

» SENIORS

Seniors flash mob hits Edgemont Village

300 or so seniors surprise summer concert series crowd with a choreographed routine to the Bette Midler version of Fever

Concert-goers flocked to see the Adam Woodall band play in Edgemont Village last Friday. And then, in between sets, they got a surprise — they were suddenly flash-mobbed by a group of 300 or so dancing seniors.

Jennifer Abbott, a 41-year-old hearing aid practitioner who works with many seniors in North and West Vancouver, came up with the idea for the silver-haired flash mob.

She began by contacting activity coordinators at North Shore seniors' homes and centres. Word spread quickly.

"A lot of them didn't know what a flash mob was but they were excited about it," she says.

Abbott then connected with Ariyanna Pascuzzi at Seymour Dance for help with the choreography. She wanted to make sure the moves could be performed by all seniors — not just younger, mobile seniors, so it had to be wheelchair- and walker-friendly.

Those who signed up had to swear to secrecy. "I didn't want it leaked," Abbott says.

A video of the routine was shot and team leaders at different seniors' centres and residents helped conduct furtive rehearsals.

They did one group rehearsal at a local rec centre before Friday's flash mob.

"It was wonderful. It all came together," says Abbott about Friday's event. "The joy that I saw on everyone's face. They took over Edgemont that night and it was just fantastic."

To watch a video of Friday's flash mob, go to northshoreoutlook.com



FLASH DANCE - Friday's flash mob lasted around three minutes. *Submitted photo*

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