

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY

GALIANO HEALTH CARE SOCIETY -
908 BURRILL ROAD GALIANO ISLAND, BC

*We gratefully acknowledge the support of The Capital Regional District,
Galiano Island Parks & Recreation Commission, The United Way, and Healthcare
Excellence Canada*

AGENDA

APRIL 26TH, 2026

GALIANO LIONS HALL 1:00PM

1. Call to order and territorial acknowledgement
2. Verification of quorum, approval of Agenda and last AGM minutes
3. Reports presentations:
 - Update on Mental Health Committee (Jeannine Georgeson, Amber Hui)
 - Executive Director and Treasurer Report Overview
4. Approval of Motion: That Proulx, Smart & Associates be appointed to prepare the compiled Financial Reports for 2026.
5. Voting on Special Resolution
6. Election of Directors (Angela Thompson, GHCS Secretary)
7. Adjournment

Note: This meeting will be audio recorded. This helps us accurately capture the minutes, motions, and important details, ensuring everything is properly documented.

**This is standard practice for many organizations.
Thank you.**

2024/25 AGM MINUTES

Galiano Health Care Society
Annual General Meeting Minutes (Revised Draft for Review)
Date: April 27, 2025 Time: 13:00–14:30
Location: South Community Hall

Present: members sign in list available on request

Guests: Dr. Andre Touchburn, Dr. Amir Ghomi, Linde Zingaro

Item 1: Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement

The Chair, Liz Whynot, opened the meeting, provided a territorial acknowledgement, and addressed the tragic attack on attendees at a Filipino community gathering in Vancouver on April 26.

She noted that the meeting would follow Robert's Rules of Order. Directors present included: Amber Hui, Gray Rosnick, Angela Thomson, Jeannine Georgeson, Cindy Weisbart, Kate Hughes, Louise Bentley, Fruzsina Pataky, and Judy Garland.

Item 2: Call to Order, Verification of Quorum, and Approval of Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order and confirmed quorum. The agenda was approved on a motion by Anita Braha and Angela Thompson.

Item 3: Guest Speakers

Dr. Andre Touchburn spoke about his experience at the Clinic, recruitment and retention challenges, current staffing, and the collaborative model of care. He introduced Dr. Amir Ghomi, who has joined the clinic for a three-year term. Dr. Touchburn noted the clinic remains understaffed but expressed optimism.

Dr. Linde Zingaro presented on the Compassionate Community Volunteers program, outlining volunteer roles, limits on care, and planned community education workshops.

Item 4: Presentation and Approval of Minutes from the May 7, 2024 AGM

The Chair presented the 2024 AGM Minutes, approved on a motion by Jeannine Georgeson and Chuck Garland.

Item 5: Reports

President's Report

Highlights included progress in governance, access to medical care, support for medical providers, and inter-island collaboration. Appreciation was expressed for community support.

2024/25 AGM MINUTES CONT'D

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Fruzsina Pataky. Highlights included revenue from the 2024 short-term investment strategy, transition to QuickBooks Online, updates to the dental information system, and the selection of a new accountant. Formatting errors in the distributed financial statements prevented full discussion.

Motion: To table financial reporting until corrected statements can be distributed, questions answered, and a virtual vote held. Moved by Ted Bentley and Peter Senkpiel. CARRIED.

Motion: To appoint Proulx Smart to compile 2025 financial statements. Moved by Fruzsina Pataky and Rick Blair. CARRIED.

Executive Director's Report

ED Lindsay Williams reported updates on residency training site approval, community donations, grant funding, and improvements to communications and the website.

Item 6: Nominating Committee and Election of Directors

Presented by Louise Bentley. Two vacancies were noted. Motion: To appoint Michael Clark and Heiko Decosas to the Board. Moved by Louise Bentley and Peter Senkpiel. CARRIED.

Item 7: New Business

A motion was brought forward by Linda Ruedrich proposing the establishment of a Mental Health Advisory Committee composed of people with lived experience. Discussion emphasized appropriate support needs, operational—not clinical—scope, and the requirement that such matters be referred to the Board.

Amendment: That the Board consider forming a Mental Health Consumer Advisory Committee (or similarly named committee) and report back at the next AGM. Moved by Kate Hughes with agreement from Linda Ruedrich. CARRIED.

Item 8: Questions from the Floor

Topics included communication transparency and upcoming fundraising plans. Activities planned for 2025 include the 40th anniversary gala, Annual Plant Sale (May 17), Golf Club fundraiser (July 5), and the second annual dog show (August 10).

