



TABOR VILLAGE
Providing Care from the Heart

Annual Report

2025

**Celebrating 65
Years of Caring
From the Heart**





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**For great is your love, higher than the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.**

PSALM 108:4

A Message From Our Board Chair

Tabor Village is a visible, tangible expression of Christ's love for seniors and the vulnerable in the Fraser Valley. It is also an opportunity for us to join in with him to bring God glory.

During these uncertain times, it is very important for the Tabor Board to be both discerning and responsive to opportunities and challenges as they arise. The Board is very grateful for new board members and the gifts and experience they bring. We are also grateful to have benefited from the leadership, commitment and service of our departing board members, Vic Martens and Jake Conrad.

We are thankful for George Jacob and his continued focus on building the culture at Tabor and personifying "care from the heart". He is building a strong senior leadership team.

Many people are needed for Tabor to thrive. We have great staff! We also have many volunteers,

families, and the church community bringing life to Tabor. We appreciate all of you!

This past year, the Board took advantage of the opportunity to buy a neighbouring property we have long seen as important to our redevelopment plans. We also decided to make a significant investment in renovating and extending the useful life of Tabor Manor. Both of these are clearly steps that will set us up well for the future.

The Board also made the difficult decision to halt the proposed addition to Tabor Court at this time. Our long-term goal of replacing Tabor Home with a facility that is better for residents and staff remains and we continue to pursue it.

As we celebrate the 65th anniversary of Tabor, we acknowledge God's goodness throughout and the past contributions of many. Please continue to pray for the Board as we seek God's leading in setting the course for the future.

Thank you on behalf of the Tabor Home Society Board.



Ken Nickel
Vice Chair, Tabor Village

A Message From Our Executive Director

What an amazing year of growth and transformation for Tabor.

I can think of a number of highlights. Our “All Inclusive Tabor Cruise” was a huge success (read more on pages 10-13). Our focus on training and education this year has created a streamlined process to ensure that our staff are well-trained to ensure we provide high-quality care.

But more than anything, I am truly excited about the future for Tabor. At a provincial level, we continue to advocate for the need for better buildings, resources and increased staffing to provide for our residents and tenants who come to us needing an increased level of support and care.

I’m hopeful, because I’ve seen how our

community continues to rally around us in so many meaningful ways. From the Fraser Valley Animal Hospital partnering with us at Christmas, to the renewed connections with our partner churches. From the generous support we received during the Bus campaign, to the visits from local schools and community groups offering special programs. It feels like we’re truly reconnecting with our community here in Abbotsford, and for that, I am both excited and deeply grateful.

We are often taught to think outside the box. While we don’t limit ourselves as we dream for Tabor, we also like to take the approach of thinking “inside the box” by doing the most that we can with the resources that we have.

Yes, we can take a 5-day cruise and visit five different ports all around the world and learn how to elevate our quality of care while doing it. Yes, we can care from the heart by creating engagement, experiences and empowering our residents and tenants.

With gratitude on behalf of the Tabor team,



George Jacob
Executive Director,
Tabor Village



Watch - Who We Are

The Origin of Tabor Home Society

Abram Friesen and other M. B. Church council and committee members were convinced that God, by his Spirit, brought this great work into being. Abram wrote that they knew by experience that God often uses everyday people in our lives to stimulate a thought, which is followed through and acted upon, resulting in blessings for generations to come. In fact, before the initial groundbreaking celebration on July 18, 1960, God planted the first seed for what would become the Tabor Home Society five years prior.

One evening in 1955, an elderly lady, Mrs. Schmoor went to see Abram Friesen at his shoe store on South Fraser Way. In those years, he was the associate leader of the Clearbrook church, and many times people came to unload their problems and ask for advice, or want him to pray with them.

Mrs. Schmoor shared how she had been widowed for 3 years and was already in her 80s. She feared that she might die, and wondered what would happen to her daughter Katherina. Katherina had been in an accident at the age of 17 and consequently was not able to live on her own.



