For an infection that’s more lethal than some of the most deadly diseases we deal with, sepsis or blood poisoning has kept a low profile until now, flying below the radar and largely avoiding the media spotlight.

Yet each year, it’s responsible for almost 11 per cent of all deaths in Canadian Hospitals according to a 2009 study by the Canadian Institute for Health Information. It also kills one in three Canadians who get it – more fatal than either Heart Attack or Stroke!

The good news is that new technology can significantly reduce deaths caused by sepsis, and with donor support, this technology will soon be coming to Stratford General’s Lab – the hub lab for 12 hospital laboratories serving over 230,000 people over five counties.

The new Microorganism Identification Analyzer will be a real game changer and a life saver for people throughout our region, helping to quickly and accurately identify bacterial infections like sepsis.

“Typically, it takes 24-48 hours to identify the bacteria and prescribe the right antibiotics,” says Dr. Malcolm Carlson, Medical Program Director of Laboratories, InterHospital Laboratory Partnership. “This new Analyzer can do the job in minutes not days, saving many lives in the process.”

At a cost of $250,000, the MALDI-TOF Microorganism Identification Analyzer isn’t the only piece of equipment on the Lab’s “must have” list. Also critical is a $50,000 Blood Gas Analyzer that detects acid-base balance in a blood specimen and is an important component in caring for patients in the Emergency Room, Critical Care and the Special Care Nursery.

This highly specialized bench top Blood Gas Analyzer can handle a high volume of specimens with fast, precise results. It can also provide a test that’s unavailable at any of the other 11 labs – the test for carbon monoxide poisoning.

Seeking to maximize public support for this critical equipment, the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital recently announced a “Matching Gift” challenge where they will match donations to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of $150,000 to cover the $300,000 expense.

“Every dollar donated to the Foundation will go twice as far, doubling the impact of each gift and helping our hospital purchase this critical lab equipment that will help save and improve lives throughout our area – maybe even of someone you know and love,” says Terry Aitcheson, Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital Council Chair.

“Volunteers have a long and successful history of helping our hospital,” says Andrea Page, Executive Director, SGH Foundation. “Their Matching Gift Challenge demonstrates the characteristics that define them as a group – generous, caring and resourceful.”
Your Donation COUNTS! Your Gift = Medical Equipment

State-of-the-art equipment for:
- Even better patient care
- Retention & recruitment of physicians and other healthcare professionals
- Reduction of wait times
- An increase in surgeries (hip, knee, cancer)
- Quicker diagnostic results

100% of all medical equipment must be raised locally.

You can help give our doctors, nurses and staff the tools they need to care for those who walk through our doors.

From wheelchairs to pain pumps from surgical equipment to cardiac monitors, x-ray machines, scopes and anaesthetic machines – our equipment pieces range from $300 - $750,000 each.

Golf for the Health of It

A salute to all those who participated in the Royal LePage/Hiller Realty Ltd. 16th Annual Golf Tournament. This year’s proceeds will support the Matching Gift Campaign. The total raised over 16 years is $269,000! Thank you for the tremendous impact on healthcare over the years.

L-R: Carolyn Yundt, Melissa Steinbach, Andrea Page, Carol Murphy, Dianne Hiller, Peter Hiller, Jim Collins, Mark Thibeault, Barb Hiller-Thibeault, Jane Landreth and Sherrie Roulston.

Calendar Proceeds Benefit Stroke Unit – Combining Passion for Art with Passion for our Hospital

After a frightening medical episode last year, 91-year old Audrey Durst is thankful for many things...At the top of her list is the care she received at Stratford General Hospital’s 8 bed integrated Stroke Unit after she suffered a potentially life altering stroke. To show her gratitude, and to help others who might face a similar medical emergency, she’s produced a calendar of her original artwork which she creates in the general purpose room of her home at Chartwell Anne Hathaway Retirement Residence. One hundred percent of the sale proceeds will go to the stroke unit. To reserve your calendar, call 519-272-8219.
Making A Real Impact . . . A Salute to Our Community's Generosity!

