to Kathy Brooks who, in addition to supporting the Victoria (BC) Chapter for many years, has been our Treasurer for the last two years. We thank Kathy for her service to TCF and send our best wishes to her and husband Martin.

It is also with regret that we inform you that Judy Dowd has decided to step down from the TCF Canada Board. In addition to being Leader of the Campbell River (BC) Chapter, during her five

years as a Board member, Judy held the role of Treasurer and most recently, Director-at-Large. We thank Judy for her service to TCF and wish her well.

We are always looking for new members to join the Board and will be asking for nominations in the coming months. If you would like to contribute to building our unique and invaluable support network from coast to coast, please contact NationalOffice@TCFCanada.net or call 1-866-823-1041.

(Re) Introducing Diana Cadigan



Diana Cadigan



Kristine

Our daughter Kristine died in May 2005 from a pulmonary embolism, and in the summer of 2005 my husband Gerry and I started attending meetings along with three other families who had lost children between November 2004 and May 2005. This group was brought together by Dr. Rick Singleton of Eastern Health. With the help of Mary Steele we eventually became a chapter of The Compassionate Friends of Canada. I've been involved locally ever since, and from 2008 to 2014 I was on the Board of TCF Canada, serving as Treasurer.

My background is in accounting. I have worked with various private companies and government agencies as well as for a registered charity. I retired in 2007 but I am currently a Treasurer of a Not-For-Profit as well as doing income taxes for family and friends.

We have one surviving daughter, her husband and two grandchildren who live in Ottawa. TCF has helped me in so many different ways, and I would like to think that I can now give back to other grieving parents.

Facilitator Training

A total of nine people attended our first telephone training sessions which were held on January 12th and 13th. Each session lasted just over an hour and covered the material in the *"Information for Facilitators"* handbook, plus questions and a brief discussion. Comments from both new and more experienced facilitators were positive, including "very helpful information" to "a good refresher".

Based on this response, we may conduct another session in the next few months. Please let us know if you would like to participate in a future session.

Also, please let us know if you have any suggestions for other topics of general interest to Chapter Leaders, and we will consider whether to present another training session.

Andy Bond at NationalOffice@TCFCanada.net

Newsletter Editors:

This is a gentle reminder that due to Canadian privacy legislation, any email communication that is sent out from your chapter must use the BCC ("blind copy") function for the distribution list. Thank you!

Welcome, Melita!

To close on a high note, we introduce our newest Chapter, Melita, Manitoba. They received their welcome letter and certificate of membership in January of this year.

Welcome! We are glad to have you on board.