

NORD-BRIDGE SENIORS

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

INTRODUCING



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2020 - 2021 EXECUTIVE & BOARD

"The Friendly Centre"
1904—13th Ave. North
Lethbridge, Alberta T1H 4W9
Open Monday to Friday - 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Telephone 403-329-3222 Fax 403-329-8824
E-mail: friendly@nordbridgeseniors.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

"I praise loudly; I blame softly." Aristotle

This is not the President's report I set out to write. I intended to begin with a celebration of the successful



St. Patrick's Day Buffet and Concert. I would probably have thanked the many volunteers who had done so much for us during the last month. I might have made a particular point of thanking the volunteers in the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program who provide tax-filing assistance, not only to the Nord-Bridge members, but to many seniors and not-yet-seniors in our community.

Perhaps I would have reminded my readers that there was time to purchase a ticket for one of the three "Old Favourites" musical revues that Jim Hahn had scheduled for the Yates. And might I have reminded readers that there were still a few tickets available for the 40 Anniversary "Under Northern Lights Gala" at the Coast Hotel and Conference Center.

But all of that changed unexpectedly when the world-wide Coronavirus Pandemic forced Nord-Bridge to close its doors. Our staff had put some preventive measures in place during that last week, but they weren't sufficient to stop a global health threat.

We are asking members and friends of Nord-Bridge to exercise caution in the face of this global threat. Stay home, avoid crowds, and don't buy all the toilet paper in the store. Mayor Jenny Durkan of Seattle, Washington suggests this is also an appropriate time to thank those who are protecting us: doctors, nurses, paramedics, long-term care providers, essential service providers.

When we are able to re-open, you may not be met with a hug or a hand-shake. A smile and friendly greeting will have to do.

Robert Tarleck, A ko'tasi (Owner of Many Horses) Board President

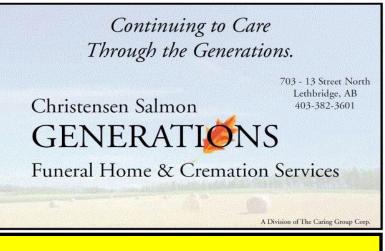
WELCOME New Members We're *very* GLAD you're here!

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Petersman
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Anonymous (2)
Joseph Keller
Debra Larko

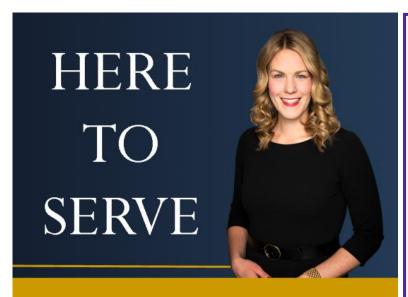


We hope you enjoy your association with Nord-Bridge "The Friendly Centre"





Please follow us on our FaceBook page or on our website www.nordbridgeseniors.com as to when we might be re-opening



RACHAEL HARDER LETHBRIDGE ALBERTA MP

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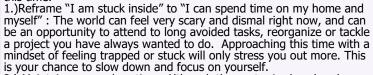
LORRI'S CORNER

"Once the world feels like a dangerous place, where bad things can happen at any moment, fear knows few limits."

any moment, fear knows few limits."
Since the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic, many of us, even those who have not been infected by the virus, will choose to quarantine in our homes for the upcoming weeks. Cancelled travel plans, indefinite isolation, panic over scarce resources and information overload could be a recipe for unchecked anxiety and feelings of isolation.

Below are a few suggestions to help you during

this time



2.) Maintain a normal routine: Although the centre is closed and was likely a big part of your day, it is important to try to maintain a normal routine. It can be easy to fall into a more lethargic lifestyle, which can lead to negative thinking. Wake up and go to bed around the same time, prepare and eat healthy meals, bathe or shower, get some exercise, and make sure you get dressed every day. Sticking to a normal routine will keep you active and less likely to spiral, it will be easier to

routine will keep you active and less likely to spiral, it will be easier to return to regular activity when this pandemic is over.