Jacob J. Klassen, Jacob P. Martens, Abram J. Friesen



Mrs. Schmoor wanted the church to build a large house on her lot, in order that her daughter and others in need could be taken care of.

Abram promised to bring her request and offer to the attention of the council. Unfortunately, it was voted down at the time because a lot was too small.

Another man, Jacob Schmidt, visited Abram to express his concern about the money and effort that had been put into a summer camp. He believed that older people were being neglected and that a home for old people was needed. Abram promised Jacob Schmidt that he would bring it up again at the next council meeting. He did, and the council agreed to bring the important question before the missions committee so that all the M.B. churches could be involved.

This was a completely new idea to the conference, but no one objected to it; instead, they elected three members to look into the matter. Elected were Jacob J. Klassen (Chilliwack); Jacob P. Martens (Yarrow); and Abram J. Friesen (Clearbrook).

Abram J. Friesen would eventually become the first Administrator of the Tabor Home in Clearbrook and worked tirelessly, unselfishly and faithfully for the betterment of all.



Watch - 65th Anniversary



Abram Friesen



Mrs. Schmoor





Capital Project Updates

Tabor Home

As we celebrate 65 years of God's goodness we remain thankful for the wonderful resources and buildings that He has given us, from which we provide care from the heart. We continue to engage in conversations with Fraser Health and the Ministry for the replacement of Tabor Home and our hope is that with a new government in place it will speed up the conversations on the very present need to see a refresh of long term care beds in the Fraser Valley. In preparation and to position ourselves well, Tabor has recently acquired the property located on 31955 Sunrise Crescent to ensure that it has enough land capacity should our plans for Tabor Home's replacement come through.

Tabor Manor

We believe that Tabor Manor is an essential part of our service portfolio where seniors are able to have a safe place to live in an affordable setting. We want to see the Manor continue to be a place of care and belonging into the future and as such we have begun an investment of nearly 1.1 Million dollars that will see the envelope of the building including the windows, roof and elevator replaced by the end of summer 2025. Further investment will begin to unfold in the years ahead as we refresh and update individual suites.

Tabor Court

Tabor Court will be turning 20 years old and we will need to replace and update key infrastructure to ensure that building is well taken care of. In collaboration with BC-Housing we will be looking at doing an evaluation of our needs and capital updates required. As announced last year, the Board of Tabor has decided not to move forward with the addition to Tabor Court while we focus on the much needed replacement of Tabor Home.

Caring for the Caregivers

Investing in the People Who Make Tabor Feel Like Home

Regardless of their role, every staff member at Tabor involved in caring for seniors brings hospitality into every aspect of their work.

This season, we have been exploring the concept of “Enlightened Hospitality” as described in *Unreasonable Hospitality* by Will Guidara. The book challenges traditional employee engagement models and emphasizes caring for those who provide care by putting people first in every decision.

At Tabor, caregiving is not limited to job titles. It is a shared responsibility and a heartfelt commitment from every member of our team. This belief is at the core of our mission to provide “Care from the Heart.”

Listening to Our Team

In the fall of 2024, we conducted an extensive staff survey to understand what it truly means to care for caregivers. From just under 100 responses, eight key themes emerged. Based on what we heard, we will be focusing on four priority areas in the year ahead: **Communication, Mental Health, Accountability, Morale and Culture.**



What We Heard

Our team had a lot to share, and their feedback affirmed the strength of our workplace culture:

- **93%** of staff said they enjoy working with their co-workers
- **94%** of staff said they know how to do their tasks well
- **89%** of staff said they regularly give and are willing to give extra effort at work
- **86%** of staff said their job gives them a sense of personal accomplishment, and that they receive enough training to perform their role well

Tabor Village is a remarkable place to work. These results reflect the heart and dedication of the people who care for others every day.

