


# THE RIDER

Issue 8 Spring 2019

*Engaging seniors to community*



Spring has sprung, and I am sure you will all join me in welcoming the longer days and warmer weather! It has been a busy few months in our office as we have worked very hard to secure the funding that will keep us going during 2019. I am pleased to report that, with the help of our riders and volunteers, we were successful in securing funding from the City of Edmonton. Thank you to all of you who reached out to your councillors or came to support us at the Community & Public Service Committee meeting. It means so much to us to have all of your support.

Also, please be sure to join us at our **Annual General Meeting on April 27**, and keep an eye out for annual renewals, which will be sent out in June.

*Happy Spring!*

*Shannon L. Gill, Executive Director*



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**Our AGM is on  
April 27 at 11 am.**

\*notice of special resolution  
**Twin Brooks Community League  
11341 12 Ave NW**



**Casino June 2 & 3**

We will be looking for volunteers to  
assist in a variety of roles on both  
days. If you are interested please  
contact the office.



**WE DRIVE HAPPINESS—780-424-5438**

**Toll-Free 888-336-4503 \*\*\* [www.drivehappiness.ca](http://www.drivehappiness.ca)**

Drive Happiness Seniors Association  
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**\*\*10% off with Drive Happiness membership card\*\***

780.916.8916

**WENDY'S**  
Errands For Elders

*Enjoy your life, leave the errands to us.*



**Wendy Moyle**  
Founder & Errand Expert

Our goal is to support and promote independent living and reduce demands on the families.



[wendy@WendysErrands.com](mailto:wendy@WendysErrands.com)  
**WendysErrands.com**

**THANK  
YOU**  
SO MUCH

With our AGM coming up on April 27<sup>th</sup>, we will be saying good bye to 2 of our board members. **Elvis Wong** has served 4 years on our board, including as President for the last 2 years, and **Gladys Wong** has served as Treasurer since 2017. *Thank you both for your service to Drive Happiness! We hope you stay in touch!*

REMEMBER: We now accept e-transfer payments!!\$! Through on-line banking, you can transfer money directly from your account to:  
[payments@drivehappiness.ca](mailto:payments@drivehappiness.ca)  
security answer: "happiness"

Be sure to include rider's name & designation of funds.

**REMINDER**

★ When booking your ride, be sure to mention if you are bringing a spouse or attendant so we can properly inform your driver!

★ Don't Forget!! ANNUAL RENEWAL FEE (\$30) will be due JULY 1!



# We love our VOLUNTEERS

Meet some of our wonderful volunteers

## LYLE LAIRD



**When did you start volunteering?** October 30 2017

**Place of birth?** Innisfail, Alberta

**What is your favorite movie?** Yentl (1983 directed by Barbara Streisand)

**A place you would like to visit in world?** China

**Why do you volunteer?** There is a great need out there. Seniors need so much help. They are so appreciative. You couldn't find a more appreciative group. It makes me happy to help them out.

## GLORIA CAZES



**When did you start volunteering?** Volunteering since July 7 2014!

**Place of birth?** Born in Edmonton, raised on a farm 30 miles from Edmonton.

**What is your favorite movie?** A tie between Pretty Woman (1990 directed by Garry Marshall) and Shawshank Redemption (1994 directed by Frank Darabont)

**A place you would like to visit in world?** It is my dream to one day do a River Cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest and see that part of the world.

**Why do you volunteer?** I volunteer because I like to stay active & have purpose in my life. I like to try to make a difference in people's lives. I also think it is important to give back to the community plus I get to meet new people and make new friends. Volunteering makes the world a better place and gives me a sense of accomplishment.

*Planning ahead is simple.* THE BENEFITS ARE IMMENSE.

When you plan ahead, you can design every detail of your own final tribute and provide your loved ones with true peace of mind.

### FIRST MEMORIAL

FUNERAL SERVICES - HARMONY CHAPEL  
10541 81st Ave., Edmonton, AB T6E 1X7  
780-433-7335

### FIRST MEMORIAL

FUNERAL SERVICES - RIVERVIEW CHAPEL  
11090 86 Ave., Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 4K6  
780-998-9898

### HAINSTOCK & SON

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4802-47 Ave., Leduc, AB T9E 5X7  
780-986-2151

### HAINSTOCK'S

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780-440-2999

### MEMORIES

FUNERAL HOME  
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## GOING STRONG AT 92!

Congratulations to our rider Vera, who bowled 134 pins over average and won Bowler of the Month in November 2018!



## Seniors Centre Without Walls

When spouses and friends pass away and ailments keep us confined to our homes as we get older, we can become increasingly isolated and lonely. While seniors can always listen to the radio or watch TV, what we often miss is meaningful human interaction. The **Seniors Centre Without Walls** program allows seniors to join others from around the city - all without having to leave their homes. Some of our phone calls are just for chatting; while others include trivia games, short stories/book clubs, health & wellness classes or support groups. There is no cost to participate in this program and those with vision or memory issues are welcome to join us. If you or someone you know are interested, please call or visit our website:

**780.395.2626 ext.0**

**<http://www.edmontonsouthsidepcn.ca/scww>**

**Want to vote in our provincial election but need a ride to the polling station?  
Book with us!**



We are pleased to announce that Drive Happiness has been successful in securing funding for both our Edmonton operations and our growing operations in the neighbouring communities. On February 26, Edmonton City Council voted to provide us with \$180,000 in one-time funding. The City will also be working with us over the next few months to help develop a sustainable model to support the on-going operations of Drive Happiness. In addition, we received a 3 year grant from the Province of Alberta and a grant from the Edmonton Community Foundation to assist with expanding our service to the communities surrounding Edmonton. We can't express enough how grateful we are to all of our funders for their support!



## LOOKING BACK AT 2018

- \*our volunteer drivers completed 17,692 rides.**
- \*They collectively volunteered 20,760 hours and drove over 215,950 kms!**
- \*We added 284 new riders!**

*Please join us in giving a huge thank you to our staff and all of our volunteer drivers for the great work they do all year long!*



*\*Any action you take upon the information in this newsletter is strictly at your own risk.*