

Spotlight on Wendy McLeod

Spotlight ON SENIORS

*Celebrating the stories, talents
and contributions of our members.*



Wendy McLeod

REAL PEOPLE

REAL STORIES

REAL IMPACT

October 2026

Wendy was born in Edmonton and was the youngest of three children with cousins on both sides of her family. Her grandfather had been a lawyer there and her family inherited the family home which is now a heritage home still standing in the city.

Her dad worked in the oil business, which meant that they had to move a lot because of his job, so she was raised in many small towns in Alberta. Wendy remembers that this made travelling on small gravel and dirt roads very interesting; her dad always had a shovel in the trunk. She has great memories of holding onto a homemade bobsled being pulled behind a truck in these rural communities. Surprisingly enough, no one ever got hurt. She has always admired the feeling of unity amongst people in these towns, defining then that connection to community was important.

Wendy became a civilian member of the RCMP and was stationed in Fort McMurray, Banff, Nelson and Vancouver. Being a dispatcher, she was directly involved in behind-the-scenes, noting the bravery of the RCMP members who worked on the front line trying to keep us all safe. Their bravery, to this day, has always inspired her.





In 1982 she moved to the Lower Mainland, commencing employment at the RCMP HQs in Vancouver as a major crime reviewer, extracting information to create offender profiles from crime and drug files. Her unit participated in the 1986 G8 summit security, giving her the excitement to play Margaret Thatcher for a day.

Wendy met Buck in 1986 and in 1990 they got married, quit their jobs, and moved to Ladysmith on Vancouver Island all in one week. They were married on a yacht at Granville Island which was a treat for all her relatives who were from the prairies. Upon relocating she worked with the Corrections Service Canada and helped to open a new federal Parole Office; a job which she found very interesting. She went back to the RCMP Marine Unit in 2001 and retired as the Office Manager in 2011 with 35 years of federal service.

Reflecting on the years Wendy spent employed with the police and RCMP members, she became aware of some of the stress that it had caused. Her service was not without growing pains. A lady who lived down her block gave her lessons in quilt making, which she honestly believes helped her deal with the strains of her working life. Buck bought her a sewing machine and that began her love of quilting and interest in textiles and design. So now Wendy still quilts, enjoys riding her E-bike, helps Buck in their garden, continues as facilitator of TOPS, enjoys their miniature schnauzer Olive and of course likes volunteering at the Seniors Centre.



Edited by **Jan Bradshaw**, Membership Chair,
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