What “Care from the Heart” Means

Strengthening the Foundations of Quality Care

At Tabor, “Care from the Heart” is more than a motto. It is a guiding principle that shapes our work, particularly in times of challenge and change.

Yet what does it truly mean in practice? This is a question we return to often, both as leaders and alongside our staff. Without intentional reflection, even the most meaningful values risk becoming underused or overlooked, especially in the face of limited resources, complex care needs, or fatigue. Sustaining a culture of heartfelt care requires ongoing attention. It calls us to continually define, demonstrate, and strengthen what “Care from the Heart” looks like in action.



Defining What Sets Our Care Apart

Quality of Care is a core focus of Tabor's Quality and Safety Advisory Committee (QSAC). In the fall of 2024, QSAC members began a reflective journey to explore what "Care from the Heart" truly means in practice.

After reviewing the way we work and the spirit in which we serve, we identified three key word phrases that capture our approach:



Engage

Connecting meaningfully with residents and tenants



Experience

Turning everyday services into memorable moments



Empower

Inviting residents and tenants to participate fully in their own care

These words help us express what makes the care at Tabor unique.



Introducing the Virtual Cruise Initiative

In early 2025, Tabor launched an internal initiative to deepen understanding and alignment around our core care values: **Engage**, **Experience**, and **Empower**.

Rather than using traditional training models, staff were invited to reimagine their daily responsibilities through the lens of exceptional hospitality. They were asked to consider how their approach might change if they were providing care on a cruise ship.

This setting was chosen intentionally. A cruise environment represents a place where guests receive thoughtful, attentive, and elevated service. It served as the inspiration for our Virtual Cruise Initiative, a week-long experience that took place from March 10 to 14.

Over the course of five days, the Tabor community “visited” five international destinations: **Hawaii**, **Alaska**, **the Philippines**, **Greece**, and **Mexico**. Each day included themed activities and opportunities for staff to reflect on how small, intentional actions can shape meaningful care experiences. The initiative brought renewed energy, strengthened team connection, and laid the groundwork for deeper engagement with our values moving forward.





The Impact of the Virtual Cruise Initiative

The Virtual Cruise was not simply a staff engagement activity. It created a shared experience that reinforced our organizational values, strengthened team morale, and provided a meaningful framework for reflection and growth.

Following the initiative, we began to explore each of our core care values more intentionally. In April, the focus turned to Engage, emphasizing the importance of meaningful connection. In May, we turned our attention to Experience, encouraging staff to create moments that leave a lasting positive impression.

This initiative moved our values from concept to practice. It highlighted that quality care is not defined by tasks alone, but by the emotional and relational impact we have on the people we serve. Through this journey, we continue to shape a culture where compassion, excellence, and purpose guide every interaction.



Staff Spotlight

Rhoda Wassings



Who or what inspired you to step into the nursing profession?

Raised in a family of six children, the option of university or college was something that would not likely be available for me, but I had a desire to work in the medical field, to be there to help others in their need. An opportunity to do a 2-year LPN nursing program, while completing grade 11 and 12 was brought to my attention. This was an answer to my hopes and dreams. I graduated at the age of 18.

What has been one of your favorite memories of working as a Nurse at Tabor?

I have lots of good memories, but one I remember was being Mrs. Claus at Christmas one year and seeing the joy on the faces of the residents when visiting each one of them to give them a gift.

What advice would you have for someone looking to work as a Nurse in a seniors care facility?

My advice would be to keep learning at every opportunity to enhance your skill set and be a leader in the field of Senior Care. Don't be afraid to ask questions and try new things when the opportunity arises.

What are some of your favourite things?

I like to stay busy so I have multiple hobbies - sewing, knitting, spinning wool, wool applique. I also like to do road trips around the country like the east coast and back trip we did with our 5th wheel camper in 2022. Camping with my husband and family is a summer favourite and I love to spend time with the grandkids who are keeping me young.

Staff Spotlight

Francisco Alvarenga



Who or what inspired you to step into the Chef profession?

