American President Abraham Lincoln – a fascinating and highly quotable president even by today’s standards – once said that if he had six hours to chop down a tree, he would spend the first four hours sharpening his axe.

It’s a valuable observation on the importance of planning and preparation in achieving success, and it’s a lesson that we’ve embraced at the Stratford General Hospital Foundation.

In the past year, we’ve spent a great deal of time and effort creating, implementing and incorporating our strategic plan. While that may not sound exciting to everyone, we see our strategic plan as a living, breathing document that’s indispensable to our organization.

To use a nautical analogy, a strategic plan helps ensure you’re headed in the right direction and able to make speedy course corrections when needed; it ensures you have the right people on board for a successful voyage, and the right tools to measure your progress towards your ultimate destination.

No charity or non-profit should leave port without a strategic plan – especially one that must navigate the changing and often challenging seas of healthcare.

We sought and received tremendous feedback from various key stakeholders, including physicians, volunteers, and donors. We were buoyed up by their positive feedback, ideas, and suggestions, which played a key role in fashioning our plan.

We aligned our Foundation’s Strategic Plan with that of the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance, utilizing the Alliance’s three strategic pillars – people, partnerships and performance – and reinterpreting these to enable us to chart a course towards our vision: To be a healthcare charity of choice and a recognized leader in healthcare philanthropy in our region.

The process of planning was invaluable. We learned a great deal: how our donors like to be communicated with; how to define and measure success; what we’re doing right and how we can improve, as well as the importance of exploring potential new partnerships and working relationships in a constantly evolving environment.

With all this focus on Strategic Planning, you may be a tempted to think that’s all we’ve accomplished of late. Nothing could be further from the truth!

In the past year, the Foundation has continued to pay off its commitment to fund the Hospital’s new North Wing, and has almost completed our funding commitment to the MRI. The Foundation, with the enthusiastic support of our donors, has also entered the “quiet phase” of an $18 million plus fundraising campaign for capital equipment, new technology, and replacement equipment.

Already, significant impact is being made. With donor support, we’ve purchased the first three of 7 anesthetic machines used in some 10,000 surgical procedures carried out at Stratford General Hospital each year. Through the support of a “matching gift” initiative, backed by the Stratford General Hospital Volunteers, we’re also purchasing critical lab equipment including a Blood Gas Analyzer and a Microorganism Analyzer to help identify and battle life-threatening bacterial infections like sepsis.

Of course, as Board Chairman, I receive a great deal of encouraging feedback from patients and other community members on our positive impact. But this truly is a team effort. Our Foundation Board is made up of dedicated and talented volunteers who draw upon a wealth of experience and expertise to help steer our organization. They have my thanks.

And no organization can reach its destination without people to operate the vessel. Our very talented Executive Director Andrea Page, and her knowledgeable and motivated staff – Susan, Melissa and Christy, provide the energy and fundraising expertise that is crucial to our success. I have nothing but admiration for them.

But what about the donors and what about the patients you might ask? While I’ve left them to last, these are the two most important groups on our voyage to success. Without the patients who we seek to help, there wouldn’t be any reason to set sail in the first place. May we always be guided by their needs first and foremost.

And to our donors...you are the force that propels us on our journey. Without you, none of what we work towards would be possible. You have our heartfelt gratitude. May you always be the wind in our sails.

Rick Orr
Board Chairman
Our community continues to respond generously to our Christmas mailing reaching $240,113 to date with a total of 1203 donors with the average gift of $199.60.

$303,592 raised in new Matching gift mailout for specialized Lab equipment used to detect sepsis. A salute to the Volunteers of Stratford General who matched every donation dollar for dollar.

Nuclear Medicine Specialist Dr. Alhrbi demonstrated the benefits of Stratford General Hospital’s new SPECT-CT Camera through the review of a number of case studies. SPECT-CT enables the direct correlation of anatomic information and functional information resulting in greater detail and accuracy. SGH is one of a few sites utilizing this technology. The SPECT-CT Nuclear Medicine Camera is now “paid in full” thanks to the generosity of our donors! L to R: SGHF Board members Dave Carter and Brent Hiller, Interim Manager Medical Imaging Louanne Plain, SGHF Board chair Rick Orr, SGHF Board member Debbie Reece, Nuclear Medicine Specialist Dr. Mashael Alhrbi, Nuclear Medicine Technologists Jenn Muir and Alysha Wagoner.

Volunteers of Stratford General are a committed core of some 230 members who play an essential role in patient care and in fundraising. This year their matching gift pledge of $150,000 helped double funds for lab equipment.

