



Regional Perspective:

Interior Health

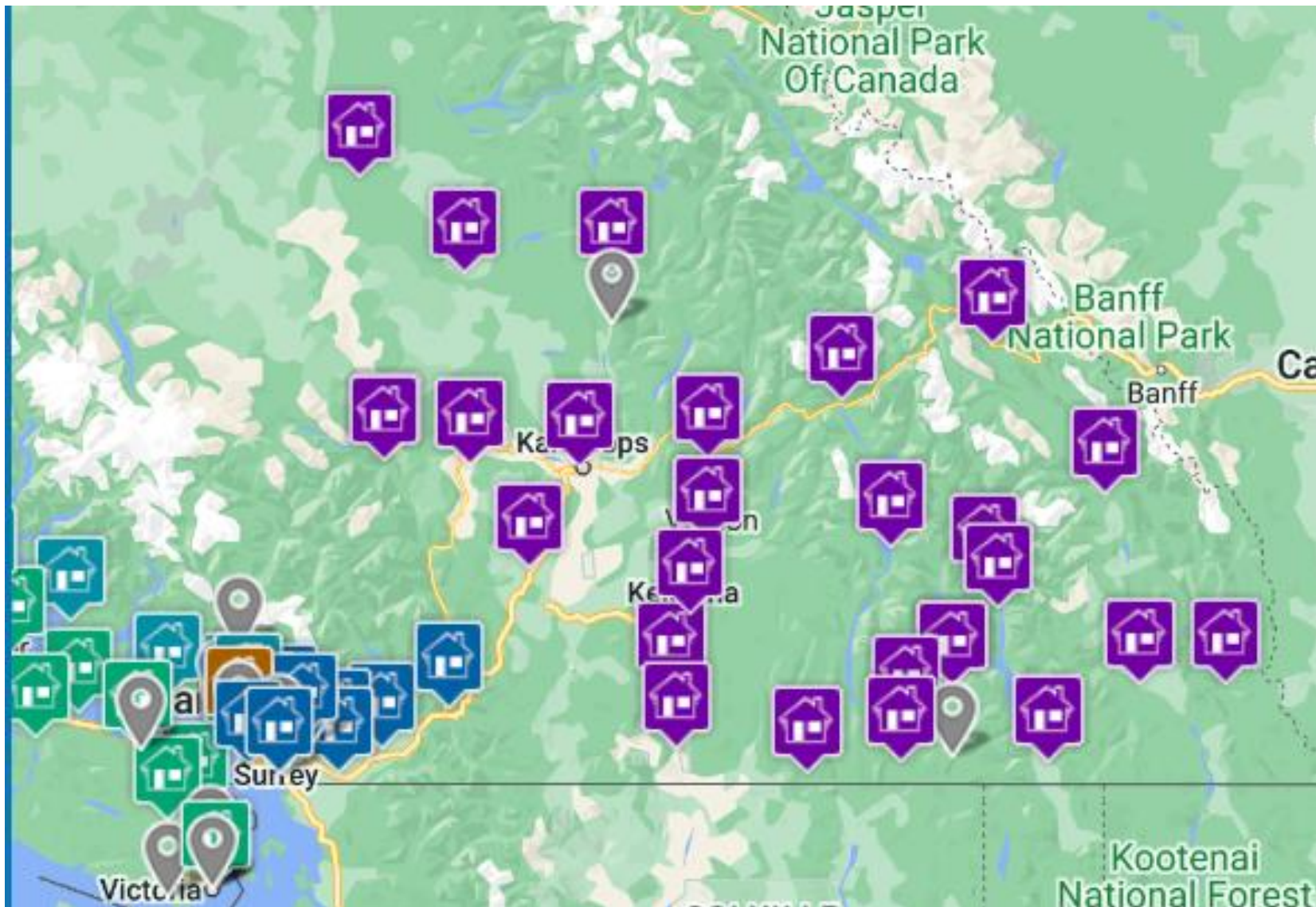
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PART ONE:

Logistics of the Interior Health Region – Who we are



Region with 23
hospices:

The **majority are
community hospices**,
many with only part-
time Coordinators or
Executive Directors

2 community hospice
facilities with beds

Population: 834,000

Logistics of the Region – Who we are

- **Services provided:**

- Nav-CARE in several communities (upstream support)

- Advance Care Planning

- Friendly volunteer visits for isolated people with complex chronic conditions

- End of Life Support for clients, caregivers and families, including vigil

- Community Education

- Unique activities: legacy programs; virtual reality glasses, wellness, death cafes

- Grief support for children to adults: Clients served from April 1st, 2019 – March 31st, 2020 –

- 3,003 – **on average 82.6% of these people were NOT related/associated with**

- someone who had received hospice services**

- **Who We Serve:**

- Many of our hospices serve small communities in regions of diverse geography

- (mountainous area)

- 2019 Volunteer Hours = 46,308

PART TWO: Gaps and Opportunities

Gaps:

- Limited designated palliative beds, especially in rural regions
- Residential fee for palliating clients who use LTC beds is an obstacle for families, fees also apply to hospice beds
- Many hospices have struggled during pandemic (↓ referrals and access)

Opportunities & Innovation

- Robust “May as Hospice Month” activities as pandemic has receded to increase awareness of services
- Huge increase in grief supports made available to our communities
- Anticipate that grief support and education will be substantial in near future
- Not a Federation. Community hospices have monthly Zoom meetings to share best practices, needs, resources, ideas and resources. Also connecting with the BC Rural Health Network.

Gaps and Needs

- We provide thousands of hours of hospice and palliative care supports, including grief supports to our communities every month in the Interior Region at no cost. Many of our societies are under-funded with inequitable funding across the region.
- Discrepancy in understanding of community hospices vs. hospice facilities
- Need a broad conversation on different sources of revenue locally and provincially. It is hard to provide stable core services without understanding and stable core funding. The majority of our hospice budgets have to be fundraised.
- Need to increase support and education for Caregivers