When I was 20, a friend who was a Chef at a French restaurant asked me what I wanted to do in life, I said "I don't know". He said that if I went to school he would hire me at the restaurant and that was the start of my Chef Career.

What has been one of your favorite memories of working as a Nurse at Tabor?

I am passionate about working with seniors. When I first came into Tabor Court, we went to the Abbotsford Parade together as a staff team and that was a fun memory.

What advice would you have for someone looking to work in the kitchen in a senior's care facility?

You have to have a passion to work with people and to make sure when you come to work you come with joy and enjoy what you do. Be ready to accommodate all the different needs.

What are some of your favourite things?

I love to visit El-Salvador. My favorite food is Sushi. In the summer I like to golf.

Tabor 2025 Staff Milestones

30 Years

Rachel Shergold, Care Aide, Tabor Home

25 Years

Gurucharan Sidhu, Care Aide, Tabor Home

20 Years

Lisa Oyston, Hospitality Assistant, Tabor Home

15 Years

Rocky Navea, Care Aide, Tabor Home

15 Years

Francisco Alvarenga, Head Chef, Tabor Court

Community In Action

Rebuilding Connections Through Volunteers and Partnerships

Caring for older adults has always been a shared responsibility. At Tabor, we continue this tradition by cultivating meaningful partnerships that bring joy, connection, and purpose to the people we serve.

Over the past three years, we have focused on restoring relationships that were disrupted during the pandemic. With renewed momentum, Tabor is once again becoming a place where the community gathers and supports one another.

Since joining Tabor in summer 2024, Abby Seikhon has played a vital role in strengthening these connections.



I feel privileged to say that my 9 to 5 is more than just a job, it is a platform for meaningful work. I find purpose in serving others and practicing selfless service. While Care from the Heart is Tabor Village's mission, it is also something that has always been part of who I am. That is how I know I belong here. I have a job where profession meets purpose.

Abby Seikhon, Volunteer and Community Relations Coordinator

This past year, several partnerships have made a meaningful impact:

- Weekly visits from **MEI students**, fostering intergenerational connection
- A costume parade with **Dormick Park Elementary**, bringing joy and laughter to residents
- A growing partnership with **Home Depot Abbotsford**, whose support with seasonal décor, gardening, and volunteer time has brought colour and energy to our spaces
- **Fraser Valley Animal Hospital**, which sponsored holiday gifts and spring plants, showed incredible generosity
- Performances from **Creative Edge Fine Arts School**, reminding us that joy and wonder transcend age

How does partnering with Tabor help you care for the elderly in our community?



Watch - Our Partners

We have also reconnected with local churches, including a volunteer visit from Transform Church at Tabor Court. This work is guided by our Community Relations Committee, chaired by board director Ray Harris.

These partnerships are more than gestures of goodwill; they are essential to creating a place where care is shared, relationships are renewed, and residents feel truly seen and valued.

Tabor Village's work on behalf of our seniors provides an extension of the church's ministry of care. In partnering with Tabor we are able to help seniors continue to thrive. We are grateful for the work of this place in honouring our older members in the later stages of their lives.



THE
GATHERING
CHURCH

*The Gathering Church, Pastor
Christine Kampen*

We are thankful for Tabor Village, a warm, caring, safe place where our seniors in their more vulnerable years can live and thrive in a community where physical, emotional, and spiritual support are offered.



*South Abbotsford Church – Pastor
Connie Siebert*

We find it is so important to give back to our community. We have our Winston's Wishes donations that go to pets that need care for people who can't afford it, however it is also so great to be able to help out the humans in need as well. Seniors are often a forgotten group of people, but need just as much attention.



Fraser Valley Animal Hospital

Caring for the aging is a Scriptural imperative and a great privilege. Ross Road Community Church affirms and highly values the critical role that Tabor plays in the care of seniors in our community. Through our partnership, elderly folks receive the love of Christ through genuine hospitality in a warm and caring atmosphere: it's a blessing to be a part of this work.