Over the past few years the Foundation has disbursed over $18 million to the redevelopment project including this fiscal year’s $600,000 towards construction. To date $3.5 million has been disbursed to MRI with the $3.8 million MRI project to be completely paid for by next year.

Dollars are coming in for our Spring, Instrumental In Saving Lives mailer for the purchase of Anaesthetic machines – 5 of the 7 needed are on order expected to be on site by end of June.

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Debbie Reece
Guidance & Expertise

When Debbie Reece, currently Chief Financial Officer at Festival Hydro, was recruited as a Board Member by Chris Thomson and the late Ray Waller, she hoped her strong background might benefit the organization in key areas of finance.

“I also saw it as an opportunity to give back to the community in the area of healthcare, which is by far one of the most important things in our lives,” says Debbie.

Nine years later, Debbie leaves the board having had a significant impact as a Finance Committee Chair and long term member, and also having been at the helm as Board Chair during some of the most exciting times in recent history – including the final stages of the $20 million Hospital Redevelopment Campaign as well as key portions of the $3.8 million MRI Campaign.

“The Foundation Board and the Staff are both central to our successful results and the funding of various key priorities at the hospital. I’ve truly enjoyed working with them,” says Debbie. “And the generosity of our community has been overwhelming. The money for much of the equipment and facilities we need relies directly on donations, and our donors from throughout Huron and Perth should be very proud of what they’ve accomplished.”

“Debbie will be truly missed by our Board and Staff,” says Foundation Executive Director Andrea Page. “Steady, calm and unflappable, Debbie was always able to think critically and draw upon her experience and strong financial background for the benefit of the Foundation and our donors. We owe her a great debt of thanks.”

Dave Carter
Communications motivate donors to Generosity

While Dave Carter is perhaps best known for his long term association with the Stratford Beacon Herald, he has also been a key player on the Stratford General Hospital Foundation Board for some 11 years, helping steer the Foundation through major capital campaigns like the $20 million Heart and Soul and the $3.8 million MRI Making a Real Impact campaigns.

“Dave played an important part in securing major support from the Beacon Herald, and both those campaigns were successful largely through communications efforts which informed and motivated our donors,” says Andrea Page, Executive Director. “We couldn’t have accomplished that without Dave Carter.”

With a busy work schedule – one that is becoming even more demanding lately – Dave has always been selective about where he contributes his time and talent. “I wanted to get involved with a cause that was important to me, important to the community, and important to the readership of the paper,” he says. “Clearly the hospital fits that bill.”

Dave says that his time at the Foundation has been valuable. “There were always rewards and accomplishments along the way – whether it was finishing the new North wing, renovations to the building, or bringing in the MRI,” he says. “I met some really nice, dedicated and very talented people who were highly motivated to get things done.”

Dave’s 11 years of service with the Foundation, combined with his expanding role at Postmedia Network Inc. mean it’s time to relinquish his place as a Board Member and chair of the Resource Development & Public Relations Committee. “But it’s safe to say that somewhere down the road – maybe in my retirement years – I certainly would consider coming back to spend some more time on the Board.”

“It’s also safe to say that Dave would always be welcome back,” adds Andrea Page.
“By providing essential bedside care our nurses have a significant impact on the lives of our patients, and their families,” says Donnalene Tuer Hodes, Program Director Surgery, Maternal Child & MDRD and Chief Nursing Executive. “They also contribute significantly in leadership and administrative roles to the health care system by conducting research, developing new models of care and teaching learners.”

HPHA employs 464 Nurses - 339 Registered Nurses, 123 Registered Practical Nurses and two Nurse Practitioners. There are no areas of the organization they do not touch, whether through involvement in direct patient care or in administrative and supportive departments such as Infection Prevention and Control, Occupational Health, and Information Technology.

Catherine Walsh, RN, Critical Care, Stratford

As a nurse I have the opportunity to be intimately involved in the hardest, most emotional, trying, exhausting and joyful times in people’s lives. People who only moments before were complete strangers now trust you with their, or their loved one’s, health. I don’t take this role lightly. Nursing to me is about honouring these times and ensuring that these experiences are satisfying and meaningful for all involved, while also providing safe, high-quality, critically evaluated, educational and effective healthcare. Nursing is a profession where you go to work knowing that you will impact someone’s life and/or someone will impact yours.

Debby McLeod, RN, Team Leader, Emergency, Stratford

Nursing is complex, diverse, challenging, and is the heart of TEAM work (Together Everyone Achieves More). Over the years I have seen the nursing continuum go from team nursing, to primary nursing, and now Collaborative, all emphasizing best patient care.

