

DRIVE HAPPINESS

Seniors Assisted Transportation



ANNUAL REPORT
2019



ALBERTA
SENIORS AND HOUSING

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Beddington*

Drive Happiness



On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to recognize the valuable contributions of Drive Happiness.

This Edmonton-based organization provides assisted transportation for seniors in more than 20 communities throughout the capital region and beyond. I am impressed how Drive Happiness describes their work – “getting seniors where they need to go” and last year, that meant more than 21,000 rides by 100-plus volunteer drivers to communities as far away as Drayton Valley and Lamont.

Drive Happiness transport seniors to take care of all kinds of necessary errands and helps them make it to vital medical appointments. Along the way, I know they enjoy their conversations with the friendly drivers.

This service assist seniors attend to their day-to-day chores and appointments, and also addresses two important issues to my ministry – social isolation and supporting seniors to remain in their own homes. Seniors with limited access to transportation may face greater social isolation and may struggle to access basic needs, like acquiring groceries. By assisting seniors to be more mobile, we are helping them stay where they want to be in their homes and chosen communities.

I was proud to volunteer for Drive Happiness in Edmonton, delivering food hampers to seniors. We left the hampers on the doorstep, of course, to ensure physical distancing guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic was observed. I appreciated the opportunity to wave and say “hi” or give an “air hug” – even if it was through a closed door or window.

Our government is proud to support Drive Happiness through funding that has allowed them to continue transporting seniors to where they need to go and help purchase their basic goods and services during the pandemic. Drive Happiness is always looking for volunteer drivers, and I urge you to consider getting behind the wheel to support our valued seniors in need.

Thank you to the staff, volunteers, and drivers at Drive Happiness for making a difference in the lives of many Alberta seniors.

Josephine Pon
Minister of Seniors and Housing
May 2020



Message from His Worship Mayor Don Iveson



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, congratulations to Drive Happiness for another year of great work.

As a member of the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities, Edmonton is committed to supporting and including seniors in our thriving community life. Drive Happiness is an invaluable community resource that helps us achieve this goal by providing a convenient and affordable service. Drive Happiness allows more seniors to get out and learn new things, stay active and access key services. Even during this pandemic, this organization continues to go above and beyond to ensure our seniors can maintain their independence.

I thank Drive Happiness and the many volunteers and sponsors who made this service possible. Our seniors are the backbone of our communities and deserve the same level of dignity and respect as everyone else.

Best wishes for another successful year.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Iveson'.

Don Iveson
Mayor

YEAR IN REVIEW

It has been a year of change. New staff, new location and a lot of new connections. Together we are truly driving happiness.

OUR 104 VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

DROVE



179,984 KILOMETERS

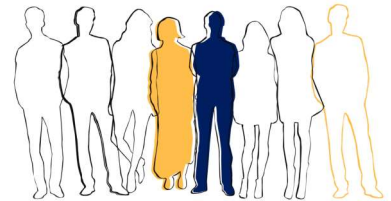
TOTALLING



21,539

VOLUNTEER HOURS

WE WELCOMED



49 NEW VOLUNTEERS

356%



Drive Happiness has seen a 356% increase in service since 2015. We provided 3,994 rides in 2015 and 18,587 rides in 2019!

OF OUR RIDERS

61% LIVE ALONE



80%

ARE LOW-INCOME

PRIMARY USE IS
MEDICALLY RELATED



"Edmonton is a big city, but we don't need to lose our sense of community."

THE CITY OF EDMONTON

The City of Edmonton awarded Drive Happiness a one time emergency funds of \$180,000 in 2019. In addition to their funding, City of Edmonton Business Analysts worked with Drive Happiness to put together a business case to reduce costs and help to secure our funding future. One of the suggestions implemented was our sliding scale for annual fee which is based on the individuals income.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

In 2019, Drive Happiness staff embarked on a new project with the goal of creating a self sufficient funding model. We opened corporate accounts for Living Sounds Hearing Centre, Greater Edmonton Foundation Seniors Housing, and Catholic Social Services. These organizations were able to book rides for their members or patients through the Drive Happiness office. By providing and paying for transportation for their members and patients, more individuals were able to get to their appointments, programming, and social engagements.



ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES

In Fall 2019, Drive Happiness was one of fourteen organizations successful in receiving a Community-based Innovation for Dementia Care Grant through AHS. Through our Dementia Friendly Transportation Project we have started and will continue to provide drivers with additional training to best provide care for Albertans to remain in their homes and communities as they age.