Each donation is precious, and every donor is priceless ... individuals, groups, and businesses building a brighter future for healthcare throughout our region.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 8, Stratford – Poppy Fund

A special thanks to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 8 members who donated $5,000 towards the purchase of two specialized electronic Dialysis chairs with patient remote controls to ensure comfort & safety for the duration of treatment.

Legion members, on hand for the photo opportunity included Doreen Zurbrigg, Leroy Workman, Uwe Schumann, Ken Albert - President and Poppy Chairman, Doug Harmer, Dot Harmer - Secretary, and Jim Millar (seated). Dialysis Unit RNs, Karen Van Ryswyck and Rebecca Rowland, Dialysis Assistant Michelle Pepper, and Bonita Thompson - Manager Medicine and Medical Clinics SGH provided a demonstration of the chairs’ features and a personal thank you.

In celebration of their Grand Re-opening, Bill & Kim Ross of M&M Meat Shops Stratford hosted 2 charity BBQs in support of SGH Foundation.

Their gift of $1,202.90 supports our hospital’s essential medical equipment needs. L to R: Bill Ross, SGH Foundation ED Andrea Page, HPHA VP Quality & Clinical Services Mary Cardinal and Kim Ross.

Rotary Club of Stratford Helps Reduce Stigma of Mental Health – Pledge Paid in Full

“Rotary support allowed us to create an inpatient Mental Health unit that is beautiful and bright which provides comfort and support for individuals and their families during difficult times in their lives. A unit where their stories are heard and their dignity is preserved. In this remarkable space, you have given the care team the opportunity to walk side by side with people in body, mind and spirit during their darkest hours,” expressed Kally Persaud, HPHA Manager, Inpatient Mental Health as she thanked Rotarians. Mental illness touches all of us in some way, it has a powerful impact on people’s lives. Each year 1 in 4 people will experience some form of mental illness... that is approximately 6.5 million Canadians. Yet only a few will seek help because mental illness still carries with it a real stigma.

Rotary’s naming of the Unit sends a message to the community that we are part of a growing movement that will ultimately free people from the stigma that surrounds mental illness. The Rotary Club of Stratford’s support has given people a place where they can focus on their journey to recovery so they can live, love and thrive with mental illness.

We can never say thank you enough for Strickland’s gift of $5,000 through the Stratford Perth Community Foundation which purchased two chemo infusion chairs. These specialized chairs provide comfortable seating for patients receiving their chemo over several hours at a time and allows our community to benefit from cancer care closer to home. L to R: SPCF ED Tracy Van Kalsbeek, SGH ED Andrea Page, Strickland’s Tyler Jantzi and John Strickland, SGH Chemo Unit RNs Heather Campbell and Beth Gleadall, HPHA CEO Andrew Williams.
Making a Real Impact... A Salute to Our Community’s Generosity!

Each donation is precious, and every donor is priceless… individuals, groups, and businesses building a brighter future for healthcare throughout our region.

Celebrating the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital’s commitment to our community... MRI Control Room is Paid in Full and a new matching gift challenge pledge of $150,000 towards Essential Medical Equipment is underway. Stay tuned for details on how with your help, our Matching Gift Challenge will turn $150,000 in donations into $300,000 – enough to purchase two specialized pieces of Lab equipment which battle bacteria and wage war at a microscopic level, helping to save lives.

Key Themes at our AGM include Vision, Persistence and Thankfulness.

Over 120 donors and friends attended Stratford General Hospital Foundation’s Annual General Meeting. Guest speaker Tim MacDonald delivered his talk about the Franklin Expedition and the discovery of the HMS Erebus wreck. The Strategic Plan is unveiled.