Nursing is the foundation of our hospitals. We are patient advocates; the bridge of communication between all multidisciplinary services; health teachers and health nurturers and the front line people in the circle of life - helping people from birth, through childhood, to adulthood and into death.

It is the best career! I have laughed, praised, been frustrated, challenged and even cried with our patients. Every day I learn something new!

Donnalene Tuer Hodes, RN, Chief Nursing Executive, Program Director Surgery, Maternal Child & MDRD

There is no profession that has the diversity, opportunities and rewards that Nursing provides. It is through the gift of providing care and compassion to others, that we learn more about ourselves, who we are and what we aspire to be. My role as a nurse has evolved and changed over time. No one role is more important than another, but each role helped move me toward who I am today and who I hope to become tomorrow.

Debbie Turner, RN, Manager, Quality & Risk

In my opinion, nursing is the best profession. It has provided me with personal and professional satisfaction on a multitude of levels and at various memorable points within my career as well as the lives of the many patients I have had the pleasure of providing care for.

I can best answer the question “What does being a nurse mean to you?” by sharing with you some of my most memorable moments as a nurse.

Nursing is: spending a quiet Christmas eve in the ER at the foot of a patient’s bed chatting while washing feet that had seen many footsteps walked in poor fitting shoes and being content knowing that you made a difference after hearing that the patient passed away the very next day; it is being allowed into the private lives of patients to share their grief when delivering a stillborn and not being embarrassed to cry along with the family; it is about being part of a family that has the ability and professionalism to put aside personal differences in order to come together in crucial times when our patients needs us to act as a team; it is about knowing when to stop the rushing to be beside a patient who is taking their last breaths, to hold their hand to let them feel that they are not alone; it’s witnessing the most hardened colleague hold the phone to a patients ear so that every family member on the other end could say their goodbyes.

Nursing means being the patient’s advocate without the interference of age, sex, race, socio-economic status, it’s about truly understanding that our patients are not just “the patient in room XYZ” but that they have a name, and they bring with them needs and fears and that it’s my responsibility to do everything I can to meet their needs.

Nursing is one of the few professions that allow individuals to partner with their patients and families on such a broad spectrum. Rarely is one day ever like the one before it.

Nursing is ups and downs, and twists and turns you never imagined nor expected.

It is continuous learning and a profession that I am so very proud to be a part of.
Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 8, Stratford – Poppy Fund

A salute to the Legion’s Poppy Committee for naming the new Chemo Unit Reception across from the Chemo unit waiting room an improved patient experience and patient safety; providing a more welcoming environment for those arriving for cancer treatment, reducing their stress levels.

L-R: Ken Albert President and Poppy committee Chairman, Dot Harmer Poppy Committee Secretary, Leroy Workman member Poppy Committee, Doug Harmer member Poppy Committee, SGH Foundation ED Andrea Page, Doreen Zurbrigg member Poppy Committee.

Combining passion for art with passion for our hospital!

We can never say thank you enough to Audrey Durst and Chartwell Anne Hathaway Retirement Residence for their gift of $2,000 presented at the residents’ Christmas party in December. 100% of the proceeds from Audrey’s Calendar sale benefit the Integrated Stroke Unit at the Stratford General Hospital site of HPHA.

L-R: Andrew Williams CEO HPHA, Audrey Durst, Kathleen Needles Chartwell Anne Hathaway Retirement Residence, Andrea Page ED SGH Foundation.

Stratford General Hospital Emerg Doctors are at the forefront of the new In our Hands equipment campaign sponsoring the purchase of a cardiac probe. A special thanks to Drs Miriam Mann, Anna Mayer, Shirin Mehrain, Phil Schieldrop, Stephanie Sischek, Tristan Walker, Noelle Carrier, Andrzej Kluz and Mike MacIsaac. The new cardiac probe (aka phased array probe) can be used to do ultrasounds of the lung and heart to diagnose pneumonia, pulmonary edema, pericardial effusions and pneumothoraces, as well as look at overall cardiac function, helpful in our most critically ill patients.

Stricklands Support has Impact!

Special thanks to the Strickland’s team for their support towards new anaesthetic machines! Instrumental in saving lives!
to Our Community’s Generosity!

and businesses building a brighter future for healthcare throughout our region.

Moffatt & Powell Builds Yearly Support.
The team at Moffatt & Powell are already planning next year’s events. This year their generous gift of $900 is donated towards the purchase of anesthetic machines.


