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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **A Fond Farewell to Winfield Hospital Auxiliary for 62 Years of Service**

WINFIELD, BC – The Winfield Hospital Auxiliary was celebrated today as they officially fold their historic organization after six decades of community service.

In a charming event hosted by the KGH Foundation, the remaining members of the auxiliary were commended by Winfield Mayor James Baker for their commitment to the health and well-being of their community through their volunteer work.

“I am humbled by their dedication,” said Mayor Baker. “As a community, we are thoroughly grateful for their significant contributions over the years.”

The Winfield Hospital Auxiliary was officially established in April 1956 when ten ladies decided to create a Winfield subsidiary of the Kelowna Hospital Auxiliary. In the first part of that year, they raised \$132.52 to purchase a Health Scale and gifted it to the Kelowna General Hospital. In 1962, they became a full-fledged Junior Hospital Auxiliary. In 1996, the Winfield Auxiliary became part of the KGH Foundation.

The Winfield Hospital Auxiliary has played a vital role in supporting KGH, Cottonwoods and Strathcona Manor.

Over the years, Winfield Auxiliary members have held fashion shows, home bake sales, Tourist Camps in the summer, rummage sales, picnics, raffles, annual telephone campaigns and bridge nights. In recent years, they began catering for various banquets, all to raise funds for KGH and its associated facilities.

As volunteers, they have helped canvas for Red Cross blood donors and have sponsored blood donation clinics, assisted at polio immunization clinics and published the wildly successful Winfield Calendar (1973 – 1979), a weekly news circular distributed to nearly 1,600 residents in Winfield.

“We want to give credit to all the women that have been part of our membership over the years,” says Connie Douma, Winfield Auxiliary President, “and the residents, community and businesses of Lake Country who have always supported our work.”

“Without the people of our community, we wouldn’t have been successful in our fundraising. We are very proud to have served for so many years.”

***The KGH Foundation is an independent, volunteer-driven charitable organization committed to enhancing the delivery of healthcare to the patients of Kelowna General Hospital and its associated facilities.***

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