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Moved by Whynot and Bentley. CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 14:30.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In 2025, the Galiano Health Care Society celebrated our 40th year serving the wonderful community of Galiano. It has been a busy year, to say the least, for the Society and the Health Centre as we fulfill our mission to provide and ensure access to primary health care services for Galiano residents.

There is good news on many fronts. We have a consistently wonderful group of physicians (Dr. Anik Mommsen-Smith, Dr. Andre Touchburn and Dr. Amir Ali Azimzadeh Ghomi) supported in the office by our excellent nurses (R.N. Regina Svidler, R.N. Janet Bartnik and R.N. Sarah Anne Koster). This team has now been able to accept a few new patients from our wait-list. We have a strong partnership with our Outer Gulf Islands partners with increasingly effective advocacy to achieve the sustainable funding we need from the Ministry of Health, Island Health and the Capital Regional District. We have also been able to maintain services despite unexpected cuts announced part way through our fiscal year.

The Board and the Health Care Centre staff and medical team (doctors, medical office assistants, nurses), under the leadership of our Executive Director, Lindsay Williams, and Medical Director, Dr. Anik Mommsen-Smith, have worked hard together to make all of this happen, bolstered by the strong support of the community. Thank you to all our Board members (Jeannine Georgeson, Carol Craig, Angela Thompson, Fruzsina Pataky, Cindy Weisbart, Heiko Decosas, John Ronsley, Gary Rosnick, Mike Clarke, Judy Garland, Louise Bentley, Kate Hughes, Amber Hui), staff, physicians and volunteers who have joined together this year to support the work.

And on behalf of the Galiano Health Care Society I want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the extraordinary generosity of Galiano residents over the last year. In 2025, the generosity of 255 donors, including 134 recurring donors, allowed GHCS to maintain essential services when provincial funding changes came into effect. Community support ensured continuity of care, preserved staffing during a period of instability, and provided the time needed to pursue sustainable long-term solutions. This stability has been a significant win for our island—preventing service cuts, protecting vital programs, and supporting integrated care across multiple roles.

In April 2025 (part way into our budget year), GHCS was informed that funds budgeted to support nursing and Mental Health outreach (approximately \$150,000) had been cut. This large loss was on top of our ongoing problem of inadequate overhead funding allocated by the Ministry of Health to support physician and Nurse Practitioner services (about \$100,000 short each year) The community came forward to help. We would like to recognize especially our friends and constant supporters, Evelyn and the late Richard Dewinetz, whose personal contribution in 2025 of \$500,000 has helped to offset these negatives, allowing time to plan and continue to advocate for sustained funding. Additional funds raised through memberships, general giving, and targeted contributions totaled \$149, 440.

All this support combined has enabled continuation and improvement of the health services provided by the Health Care Centre and strengthened our capacity to improve the scope of and access to health care services. Here are some of the impacts:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Supporting Mental Health Outreach

In early 2025, the sudden loss of BCACHC grant funding placed Galiano's mental health outreach program at risk. Community donations ensured that GHCS could establish a contract to maintain social work support while longer-term, sustainable funding options are pursued. This avoided an abrupt reduction in services and allowed vulnerable residents to continue accessing outreach and social support during a period of uncertainty. GHCS remains committed to securing stable, ongoing funding so this outreach can continue reliably into the future, and we are hopeful to achieve some of this in 2026.

Strengthening Nursing Capacity

Nursing services were also significantly affected by the loss of external grant funding. Through the Ministry of Health's Primary Care Network (a partnership with health services on Pender, Mayne and Saturna), GHCS secured permanent funding for 0.5 FTE nursing. Community donations made it possible to sustain an additional 0.5 FTE (maintaining a full-time nursing presence at the clinic) and to restore the weekend First Call Nurse program.

Physicians have consistently emphasized the importance of nursing support: strong nursing capacity allows them to see more patients and improves overall continuity of care, and we're beginning to see the effects of that. Nursing services assist with chronic disease management, administering injections, chart reviews, and monitoring patients who require transfer to higher-level care. The reliable presence of a full-time RN facilitates the work of our physician team (Dr. Mommsen-Smith, Dr. Touchburn and Dr. Azimzadeh Ghomi) has enabled increased access to primary care for Galiano residents.

Upgrading Clinic and Operational Infrastructure

Donor support also enabled the GHCS to replace outdated and unreliable equipment, including essential technology and office systems that underpin day-to-day clinical and administrative operations. These upgrades improved efficiency, reduced disruptions, and strengthened the foundation required for reliable patient care.

