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“It is my dream that we will walk together ‘you’ and ‘I’, as partners in this beautiful world of senior living, growing together as a strong, vibrant community.”

Elaine Shantz, CEO

In January 2020, Fairview Parkwood Communities announced the initiative “*Walk the Kindness Way*”.

The initiative was sparked by Fairview Parkwood Communities CEO, Elaine Shantz. Building on Elaine’s passion for trekking, strengthening teams and building relationships, the goal of the walk was to literally ‘walk with others’ to raise funds to enhance programs and care services for residents at Fairview Parkwood Communities.

As the spring approached, the commitment to do our best to be vigilant in ensuring the safety of our residents and team members during the COVID-19 pandemic very quickly became the focus for our communities. With the goal of keeping the residents safe and the homes COVID free, this included, pandemic planning, verifying staffing, working within the guidelines and increased infection prevention and control protocols. When COVID arrived, we were able to quickly ensure we were able to sustain our supply of personal protective equipment for the safety of our team members and residents. Throughout the pandemic, Fairview Parkwood Communities was blessed. We cannot say thank you enough to all of our families for your kindness and support.

In light of the pandemic, in May, it was decided to postpone the walk as the communities continued to navigate through COVID-19 pandemic.

As the province has advanced through the stages of re-opening, the Kindness Walk Committee has continued to meet in the hope that the walk could move forward in the fall.

We are pleased to advise the Leadership Teams and Kind Walk Committee have decided to move forward with a smaller scale version of the original plan.

The walk will take participants from Fairview Seniors Community to Parkwood Seniors Community along the Walter Bean Grand River Trail. The 42 km route will be divided over 2 days - Saturday, September 26th, 2020 and Sunday, September 27th, 2020.

The theme of the Walk is “*Kindness is Contagious*” and funds raised will be used to support the costs associated with the COVID-19. We are asking for your support to make this journey a success.

To make a donation, please go to:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/fairview-mennonite-home/p2p/walkthekindnessway/>

If you would like additional information, please contact Erna Koning at ekoning@fairviewmh.com.

Thank you for your support in making this amazing adventure a success!

