

# national volunteer week

■ STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL

We can never say thank you enough to our SGH Foundation and Hospital Volunteers!



SGH Volunteers have a great impact!

Volunteers are the cornerstone of the Stratford General Hospital Foundation - from board members who give guidance and support to community members who organize special events to volunteers and campaign members who are instrumental in our fundraising campaigns. Everyone impacts our local health care! Visit our website at [www.sghfoundation.org](http://www.sghfoundation.org), or connect with us on Facebook or twitter. Through partnership with our donors and volunteers, the foundation has helped raise over \$65 million in cash & pledges since 1983 towards our hospital's vital equipment and building needs. Over the past 32 years, our board members, community volunteers, campaign volunteers and hospital volunteers have invested their time, talent and financial support into making a tremendous impact on our local health care. The Foundation is in the quiet phase of a major capital campaign to replace aging equipment and bring in state of the art technology like our new \$1.1 million CT Scanner. At Stratford General Hospital each day sees a battle for life—a constant struggle to diagnose and treat illness; to heal and restore health using all the tools, technology and skills our caregivers possess. Giving our caregivers the “tools” to do their jobs is paramount. And with no government funding for new and replacement hospital equipment, we must rely on the generosity of those who value our work and support our vision of better healthcare and a stronger hospital for us all. The Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital are working diligently towards their pacesetter \$1 million pledge towards the Foundation's capital campaign for essential medical equipment. 126 years ago, a group of 16 women, began a journey that can still be felt in our community

today. The Women's Hospital Aid donated more than \$1,000 to the hospital in its first 5 years (1892-1897) These funds would help build a driving shed, furnishings for the operating room and laundry supplies. 126 years later, the same journey continues. The Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital are a committed group of more than 230 community members with a passion for improving our patient's experience. The VSGH's most recent commitment was a “Match my Gift” campaign towards the CT Scanner whereby the Volunteers of SGH pledged \$150,000.00 while the community chipped in and matched the pledge totalling \$300,000.00. To be part of this tradition, that is an integral part of our hospital, visit the HPHA website at [www.hpha.ca](http://www.hpha.ca) under volunteer opportunities.



**Stratford General Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees 2017-2018**  
Seated L-R: Phil Buxton-Treasurer, Rick Orr-Past Chair, Hugh McDonald-Chair, Barb Thibeault. Standing L-R: Howard Famme, Dr. Keith Sparrow, Bob Gulliford, Andrew Williams, Andrea Page-Executive Director, Matt Rees, Josef Frank. Absent: Lisa Hyde, Lori Ripley, Paul Roulston-Vice Chair.



**SGH Volunteers tip the balance with CT Scanner Matching Gift Challenge.**  
L-R Cheryl Hunt, HPHA Corporate Lead Volunteer Services, Cheryl Elgie and Joan Maloney Co-chairs Volunteer Council.

■ VOLUNTEERS IN PERTH

## Volunteering Can Surprise You

Likely, if you are volunteering somewhere now, you know the fundamental reasons why - you want to give back to the community, you want to keep busy, you want to make a difference, you need community service hours to graduate high school, and the like.

But, what may not be expected is that volunteering has the capacity to surprise us in so many ways, and can have an unanticipated impact in our lives.

Consider what these volunteers realized over the course of their volunteer experiences with some of the member organizations of Volunteers in Perth Association.

Joan found that interacting with fellow volunteers actually brought her out of her shell and greatly improved her comfort level in social situations.

Terri was waffling on her career path, and volunteering helped give her resolve in the career choice she decided on.

Brian could not believe how much volunteering assisted him in healing emotionally and physically after a bad accident, allowing him to build stamina and ease back into the work force.

The gentle encouragement and affirmation that Luke received while volunteering during his teen years helped build his confidence, and he acknowledged afterward just how greatly that supported his growth as a young man.

Sophie did not expect to look forward quite so much to her weekly visits with shut-ins, and feels privileged now to hear the precious chapters of people's life stories, and looks forward to each fascinating and poignant installment.

With a very busy and sometimes chaotic life, Rebecca looks forward to the Zen-like moments of peace that she has unexpectedly found when she is volunteering.

Michael travels a lot in his retirement, and did not realize he could find as much flexibility as he did in the volunteer opportunity he has found. He knows when he returns home, he will be able to pick up volunteering right where he left off.

Volunteer - yes! Get surprised? Even better!

*We can never Say Thank You Enough To Our Volunteers*

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL  
*Foundation*  
"People Caring for People"

Strength  
Generosity  
Honesty  
Fidelity

Exceptional Healthcare...  
built on a  
**STRONG FOUNDATION**



*Please give generously from the heart for state-of-the-art Medical Equipment.*

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL  
*Foundation*  
"People Caring for People"  
SGHFOUNDATION.ORG  
519.272.8210 EXT. 2626

**PROMISES MADE - PROMISES KEPT** There For You 24/7

### National Volunteer Week 2018

**Volunteers in Perth**, the regional association of volunteer management professionals, is proud to support volunteerism, and the managers and coordinators who engage volunteers in Perth County.

**We salute all the volunteers of our member agencies:**

- Alzheimer Society
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Community Living Stratford & Area
- Stratford Public Library
- VON
- Victim Services
- Family Services Perth Huron
- HPHA Volunteer Program Stratford & Area
- Perth District Health Unit
- United Way of Perth Huron

[www.volunteersinperth.org](http://www.volunteersinperth.org)  
[info@volunteersinperth.org](mailto:info@volunteersinperth.org)