Outfitting a New Medical Exam Room

Community contributions additionally helped GHCS equip a newly prepared exam room, expanding the Society's clinical capacity. Donations supported the purchase of essential furnishings and clinical tools needed to bring the room into service and improve access to care for residents.

We are not out of the woods, but with the support of the Galiano community, we will continue to pursue the sustainable, ongoing funding required to maintain program stability. In 2026, GHCS's focus will remain on achieving access to needed health services for every full-time islander. A key component of this work will be the recruitment of a Nurse Practitioner—a vital, funded position that has been vacant for two years. We will also work to deepen our understanding of the health care and support needs of our residents, while strengthening partnerships with our island neighbours (Saturna, Mayne, and Pender) to advocate with Island Health, the Ministry of Health, and the CRD for the sustained support required to maintain existing resources and address emerging needs.

HERE'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO DO WITH YOUR SUPPORT:

- Opened the medical practice to 29 patients from the waitlist and provided quality primary care and/or episodic care to 637 individuals via over 5000 appointments
- Hosted 4 physicians doing their UBC Residency in Rural Family Medicine rotation of 5 weeks each
- Community-funded social worker at 20 hours per week
- Community-funded half-time clinic RN and weekend on call nurse (in addition to the half-time nurse funded by Island Health)
- Offer extensive Community Wellness programs and outreach
- Refreshed our staff salaries to proudly continue to be a Living Wage Employer
- Facilitated provision of Cultural Safety training to staff and board members
- Implemented a Lone Worker Safety program to protect our Seniors' Service Providers and Custodial Staff
- Clinic Security upgrades
- Continued to work with BC Association of Health Centres and other advocacy groups to secure dependable funding
- Successfully negotiated with CRD to substantially increase funds for which we are eligible from the annual tax levy

COMMUNITY WELLNESS UPDATES

GHCS FUNDED

Program Name	Description/Goals	# People Served
Compassionate Community	Volunteer support for those living with life-limiting illness and their caregivers	Variable
Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Group	Bi-weekly peer support group for folks living with Alzheimer's & Dementia and their caregivers.	Average 6 (3 participants and those they care for)
Social Worker (Andrew Simmons)	20 hours / week Registered Social Worker providing: Mental Health Support, Outreach, Case Management including support for Domestic Violence, Financial/Legal issues, Food security, Navigating complex health care.	Average: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 45 direct client interactions per month• 16 active clients on caseload at any one time
Seniors Legacy Videos	To offer people an opportunity to share their life history and stories on camera to be documented for their family, and if desired, for their communities.	5 filmed so far

COMMUNITY WELLNESS UPDATES CONT'D

UNITED WAY FUNDED

Program Name	Description/Goals	# People Served 2025*
Better at Home	Non-medical support to keep seniors in their homes longer.	41 Active Clients
Social Prescribing	Referrals, support, navigation etc.	138 Service Counts
Social Meals	Gatherings around food, or 1:1 (staff or volunteer) shared meals	
	Chatterbox: Tuesdays 10am at the Lions Hall	Average 14 guests
	Chit Chat Café @ Page Drive Lounge (open to all) (weekly)	Average 15 guests
	Feast for Friends: 6 sit-down dinner events @ Lions Hall	Average 42 guests

- The United Way fiscal year runs April to April. These numbers reflect April 2025-26

GHCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are so grateful for the time and energy of our Board of Directors.

CONTINUING DIRECTORS FOR 2026/27

MICHAEL CLARK
CAROL CRAIG
HEIKO DECOSAS
JEANNINE GEORGESON
AMBER HUI
FRUZZINA PATAKY
GARY ROSNICK
ANGELA THOMPSON
DR. LIZ WHYNOT - (NON-VOTING PAST PRESIDENT)

TERMS COMPLETED

LOUISE BENTLEY
JUDY GARLAND
KATE HUGHES
DR. JOHN RONSLEY
DR. CINDY WEISBART

WE THANK THESE DIRECTORS FOR THEIR HARD WORK & DEDICATION

NOMINEES TO THE BOARD

LISE ALAIN
GILLIAN DUSTING
JON STETTNER
JOANNE YOUNG



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday May 16th:

Annual Plant Sale! 1pm - 3pm in the Health Centre Parking Lot.

This important fundraiser is made possible by the generosity of Carol & Don Wilson (TSC Nurseries) and our volunteers.

Sunday June 14th:

Annual Dog Show! 12pm-3pm at the Lions Field.

Golf Tournament July 11th at the Galiano Golf & Country Club. We are grateful to the GGCC for their generosity!

January 1 2027: Annual Polar Brrr Swim at the Montague Park boat ramp.