

Volunteers Hope to Tip the Balance towards Life with Matching Gift Challenge

SGH Volunteer and the author of "Iron Annie And A Long Journey", Lisa M. Hutchison hopes the launch of her book will have an impact on patient care. The book chronicles an incredible life journey of a family before, during and after WWII in Germany. "The joys, the heartaches, the unbelievable twists of fate will leave the reader breathless with anticipation".

"It's an honour to be able to support our hospital's fundraising challenges with a work that's so personal and close to my heart - a story that traces my family's own challenges and triumphs", said Lisa Hutchison. One hundred percent of launch proceeds and hospital Gift Shop book sales will support the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital Matching Gift Challenge towards a CT Scanner.

"Our volunteers are a dedicated, talented and committed team that always have the best interests of our hospital, patients and the community in mind. They all are focused on giving and helping in every way they can. Lisa's support of our Matching Gift Challenge by donating the proceeds of her book launch, is her unique way of giving even more", said Cheryl Hunt, HPHA Corporate Lead, Volunteer Services.

The book launch is just one element of the Volunteers of SGH's Matching Gift Challenge that will match every donation to the Foundation's CT Scanner Fund up to a total of \$150,000, doubling the impact of each dollar donated. The Volunteers have partnered with the Foundation on a mail campaign with a goal of reaching \$300,000 towards replacing a decade old CT Scanner.

New CT Scanners are faster, more accurate and safer than scanners from just 10 years ago, with 40-70% less radiation - an important feature for patients who require multiple CT Scans.

"A CT Scanner is a standard - we couldn't function without it. If it is down we go on stroke bypass - to London. There is a narrow window of 4-5 hours to find the clot causing the stroke. I think our most important piece of equipment is the CT since it solves the most problems...it is our workhorse and our best diagnostic tool," says Dr. Keith Sparrow, Radiologist & SGH Foundation Board Member. "We see patients of every age and with many issues. While the CT's impact is most obvious in the case of head injury and stroke, it's also indispensable for cancer patients, determining whether their treatments have halted the disease or if it has spread. These are often complex scans throughout the body, and a critical part of the battle on cancer", says Dr. Sparrow.

At a cost of \$1.3 million, a new CT Scanner is our Hospital's top priority item and with no government funding, every dollar that's raised is precious says Andrea Page, Executive Director, Stratford General Hospital Foundation. "Every donation can tip the scales when lives hang in the balance".



Volunteers of SGH hope to tip the balance towards life in a challenge that matches every gift to the SGH Foundation towards a CT Scanner up to \$150,000.



Iron Annie book launch a great success!

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

A woman who gets her mammogram done on a regular basis has a better chance of finding breast cancer before symptoms appear. Earlier detection is important to decrease the chances of the disease spreading and may lessen the treatment needed.

The Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Breast Assessment Centre located in the North Wing of Stratford General Hospital is a bright, private space that offers the perfect mix of comfort and technology. Mammography services include Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) a self-referral program for women over 50, who do not have a history of breast cancer.

We are proud of our accomplishments as we strive to provide a full range of breast screening and assessment studies. We exceed the provincial expectations for timely access to care. This is all possible because of our great team. We have 3 Breast Radiologists, 3 Mammography Technologists, 4

Breast Certified Ultrasound Technologists, a Nurse Navigator and 2 dedicated Volunteers. These are all coordinated in one area with a private entrance and the patients are greeted by our friendly and knowledgeable clerical support staff. Some 1,300 breasts are scanned yearly with 220 ultrasound guided procedures. The team works closely with the 6 surgeons in Stratford who also have their offices in the same building. For ease of access, evening and Saturday appointments are also offered. We were the first facility in Perth Huron to have the most up-to-date digital mammography machine.

"We see over 7000 women and men a year. Some are coming for a checkup and all is fine but for those with a breast concern, the anxiety level is high! We work hard to coordinate imaging visits and surgical referrals in a timely fashion", says Deb Moon, RN, CBPN-IC, Diagnostic Imaging Nurse, Nurse Navigator Breast Assessment Centre.



Support Breast Health at Stratford General Hospital through your purchase of a "Growing Women's Health" icon! Now at Stratford's Shoppers Drug Mart locations until October 6th. Personalize your icon to display on the tree in store... 100% of all proceeds support SGH Foundation and Breast Health equipment at SGH.

Mental Health Fundraiser

Proceeds to SGH Foundation in support of the Mental Health Unit at Stratford General Hospital site

in SUPPORT of THOSE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL ILLNESS

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