

A celebration of our IOOF volunteer resident Dorothy Parnell



This holiday season is truly a time to reflect on the past two years, and I'm thankful for the tremendous resilience of our staff, residents, and volunteers at the IOOF Seniors Homes. We have come through challenging times, but I have also seen great achievement, determination, and compassion.

I'd like to celebrate one of our volunteers who continues to go above and beyond for the IOOF and her fellow residents. Dorothy Parnell has lived in Simcoe County for 19 years. She came to Sandy Cove Acres in Innisfil from her home province of Quebec but, unfortunately, she experienced a critical life-altering myocardial event. Once she recovered, she was not able to return home. That is how Dorothy came to live at our Heritage Place supportive housing. Dorothy quickly found, as she said, **“that as a senior, I was very lucky to have found the IOOF. Living here has been wonderful, very warm and welcoming.”**

Dorothy has become an integral part of the IOOF's volunteer team. A former elementary school teacher, she was not only dedicated to teaching children, but devoted her life to volunteerism benefitting various causes. Dorothy channeled her commitment to community work into her volunteer management role for the Last Minute Store, an IOOF initiative that provides essential groceries and personal items to our residents in Heritage Place without having to travel in the community. During the COVID-19 pandemic and winter months this service is crucial to maintaining our residents' independence and good health. **“Your time is your own, and spending time volunteering and helping others, brings joy,” she told me.**

As we celebrate the holidays and a season for joy, we hope you will honour those like Dorothy who extend happiness by supporting the well-being of others.

In 2022, the IOOF Seniors Homes embarked on the largest capital project in our history, with the launch of our \$1.2 million redevelopment campaign to expand our long-term care facility to a 226-bed home. This transformative revitalization will create 64 new long-term care beds and 66 upgraded beds, modern spaces, updated equipment, private rooms, and increased square footage. Our new space will be equipped to provide for increased acuity and complexity of care for our residents and will have a lasting positive impact on our community for generations to come.

Dorothy resides in our supportive housing; however, many of our residents and community members currently or in the future will require long-term care support. We hope that you will make a meaningful gift this holiday season to help the IOOF continue to serve our residents and their families.

Wishing a joyful season's greetings to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Garry C. Hopkins, CEO
IOOF Seniors Homes Inc.



Dorothy Parnell in the Last Minute Store at the IOOF.