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The Valley VOICE

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Slocan Valley Hike or Bike for Seniors' Housing raises more than \$35,000

submitted

"We're over the moon" about the success of the Hike or Bike for Seniors' Housing, said Slocan Valley Seniors' Housing Society President Rita Moir after the weekend's fundraising adventure on the valley's rail trail. "I don't think in our wildest dreams we expected to raise more than \$35,000. It shows complete commitment to the seniors' housing project in Slocan on behalf of our entire community."

Eighty-three registered hikers and bikers and at least as many support workers made the three-day hike and bike safe, fun and rich with friendship and beauty. The Passmore and Slocan firehalls and first responders and BC Ambulance Service provided back-up and support along the entire route, and

all participants felt their care and kindness every day.

The community support continued at each day's trail end, with food and music provided by local groups, including the Kootenay Slocan Lions, Passmore Seniors, Passmore and Appledale Hall Societies and the Slocan Legion. The Slocan Valley Grassroots Grammas, the Threads Guild (which also made the bandanas) and many others provided homemade goodies at check points. Fomi's deserves a special shout out for providing all the bread and buns for the entire weekend, plus the huge cake for the windup party. A "Donate and Draw" with work by local artists also contributed to the funding success.

Hikers and bikers ranged in

age from those in strollers to those using walkers and canes. The oldest participants included 91-year-old Lydia Kania and 82-year-old track star Don Currie.

"Pledges ranged from a loonie from little kids all the way up to several very large donations on the final day of the hike," said Moir. "Every loonie mattered and every person who took part came away richer in spirit." As always, the society thanks the Columbia Basin Trust and the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission for their support.

People can donate online at www.svhousing.ca until October 15 or write to chair@svhousing.ca to contribute in person (at any time!). Wonderful photos can be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/svhousing>



PHOTO CREDIT: MOE LYONS

Lydia Kania and Corky Evans at the finish line of the Hike or Bike for Seniors' Housing in the Slocan Valley, October 2.



The start line, September 30 of the Hike or Bike for Seniors' Housing in the Slocan Valley.

PHOTO CREDIT: MOE LYONS