3.) Avoid excessive television coverage on the Coronavirus: Set limits on how much time you spend reading or watching news about the outbreak. Choosing only certain credible news sources and websites

outbreak. Choosing only certain credible news sources and websites (https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html or https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx) for a limited amount of time each day. It is recommended no more than two 30 minute periods per day

is enough to keep you informed.

4.) A chaotic home can lead to a chaotic mind: With all the uncertainly happening outside your home, keeping the inside organized, predictable and clean is important. Try not to eat in bed, eat at the kitchen table for example. Routines not adhered to can disrupt your day and make the days feel very long. Keeping your home tidy is also necessary to your wellbeing and failure to do so can increase feelings of

Solutions to the second days of the special during these quarantined days? For example, perhaps you can start a daily journal to jot down thoughts and feelings to reflect on later. Or take a walk every day at 4pm, connect with a family member or friend over by phone or FaceTime every morning, or start a watercolor painting which you can add to everyday. Having something special during this time will help you look forward to each

new day.
6.) Pay attention to your body, feelings, and spirit: Recognize and heed early warning signs of stress. Be aware how your own experiences affect your way of thinking and feeling about this event, and think of how you handled your thoughts, emotions, and behavior around

past evénts.

Know that feeling stressed, depressed, guilty, or angry is common after an event like an infectious disease outbreak, even when it does not directly threaten you. Connect with others who may be experiencing stress about the outbreak. Talk about your feelings about the outbreak, share reliable health information, and enjoy conversation unrelated to the outbreak, to remind yourself of the many important and positive things in your lives. Take time to renew your spirit through meditation, prayer, or helping others in need. If you are feeling that you are unable to cope during this uncertain time, please reach out to your circle of support. Be truthful how you are feeling to yourself and to them and ask for help if you need it. As we all try to navigate through these uncertain times, I will be available on a very limited basis. Nord-Bridge is closed and as a result there will not always be someone here to answer phone calls. If you are requiring support during this time, I invite you to email me at lpenner@nordbridgeseniors.com or phone (403) 329-3222 and leave a message. Please include a brief description of what is happening for you and your phone number. I will be triaging calls based on severity and will respond as soon as possible.

I will not be bringing grocery items, medications, or coming to your home for visits, and this will protect both of us.

I encourage you to stay home and limit your contact with others at this time. This is for your protection and that is our utmost concern. We want to see everyone back at Nord-Bridge ready to get back to living our best lives as soon as possible.

Lorri Penner, BSW, RSW, Member Support Coordinator

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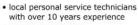
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Greeting Members,

I hope this month's Newsletter finds you well and you are coping with the ever changing atmosphere of this pandemic. On March 13th, the Executive along with my administration team made the decision to close Nord-Bridge. This decision was done with



careful consideration to protect the health and safety of our members, staff and community. Nord-Bridge felt it was our responsibility to our members and the community to do our part in encouraging social distancing and preventing the spread of Covid-19.

Our closure will last as long as Alberta Health Services deems its necessary. At the current time AHS is not allowing public group gatherings of 50 or more people; especially seniors (who are considered as the most vulnerable population to the Covid-19 virus). For the month of April, we still have some administra-

tion staff here at Nord-Bridge working and answering phone calls. If you're in need of some support or just a friendly voice to talk to please consider calling us during the weekdays between 10am - 1pm.

Please continue to practice social distancing and preventative hygiene measures (ie. frequent hand washing). For up to date and reliable information on Covid-19 please only use trusted sources such as the Alberta Health Services, Government of Alberta, and City of Lethbridge websites for information and resources.

Take care of yourself and be safe.

