



75 Years Together

The special theme at the BCAHA 2020 AGM and Conference this April is "75 Years Together" (1945–2020). Planned for Penticton, this milestone celebration was abruptly cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Amid the uncertainty, auxiliaries and their volunteers are finding creative new ways to connect and to support their communities. BCAHA's ten-word mission statement conveys this same ethos and commitment:

BCAHA links and strengthens auxiliaries at the heart of healthcare.

Founded in 1945, BCAHA adapted to an ever-changing healthcare landscape and will also adapt to this current crisis. As the timeline in this report illustrates, BCAHA represents and supports auxiliaries, raising their profiles

and linking them to each other and to key healthcare stakeholders. Along with its advisory role, BCAHA seeks to encourage and support our members through promoting education, leadership, effective communication, and high standards of performance.



In response to the pandemic, BCAHA's president issued a special Covid-19 message, and Board directors called local Auxiliary presidents to converse and offer support. Also underway are teleconferencing, a special-edition newsletter, Facebook posts, email updates, BCAHA website additions, and "together-in-isolation" projects and photo contests.

Though our 75th Anniversary AGM will be held electronically, BCAHA and its member auxiliaries will continue to connect and unite. Together, we will celebrate the opportunity to further contribute "at the heart of healthcare."



BC Association of
Healthcare Auxiliaries

Helping Healthcare the Auxiliary Way

Past Presidents from left to right:
Katherine Plummer, Laura Tripp, Beverly Sackville,
Lenore Pratt, Vivian Fraser and Lynda Avis

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Timeline (1945–2020)

1945

- Women's Hospital Aids Association of the Province of British Columbia forms.
- The Association adopts our first Constitution.



1946

- The Association receives a grant of \$100.00 from the BC Hospitals' Association.
- 60 Auxiliaries raise \$75,000 for BC hospitals.
- First copy of The Sheet newsletter sent to auxiliaries.

1949

- Our name is changed to the British Columbia Association of Hospital Auxiliaries.

1952

- Councillors are appointed from regional areas of the province.

1958

- BCAHA's dogwood emblem is created.

1967

- Men become involved in hospital volunteer work and consideration is given to the future removal of "Women" from Auxiliary titles.
- Candy Striper pin is created.



1975

- Association becomes incorporated as a Society.

1984

- BCAHA president presents a brief to the Canadian Medical Association's Task Force on Allocation of Health Care Resources.

1993

- Name is changed to British Columbia Association of Healthcare Auxiliaries.
- Her Honour, E. Jane Rogers, Chatelaine of British Columbia, is BCAHA's first patron from 1993 to 2000.



B.C. Association of Healthcare Auxiliaries

2001

- Her Honour, Iona Campagnola, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, becomes BCAHA's patron from 2001 until 2007.

2006

- BCAHA's first website www.bcaux.ca is introduced.

2007

- BCAHA's sustained efforts result in registered charities, and members of BCAHA becoming eligible for a PST tax rebate on medical equipment.

2008

- The Provincial Government declares May 10, 2008 as Healthcare Auxiliary Day.

2011–2012

- Auxiliary Action newsletter begins digital distribution.
- BCAHA's new website bchealthcareaux.org is launched.

2018

- BCAHA president meets with BC's health minister in Victoria.

2019

- Her Honour, Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, opens BCAHA's AGM & Conference in Prince George.
- BCAHA member auxiliaries contribute over \$10,000,000 and over 1,000,000 volunteer hours.

2020

- BC health authorities renew a three-year grant in recognition of BCAHA's role and contributions.
- BCAHA's 75th Anniversary AGM & Conference in Penticton is cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



President's Message

For 75 years, BCAHA has linked and strengthened BC's healthcare auxiliaries. The goals and ideals of our founders are as integral to health care today as they were in 1945. There have been many changes over the years, but volunteer



commitment to improving patient care and comfort has never wavered. Early volunteers made and mended bedding for hospitals, tore up bed sheets for bandages and diapers, wrote letters for patients, and supported their families.

Today's auxiliary volunteers raise funds in our thrift stores, gift shops, and many other ways, to purchase equipment and supplies for hospitals, extended care facilities and hospices. They provide funds to build "home away from home" facilities so families can be with children who are in hospital. They work in mammogram screening, Well Baby programs and flu clinics, and provide emergency kits to patients, comfort pillows for breast cancer patients, and so much more.

We are grateful for the continued support of our Health Authorities, local businesses and our communities, who make our accomplishments possible. To the men, women and youth who volunteer with our auxiliaries, you exemplify "Helping Healthcare the Auxiliary Way." A simple "Thank You" cannot express my heartfelt gratitude for all that you do.

It has been my privilege to serve as president for the past two years and my sincere wish is that you may enjoy good health and every success in the future.

Sincerely,

Marge Anderson
President

P.S. Having written this message prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, I reaffirm my wishes of good health to all. "Keep well. Be safe. Help others."

“...at the heart of healthcare”

“Since the turn of the century, concerned citizens – at first, women only – organized themselves into groups to assist in getting hospitals started and to earn funds for much needed equipment and supplies. These groups were the first hospital auxiliaries. . . Although the auxiliary’s role is continually changing, the idea of ‘care and comfort’ remains constant. As we go forward, we cannot forget the accomplishments of the past.”

(E. Lenore Pratt, BCAHA president, 1986)

“The changes over the last 20 years, much less over the last 100 years, have been tremendous, but the auxiliaries have been a consistent thread throughout and have kept a focus on the most important thing – the people and the families that are here for us to serve. Whatever is happening in the world of health care, Auxiliary members have maintained a steadfast focus on people, always striving to make what is a challenging time for many, as comfortable as possible.”

(Penny Anguish, Chief Operating Officer, Northern Interior, Northern Health Authority, 2019)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT	Operating Fund	Tribute Fund	2019 Total	2018 Total
Current Assets				
Cash	32,014	12,012	44,026	36,826
Investments - GIC	60,000	30,884	90,884	125,881
Accounts receivable	772	-	772	772
GST receivable	4,494	-	4,494	3,381
Prepaid expenses	10,986	-	10,986	2,650
	111,552	42,896	154,448	169,510
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable	5,540	-	5,540	365
Deferred contributions	-	-	-	30,000
	5,540	-	5,540	30,365
Fund Balances				
Unrestricted	106,012	-	106,012	98,591
Restricted	-	42,896	42,896	40,554
	111,552	42,896	154,448	169,510
	117,092	42,896	159,988	166,212

STATISTICS	2018	2019
Member Auxiliaries 31/12/19	76	75
Auxiliaries Reporting	76	74
Adult Members	6,254	6,089
Adult Volunteer Hours	1,235,643	1,238,216
Youth Members	371	416
Youth Volunteer Hours	15,280	34,028
Bursaries to Youth	303,864	274,639
Funds Donated to Health Care	9,946,381	7,920,418
Total Funds Donated	10,250,245	8,195,057



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