YEAR OF EVENTS

2019 was a year that saw more events hosted than ever by Drive Happiness. Not only did we work hard to reduce social isolation by providing transportation, we also hosted events with discussion around feeling lonely at the Breaking Loneliness Screening, opportunities to meet new friends at the WSAC Partnership Party, and an opportunity to celebrate the Holidays at the Holiday Dinner!

2019 HOLIDAY DINNER



BREAKING LONELINESS SCREENING



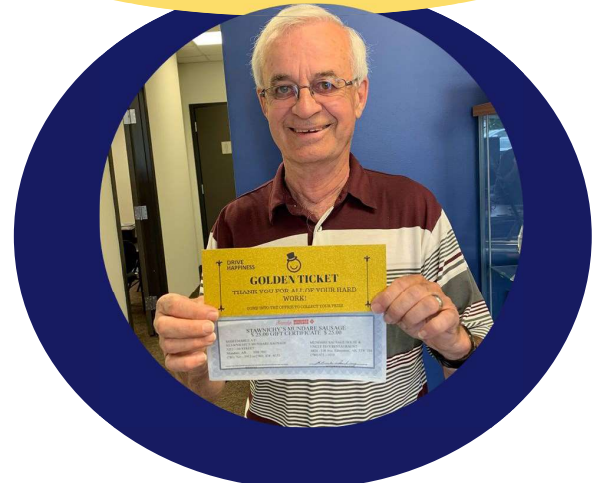
WSAC PARTNERSHIP PARTY



VOLUNTEER STRATHCONA LUNCHEON



GOLDEN TICKET VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION



OPEN HOUSE WITH RIDERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND SECTOR PARTNERS



HOW WE DO IT

Drive Happiness operates on the foundation of community helping community. We would not be able to provide this integral service without the help we receive from our community including our volunteers, staff, board of directors, riders, funders, and donors.

FUNDERS



MAJOR DONORS

ATB Financial
Rotary Club of Edmonton Strathcona
Chomicki Baril Mah LLP
The Korea Veterans Association of Canada
Wild Rose Antique Collectors Club
Canadian Association for Retired Persons
United Way of the Alberta Capital Region
Our Lady Fatima Association
Servus Credit Union
Bayshore Home Health
Womanition
Westend Seniors Activity Centre
Earth Friendly Distributors
Harold & Kathy Lake
Thomas & Colin Greyson
Home Care Assistance

Volunteer Alberta
Volunteer Strathcona
Cecile Marie Jones
Smart Business Service Inc.
Lessen the load to transitions
Linda & Tom McCuaig
Vincent & Randy Yuen
GEF Seniors Housing
Wendy's Errands for Elders
BMO Nesbitt Burns
Robert Walton
Irene Yan
Bryan & Jo-Ann Darke
Kevin Lai
Rhoda Ledda

2019 FINANCIALS

Drive Happiness Seniors Association

Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31,	2019	2018
Revenues		
City of Edmonton	\$ 180,000	\$ -
Ride ticket sales	170,757	107,479
Other grants	97,500	17,276
PEGASIS	76,603	239,961
Donations	52,483	20,126
Annual fees	24,813	15,626
Summer Student Grant	24,613	8,568
Special event revenue	7,723	12,603
Program income	3,763	5,160
Casino funds	3,512	73,629
	641,767	500,428
Expenditures		
Advertising and promotion	22,991	17,696
Bad debts	100	5,000
Computer and internet	7,642	5,656
Contract fees	-	20,503
Insurance	2,443	3,021
Interest and bank charges	1,798	3,276
Meals and entertainment	957	1,183
Mileage	127,192	126,374
Office	15,123	12,345
Postage and courier	3,498	2,339
Professional fees	15,025	10,500
Rent	10,106	15,000
Special event expenses	6,118	10,215
Staff training and volunteer appreciation	6,187	3,989
Subscriptions, permits and licenses	1,188	170
Telephone and utilities	5,671	5,117
Wages and benefits	260,069	219,171
	486,108	461,555
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 155,659	\$ 38,873

Drive Happiness Seniors Association

Statement of Financial Position

December 31,	2019	2018
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 142,592	\$ 56,359
Accounts receivable (note 3)	48,775	4,099
Prepaid expenses	6,843	881
Restricted cash (note 4)	98,619	1,098
	\$ 296,829	\$ 62,437
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 20,950	\$ 19,811
Deferred revenue (note 5)	172,159	94,565
	193,109	114,376
Net Assets		
Surplus (deficit)	103,720	(51,939)
	\$ 296,829	\$ 62,437



SENIORS ASSISTED TRANSPORTATION

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Charitable Registration #862421310RR0001