David Ng **Executive Director**

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Camrose, Ab May 24-26 Edmonton, Ab Winnipeg, Mb Polson / Kalispell Sept 9 - 12, 2020 Deadwood, Sd Edmonton, Ab Oct 18-20, 2020

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Camrose Resort & Casino Summer Resort Break

\$290 pp/dbl Folklorama Festival w 3 Nights \$1185 pp/dbl Sunset Cruise, Smoke Jumper Tour \$485 pp/dbl Sept 27 - Oct 3, 2020, No rules, no regrets \$795 pp/dbl Early Xmas Shopping, West Ed Mall \$290 pp/dbl Coeur D'Alene Resort, Id Dec 6-9, 2020 Xmas shopping & Light Boat Cruise \$425 pp/dbl

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... the family of Nora Weaver on her passing; Anna Vaura and family on the loss of her husband and to the Taylor family on the

loss of Nadine.

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SHUTTLE ON THE GO

From the Desk of Val

As I write my report for the April newsletter the Centre is ever so quiet. We miss everyone's friendly smile. We are coping with the very serious COVID-19 as it has affected Alberta and the world. This reminds us all that we must protect ourselves and keep safe. Cleanliness is important; wash your hands regularly. My heart goes out to our seniors facilities where many of them are visitor restricted



and some do not have family or social connection as this virus affects them. I have a brother in St.Therese Villa who I am phoning to keep in touch.

All programs including travel and Outreach have been cancelled while the Centre is closed until further notice. We must all think positively that better days will come. Summer is coming so I am predicting lots of sun and no wind so that we can get out and enjoy nature.

In closing, stay safe, be calm, and be positive.



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Upcoming FREE consultation dates:
possibly May 12, July 7, Sept. 8, Nov. 10, 2020
between the hours of 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Contact the Nord-Bridge Reception Desk to schedule an appointment. **Phone:** (403)329-3222

This free service is for Nord-Bridge members only.

GREAT NEWS! We are now taking bookings for the Broad-

way show **WICKED**

coming to Calgary at the Jubilee Auditorium this summer.

Date: Thursday, July 30th

The untold story of the witches of Oz. It will make you laugh, cry and think. **COST:** \$105 (Member)

\$130 (Non-Member) includes bus

and show ticket. Deposit of \$25 on sign up and the balance of payment will be due by June 30th, 2020.





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TRAVEL ROAD REPORT

Our Raymond Theatre trip, Hutterite Colony visit and Grey Eagle Casino Resort Trip all had to be cancelled due to the Centre having to be closed. The Old Favourites show at the Yates has currently been re-scheduled to late June. Mystery Trip #2 was enjoyed by all going to the Coaldale Menonite Sausage facility and having lunch at the bakery. Thank you to our friendly custodian Marco who was the driver for this trip.

ALL MYSTERY TRIPS AND WALMART SHOPPING ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

<u>2nd Annual Edmonton</u> trip staying at the River Cree Resort and Casino along with a side trip to the Edmonton Zoo is scheduled for September 27th through September 29th, 2020. Cost \$200 (Double Occupancy) or \$320 (Single Occupancy)

Proposed Destinations to watch for

Calgary Stampede, Water Boat Ride, Lundbreck Falls Picnic and Heritage Park Calgary

NOTICE: Our annual Golf and Gamble trip to Cranbrook - St. Eugene scheduled for Sunday May 24 to Tuesday May 26 will be cancelled do the closure of the Centre and the Casino.

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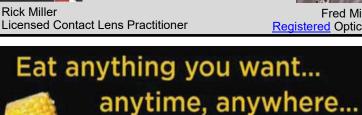


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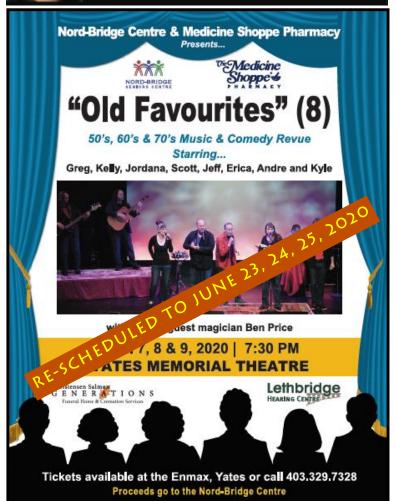
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