Over the last few years the Foundation has disbursed almost $18 million to the Redevelopment project, including this year’s $650,000 towards Nuclear Medicine equipment, and towards redevelopment construction. To date over $3.4 million has been disbursed towards the cost of the $3.8 million MRI project. The Faxitron ($150,000) and Nuclear Medicine Camera ($857,400) are both “paid in full”! We can never say thank you enough to our community! A total of $1,329,630.25 was disbursed to the hospital in 2014/15. The items sponsored through our donors’ generosity include medical equipment, the MRI, Redevelopment construction commitment and Hospital Staff Education. Visit our website for a complete list, our community report, audited financial statements and our Strategic Plan.

www.sghfoundation.org.

Festival Jubilee Chapter IODE Cares for Our Next Generation

Members of the Festival Jubilee Chapter IODE were on hand for a demonstration of the new Portable Ultrasound Unit purchased with their support. Nurse Loretta Henderson spoke about the impact of the new portable technology which is used every day on expecting Moms in the Maternal Child Unit and in the antenatal clinic, an outpatient assessment and education program for pregnant mothers.

L to R: Laurie Bolden, RN BHSN, Clinical Manager, Maternal Child HPHA; Loretta Henderson RN, Janice Carnachan RN, Susan Woodstock (IODE President), Deb Herr (IODE Vice-President), Crystal Turner RN, Michele Alblas (IODE Treasurer), Donnalee Tuer-Hodes RN, MSN, APD, Chief Nurse Executive, Program Director Surgery, Maternal Child & Central Processing HPHA.

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
Foundation

“People Caring for People”

Staff Association Makes a Difference

Special thanks to the SGH Staff Association for their annual support of Stratford General Hospital Foundation! This year’s gift supported the purchase of three 3 vinyl chairs for the Surgical Services waiting room.

L to R: SGH Foundation ED Andrea Page, SGH Staff Association members Lori Hartman and Jordan Griffiths.

Celebrating the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital’s commitment to our community... MRI Control Room is Paid in Full and a new matching gift challenge pledge of $150,000 towards Essential Medical Equipment is underway. Stay tuned for details on how with your help, our Matching Gift Challenge will turn $150,000 in donations into $300,000 – enough to purchase two specialized pieces of Lab equipment which battle bacteria and wage war at a microscopic level, helping to save lives.

L to R: Volunteer Joan Maloney, Corporate Lead Volunteer Services Cheryl Hunt, Volunteer Council Chair Terry Aitcheson, SGHF Board Chair Rick Orr, SGHF ED Andrea Page, HPHA CEO Andrew Williams.
YES, I care! I wish to support our Hospital.

Name: ___________________________________________ Address: ________________________________________________
City: ________________________________  Postal Code: ____________________  Telephone: ____________________________

Enclosed is my cheque to Stratford General Hospital Foundation.

- $1,000  - $500  - $250  - $100  - $50  - $25  I prefer to give $ _____________________________

- Visa    - MasterCard    Card #: ___________________________  Expiry Date ____________

I'd like to pledge my support of $ _____________________ each year over the next ______________ years.

Signature _____________________________________________________  Date ____________________________

A receipt will be issued for tax purposes.  Charitable Registration # BN 11920 0004 RR0001

“People Caring for People”

Thank you for caring!
SGH FOUNDATION MONITOR...
is published for the information of our donors, supporters and friends of the SGH Foundation.

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
46 General Hospital Drive, Stratford, ON N5A 2Y6

The SGH Foundation works with the community to help raise funds for equipment, upgrading of facilities and special projects of the Stratford General Hospital.

Readers will note a change to coated paper, which is the same cost and allows clearer pictures. Contains recycled fibre and is recyclable.

Thank you to our donors for helping us keep our promise!

• the promise every staff member makes to do their best in performing their role in patient-centred care
• the promise of every team member to ensure exceptional care
• the promise of our community and donors in making an impact and being engaged as an integral part of the healthcare team
• the promise of the Foundation to be committed to the highest standards of philanthropy, accountability and donor relations.

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