*Ross Road Community Church – Pastor
Craig Thiessen*



A Community on the Move

Bus Campaign Update

In summer 2024, we received difficult news. Our existing bus, used to take residents to parks, events, and favourite local spots, was beyond repair, with over \$15,000 in estimated costs. More than a vehicle, the bus represented freedom, connection, and shared joy.

In response, we launched our campaign **"A Bus for Christmas"** with a bold goal: raise \$200,000 for a new, fully accessible bus that would allow all residents, regardless of mobility, to enjoy the simple pleasures of community outings.



We are thrilled to share that, thanks to the generosity of our community, we have surpassed our target. **As of spring 2025, over \$210,000 has been raised.**

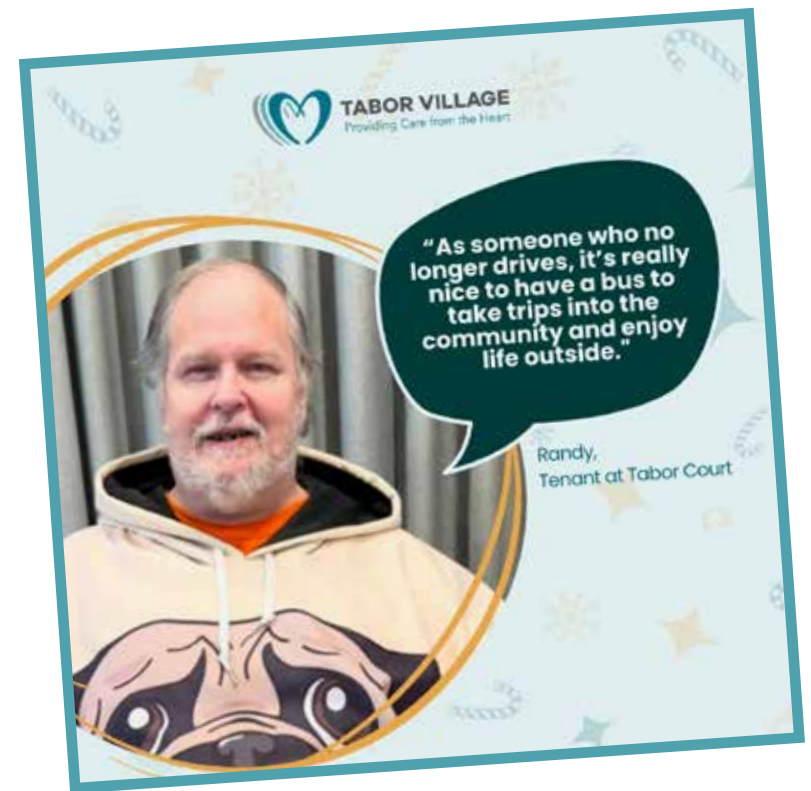
A deposit has been placed, and delivery is expected in August. Outings are already being planned, and the excitement among residents is palpable.

We'll be hosting a special ribbon-cutting celebration event on **October 1, 2025**, where we'll honour this milestone and the many donors and partners who made it possible. Please stay tuned for ticket information.

To cover final costs such as licensing, taxes, maintenance, and vehicle wrapping, we continue to raise the final **\$30,000** toward our revised goal.

Your support is helping us deliver more than transportation, it is helping us deliver joy, dignity, and unforgettable experiences.

Visit taborvillage.org/bus to learn more.





TABOR VILLAGE
Providing Care from the Heart

Volunteer Today!



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated volunteers who bring joy and enrichment to the lives of our residents across all Tabor Village campuses. To learn more about how you can enrich the lives of seniors in our community, visit qrco.de/taborvolunteers.

Save the Date!

Community BBQ

August 14th, 2025

We hope you'll mark your calendars for our annual community BBQ! There will be food, music and kids activities - everyone is welcome! Keep an eye out for your email invitation to RSVP. We look forward to having you join us!

