

# LIGHTHOUSE Beacon

SPRING 2023



## Spring Greetings!

It's a wonderful time of year! It's a golden time for sports fans like me with March Madness, the Masters, NHL playoffs and the start of Major League Baseball. For some, it's been a difficult start to the year with illness or loved ones passing away. We take comfort that our Father is loving and faithful.


"For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord."  
Psalm 117:2

In this issue we discuss Canada Life acquiring investment dealer, Investment Planning Counsel. In *Bloom Where You Are Planted*, we celebrate the gifts and abilities of **Jody Groenendyk**, a quilter who among other things, has donated over 50 quilts to **Blankets of Love Foundation for Mental Health**. Embracing Retirement is the theme of *Planner's Corner*.

I appreciate connecting with many of you in person or virtually ranging, from Abbotsford to Nairobi. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Jim Hummel, CFP® CKA®

## Canada Life Acquires Investment Planning Counsel (IPC)

Lighthouse Financial's back-office provider, IPC, has been acquired by Canada Life from IGM Financial. Both IGM Financial and Canada Life are part of the Power group of companies. Canada Life, a subsidiary of  Canada Life, is a home-grown Canadian company. This transaction provides Canada Life with the opportunity to deepen their

presence in the Canadian wealth market and will assist IPC in achieving its full strategic potential. One in 4 Canadians already have a relationship with Canada Life.

I want to assure you that nothing changes for you in terms of how we will continue to work together. Fortunately, there is no need to repaper your file 😊

## Bloom Where You Are Planted: Jody Groenendyk, Blankets of Love Foundation for Mental Health



In 2020, Jody Groenendyk, a PHD Research Associate studying cancer at the University of Alberta, started quilting to combat the added stress of COVID isolation and to assist with her mental health. Therapy and quilting helped her achieve some balance in her life.



During this period, she discovered Blankets of Love Foundation for Mental Health. Founded in 1996 by an Edmonton area registered nurse, the organization collects colourful handmade quilts and gifts them to hospital patients experiencing mental illness. The quilts provide warmth and express love to patients who usually feel cold, lonely, and isolated.

Jody provides longarm quilting for tops that are donated, volunteers for the Board and has donated over 50 quilts. Longarm quilting is the process by which a longarm



sewing machine is used to sew together a quilt top, quilt batting, and quilt backing into a finished quilt.

Thank you, Jody, for using your wonderful gifts and talents and shining a light on this wonderful organization.

Note: the inspiration for the article, 'Blankets of Love' Attracts CRC Quilter, written by Janet A Greidanus, appeared in the on-line issue of *The Banner* April 7, 2023.



## Planner's Corner: Embracing Retirement

Just as the seasons of the year each have unique beauty and challenges, so do the seasons in our lives. Retirement is like the Fall/Winter season. My primary concern for many who are transitioning into retirement is not financial, it's how they adjust to the new reality.



*How can we embrace retirement?*

**Retire to something, not from something.** For some of us, much of our identity is tied up in what we do. However, once we retire, God's call (our vocation) on our life does not cease. Moses is an example of someone who appeared to live in relative obscurity for many years tending sheep in the wilderness, until God called him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Retirement is a chance to embrace and live out God's call to finish well...

However, I <Paul> consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.

Acts 20:24

Our highest calling as Christians is to love God with all our mind, heart, soul, and strength and to love our neighbours as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39). **Retirement is a great opportunity to discover/rediscover our calling.** Consider what God is doing in the world that captures your imagination. How can your unique skills, talents or networks be

leveraged for God's purposes in the world? How can your life experiences be used to benefit others? As an "elder", consider what you can take up in this season of your life. Perhaps it's being a mentor by pouring into the lives of grandchildren, teens, young adults, young parents, or refugee families.



Change is difficult, and retirement is all about

change. Retirees soon realize that retirement is not a 365-day weekend. We can be **more intentional about thanking and praising God for his many blessings.** We can ask God for opportunities to be a

*Grateful  
thankful  
blessed*

blessing to someone. My father, soon to be 93, has limited mobility and has some cognitive impairment, yet he still prays daily for each of his children, their spouses,

grandchildren, and their families. What a blessing and legacy!

A biblical view of retirement reflects a life of service, pointing beyond us to our Lord and Savior in whose image we're made.

Jim Hummel, CFP® CKA®

Inspiration for this article was an article written by Jolene DeHeer, *Retirement as Celebration, Family Fire*, July 31, 2022

## Save The Date!

What: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Client Appreciation Event  
When: Saturday, September 23, 2023, 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Where: Edmonton Valley Zoo

Put your walking shoes on and enjoy a bit of the wild side of God's creation!

Further details coming soon. We hope to see you there!

