

EMMANUEL

SENIORS LIVING SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Our mission

To offer seniors a Christian environment that is safe and comfortable so they can live in dignity.

Our core values

Integrity, caring and excellence.

How we put our values into practice

We keep our commitments and we are accountable.

We have a “can do” attitude; we are problem solvers.

We are good stewards.

We are team players.

We treat our residents and each other with respect, without exception.

We take our jobs seriously but not ourselves.

We communicate openly and value all opinions and views.

We celebrate our successes.

We show pride, enthusiasm and dedication in everything we do.

We look for better ways to do things.



Message from the Board Chair

PETER JONKMAN

We've had a busy and fruitful year, one full of change! The year began with some strategic planning and visioning for the future, in advance of conducting a search for the next CEO. The search began in January and concluded in April when Erin Walton accepted the position and joined the team on July 1.

We have been talking about changing our name to Emmanuel Seniors Living Society for some time now and we've finally done it. Formerly the Christian Senior Citizens Homes Society of Northern Alberta, our new name serves as an ongoing reminder that no matter what changes and challenges we are facing, God is always with us.

As the Board of Directors continues to develop the Sustainability Plan 2024-2026, it is with a watchful eye on the major restructuring of the services provided by Alberta's ministry of health. This will impact how care for Alberta Seniors is to be offered and provided. Our CEO will stay on top of this situation and continue to advocate for our seniors wherever possible. Our CEO will remain active with Alberta Seniors and Community Housing Association and the Alberta Public Housing Alliance to stay current with issues facing our sector.

Message from the CEO

ERIN WALTON

We are so grateful to our members, partners and supporters who make it possible for us to fulfil this mission in real ways, and for their visioning for the future to ensure the Emmanuel legacy lives on.

As I write this, our occupancy is at 100%. There is a high demand in the province for seniors housing, especially one with such a rich history and such strong roots in Christian community. It has never been a better time to be a registered non-profit that supports seniors, as the government is currently struggling to find capacity and funding for in-home healthcare and support services for Alberta seniors. Thus, there are several opportunities to apply for government grants that advance this mission at this time, which we are currently preparing to submit.

Our partnership with Medicine Place Pharmacy has a strong foundation and is growing all the time. We continue our partnership with Dutch Delicious, operating Marty's Store onsite each week to make staples and specialty items available to our residents.

Resident News

Our past, current and future residents are the beneficiaries of the mission and vision built by the Emmanuel Seniors Living Society Board of Directors and its members and we are blessed to witness this on a daily basis. The vibrant, caring way in which we deliver our programs and services is a true testament to our founders and the dedicated team of leaders who have carried the torch for over 50 years.

Residents are blessed by a full calendar of activities and events and summer is especially full of life around here. Summer Campfires and bus trips to Peaceful Valley are a real highlight!



Summer fun at the campfire

Unique Offerings

In addition to the Welcome Committee, we also have a Resident Support Coordinator who also meets with newcomers upon arrival. This is a unique and rare position to see and well above industry standard. Tini Oort (seen here with some residents) provides support to residents by way of prayers, visits, hosting summer teatime, reading to residents with vision problems and walking with those who need assistance. She is a gift to our residents (or as some residents call her, an Angel).



Tea time



Newcomers at Emmanuel Home are introduced to our culinary services via a free meal delivered to their suite accompanied by information about our meal programs, The Northern Perk and our gift card program. Gift cards can be purchased for breakfast, lunch or dinner and include one free meal! Northern Perk gift cards can be used for café menu fare and any grocery staples sold there (ie bread, milk, eggs, butter).

The Northern Perk is also home to one of our amazing volunteer programs. Volunteers provide morning coffee here every day the café is closed so coffee is available daily. Some days we go through 8 large pots! It is a real highlight to participate in coffee time with the residents each morning.

Other opportunities for residents, family and friends to get involved include special events, bingo, gardening, decor committee, Library, music and hymn sing. In fact, our volunteer gardeners have once again been nominated for Front Yards in Bloom!



In the community

We are always looking for opportunities to help those in need. Most recently, our residents raised money for the Jasper Wildfires Emergency Relief fund. We have already raised over \$2700 which the Government matched (x3) to help those in need. At the end of this month, we will also be hosting a fundraising BBQ called “A Day of Caring”. So many residents have shared with me their fond memories of visiting Jasper over the years! As a tribute to this, we are frosting the glass in the North Meeting Room with mountain silhouettes and renaming the room the Jasper Room. Our very own resident artist Laura Pothoven is contributing a hand painted canvas of Jasper for the east wall.

Some of our most successful stories are resident-led initiatives.

Treasures Thrift Store is a resident-led initiative to reduce, reuse and recycle unwanted items. Not only does it provide an opportunity for residents to volunteer (volunteerism is a very important factor in seniors mental health), but it raised \$13,500 last year. Half of the funds go to support the E4C School lunch program for inner city children.





The other half of the funds support projects and needs of Emmanuel Home. It was determined another couch was needed in the Centre Wing lobby for those who arrive early for meals. The couch (seen above) was purchased through Thrift Store funds and residents are already making good use of it!

We are growing

We have been blessed with God’s providence in so many other ways. Through our supporters and creditors, we’ve been able to see the vision of a second home for Emmanuel Seniors Living Society come to fruition. In its final stages of construction, The Lighthouse is already well on its way to being the new hot thing in Edmonton.

The Lighthouse is Alberta’s newest Christian seniors’ community! Over the past two years, ongoing construction and development in central Edmonton has brought the project to a place where the Emmanuel Seniors Living Society can now begin securing suites and planning a grand opening. With thanks to the Lord, the Lighthouse is slated to open in late January 2025!

101 fully self-contained suites will be surrounded by generous common areas and robust services. The wide range of suite options will provide opportunities for seniors to live in comfort and with dignity in a diverse Christian community. Residents will even have a free membership to the neighbouring Inglewood Community League who offers a community garden, exercises classes, book club, community events and more!



The Board visits the Lighthouse construction site

A bright future

In addition to the excitement that comes with building, opening and filling the Lighthouse, our future looks bright. Overall, our financial situation is strong, especially in contrast to the COVID years. There is a clear demand for our unique offerings so our occupancy at Emmanuel Home is currently full. We hope to say this about the Lighthouse in 2025 as well.

Our annual fundraising efforts include Membership Drive, Golf Tournament, Christmas Market and Donations. Our supporters are so faithful and we gratefully acknowledge their ongoing support. The impact of fundraising can be felt in many ways at Emmanuel Home. Furniture and book donations supply our libraries and common areas, funds go towards enhancing the resident experience from upgrading the furniture and laundry rooms to building projects such as gazebos and greenhouses.

The future of our organization looks bright, thanks to God's providence. In the year ahead we hope to pass our Accreditation Survey through Accreditation Canada, open the Lighthouse and welcome its first residents, and continue to faithfully carry out our mission, putting our core values into practice through the humble service of our residents and families.

We covet your prayers and continued support now, and always.

In His service,

Erin Walton
CEO, Emmanuel Seniors Living Society