



## NEWS RELEASE

ST. JOSEPH'S GENERAL HOSPITAL FUTURE VISION OF CARE

For immediate release

5 December 2016

### YOUTH FILMMAKERS CAPTURE THE TENDERNESS OF SENIORS' CARE IN HEARTWARMING VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

COMOX, BC - The 5<sup>th</sup> premier of the Youth Media Project held 2 December at the Stan Hagen Theatre showcased the creative work of nine very talented youths, and captivated audiences with their sometimes subtle but powerful messages about today's society and the community in which we live.

Two of the young filmmakers chose to focus their creative drive on eldercare, filming life for seniors at The Views at St. Joseph's and at Glacier View Lodge. Rhea Whitehead highlights the tender intergenerational connections between children and residents living at The Views while Ryan Weaver documents the positive impact of music therapy on Glacier View Lodge residents.

Set only to music, Whitehead cleverly filmed scenes that emphasize the Eden Philosophy of Care, an approach to residents' care evident throughout the many programs at The Views.

"The Views at St. Joseph's is privileged to have Rhea's enthusiastic energy and creativity, and to help support this valuable youth project," said Brenda Phillips, Director Lifestyles and Community Programs, The Views. "What an honour that Rhea took great interest in seniors having once served as a volunteer here at The Views and now with her video on Eden. We are hopeful that as her video circulates to a greater audience, the community will have a clearer understanding about this innovative approach that compliments St. Joseph's philosophy of *care with compassion*."

In his video, Weaver used a documentary style approach. Glacier View Lodge Music Therapist Julia Tabernero is featured as narrator and spokesperson giving the viewer an emotional journey of the power of music therapy in seniors care.

"Ryan's video beautifully captures the joy of music. Despite many health challenges, including the loss of memory and communication, music has the power to touch us all, at any stage of life," explained Liz Friis, Director of Resident Lifestyle & Community Programs, Glacier View Lodge. "Music moves past the effects of disease and resounds in the heart. Music allows us to feel and move, and if the right song is chosen, to be able to recall and express past memories. Truly, at Glacier View Lodge, 'the song is not over.'"

The Youth Media Project is a program aimed at helping young creative individuals to eliminate barriers to employment while being trained in the technical and creative aspects of filmmaking. The program includes workshops on employability skills and ample opportunities to build connections within the community.



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The Youth Media Project is funded by Service Canada and the BC Art's Council to provide training and skills in video production to individuals aged 16 to 30. This is the program's fourth year.

“This has been a life changing experience,” shared Weaver (29). “I have learned so many transferable skills and gained confidence in my abilities as a creator and change maker. The environment is incredibly supportive and I am impressed by the quality of work that everyone has put together in such a short time.”

The seniors' care videos are available for viewing on the Glacier View Lodge website at [www.glacierviewlodge.ca](http://www.glacierviewlodge.ca), St. Joseph's website at [www.sjghcomox.ca](http://www.sjghcomox.ca), and the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation at [www.cvhospitalfoundation.com](http://www.cvhospitalfoundation.com).

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For more information about the Eden Philosophy of Care and the activities at The Views and Glacier View Lodge, contact Mary Lee, Future Role Communications Advisor at [mary.lee@viha.ca](mailto:mary.lee@viha.ca) or via mobile at 250-792-3428.

Detailed information about the Eden Alternative can be found at [www.edenalt.org](http://www.edenalt.org)