

Minutes from the North West Chapter- Wednesday April 15, 2015

We opened the meeting at 1pm for registration and began the meeting at 1:30pm with 25 people in attendance. We discussed the sunburst magazine. Everyone seemed to have received their magazine. One member asked why it is not emailed to the people with emails. We discussed SUN meeting with Health Minister Mandel and Minister Johnson about LTC accessibility, Nursing standards, inspections and family members banned from LTC facilities without any mediation. This last topic concerned everyone as they have seen this happen. We discussed the hiring of a new executive director, Ann Pugh Jones. I announced the upcoming AGM meeting April 30th and where the location and time the meeting would be. Some members seemed interested to come to this meeting. I announced the advocacy training May 6 but no one was interested to come to this training meeting. I mentioned that the Calgary Chapter was covered by CBC TV.

Karen Lencucha from Smooth Transitions came to speak. Karen started Smooth Transitions in 2012 after helping family members move, downsize and disperse their estates. Karen has thirty years' experience in administration and business management.

Karen's services to seniors are vast. From helping seniors with their laundry to full scale moves which entail packing, downsizing and coordinating with moving companies. She enjoys assisting seniors with day to day activities and dealing with adult children to ease their concern for their parents. Many of the adult children live out of town and are unable to assist their parents. Many of the situations unfortunately deal with a death in the family and their residence must be cleared out in a timely fashion. Karen will go in and disperse all of their possessions with instruction from the family.

Karen likes to label herself an advocate for seniors to ensure no one is being taken advantage of. She has ensured if relocation is involved, that their new home is safe and their needs are being fulfilled.

We ended the meeting having coffee and Karen stayed behind to answer more questions. The meeting ended at 3pm.

Judi Peterson