

2022

The Commandery selected New Opportunities for Women (NOW) Canada as the primary major gift organization for 2021/22. The grant will provide a playground for children at a new housing development. NOW provides support for women and youth suffering from addiction, abuse or exploitation. C\$20k was donated in 2021 and the remaining nearly C\$24k is planned to be contributed by September 2022.

The Okanagan Commandery is a small, but mighty, group of incredibly dedicated SOSJ members who are passionate about helping the sick and poor in our communities.

2021

Commandery members have agreed to pursue a **major gift to New Opportunities for Women (NOW) Canada**. The project involves funding a children's playground as part of the large NOW Canada housing development in Glenmore, Kelowna. Commander Debra Martin has established a steering committee to move forward with this exciting project, which will continue into 2022.

2020

As with many commanderies, 2020 proved to be a difficult year to raise funds and carry on with the important work of supporting those who are ill in our communities.

In spite of this, the commandery was still active. In 2020, the Commandery partnered with the Vancouver Commandery in the grants made to the **Kalein Hospice Centre Society (\$2000)** and to the **100 Mile House Hospice Society (\$1000)**. The Commandery Foundation has been so grateful to partner with former Commander, Dame Lynda-May Vexo (O'Brien) to use matching funds and has fully committed for this generous partnership.

2019

The **Commandery raised a total of \$59,779 in 2019** and the money was used to complete the projects started in 2018. Firstly, at Joe Anna's House, a home was built for families to stay while relatives are receiving treatment at Kelowna General Hospital where the Sovereign Order partnered with the Kelowna General Hospital Foundation to support its construction. Secondly, the Commandery funded the remodel and rebuild of the kitchen at the Moog and Friends Hospice House. The fundraising for this included two very successful 'Art & Wine' fundraisers, which would not have been possible without the tireless dedication of the late Chevalier Harry McWatters. His presence is missed by the commandery, but we feel so grateful he was able to steward these fundraisers and his dedication has left a tremendous legacy.

2018

Moog and Friends Hospice House: With the ever-growing need for hospice, and a shortage of hospice beds in purpose-built facilities, Moog and Friends anticipated their existing kitchen would require significant upgrading. The Okanagan Commandery **committed to raising**

\$80,000 to have the current kitchen area closed off and renovated, with access being limited to staff and volunteers preparing meals both for in-patients and hospice patients who are being helped in their own homes. A second kitchen area would be accessed by families and volunteers who wish to make themselves a beverage or a small snack. For more information on Moog and Friends, visit the website: <http://www.pentictonhospice.com/>