A special thanks to Klomps Home & Garden and Barb Klomp, RN.
Thanks to proceeds from November’s Klomp’s Ladies Night, a new vascular Doppler and probe arrived on the Critical Care Unit!

L-R: Andrea Page SGHF ED, Barb Klomp RN, Jane Moore RN Interim Manager CCU HPHA and Andrew Williams HPHA CEO.

FIO Automotive Revs up support for Special Care Nursery.
A salute to all the employees at FIO who took part in fundraisers to raise $3,726 for our tiniest patients.

Knights of Columbus, Kilroy Council #1431 pacesetting pledge of $100,000 is Paid in Full!
A big thank you to the Knights of Columbus, Kilroy Council #1431 for their tremendous support of our hospital!! Their pacesetting pledge of $100,000 to the Heart & Soul Campaign named the Maternal/Child Visitor’s Lounge and Quiet Room in the revitalized and expanded Maternal Child Unit. This commitment supports their family values and their focus of caring for the community. This additional gift to our hospital follows fulfillment of a $50,000 pledge which purchased a Medi Lift, Light Source, AO Sagital Saw, Drill for Hip Surgery, 3 Ortho Clinic Stretcher, Arthroscopic Instruments/Orthopedic Instrument Sets, High Flow Cannular Arthroscope, and Ortho Clinic Surgery Table. We can never say thank you enough! Knights of Columbus, Kilroy Council #1431 members celebrate the completion of their pledge to the Heart & Soul Campaign.

L-R, holding big cheque and signage: Grand Knight John Price, Deputy Grand Knight Ken Gaffney, Financial Secretary Tony Vigar and SGHF Board Chair Rick Orr.


Golf Committee – L-R: Bud Dixon, Ashley Vande Velde, Peter Tesluk.
We Can Never Say Thank You Enough to Our Donors

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation disbursed $839,099.75. The items sponsored through our donors’ generosity include:

- 2 Symphony Breast Pumps
- 4 Power Recliners
- 2 Video Ureteroscopes with Sterilization Trays
- Ultramed Ureteroscope
- Ultrasound Transducer
- 2 Bariatric Beds
- 3 Air Supply Mattresses
- Cardiac Monitor
- Sonosite Ultrasound Stand
- Wheelchair Digital Ramp Scale
- Cassette Printer
- Upright Lab Refrigerator
- Benchtop Centrifuge
- MRI – $30,000 – towards MRI
- Building Redevelopment construction – $600,000
- Hospital Staff Education

Please visit our website www.sghfoundation.org for a complete list.

The team on the Medicine Floor are grateful for their new bariatric bed specialized for larger patients. Front: Natalie Weber RN, Colette Bondy PT. Rear: Bonnie Thompson Manager Med/ISU, Whitney Shore RN, Amy Cressman RN, Crystal Mace PSW, Candace Ngungu RN.

Bonnie Thompson, Manager; Shannon Clark Dialysis Unit Assistant; Karen VanRyswyck RN; Jennifer Brown RN say thank you for their new wheelchair accessible scale which has digital weight memory and is used 2X a day for every patient.

RNs Jane Moore and Karen Wilson give thanks to donors who helped purchase a cardiac monitor, 3 specialized air mattresses and a bariatric bed for the Intensive Care Unit.

The unsung heroes of the lab add their thanks for their new technology.

Lab Cassette Printer – Terri Natywary, Medical Laboratory Technician.

Lab Upright Fridge – Loriana Wszelek, Medical Lab Technician.

Benchtop Centrifuge – Kathleen Grogan, MLA/T Core Lab.
Surrounded by plush animals from teddy bears to a huge purple hippo, Loralee McNaughton, a registered nurse who has cared for children in the Maternal Child Unit for some 30 years, tells her story about how she wants to make an impact in the special care nursery by helping to raise $30,000 towards specialized equipment including new monitors.

“It’s for selfish reasons because I get to use the new monitors”, says Ms McNaughton. She notes new technology and standardized monitors, give nurses and the paediatricians the tools to do their jobs…and focus on the babies. The monitors display heart rate and respiratory rates of premature babies or newborns with infections or breathing problems.

Loralee found out about the idea from a hospital in Kingston, and then changed it and made it her own. Investing countless hours she and her family were able to secure over 400 plush animals from Shoppers Drugmart (London & Stratford) Giant Tiger, Guardian Drugstore, and Walmart in Listowel. Other stores gave her deep discounts.

For every donation of $100, a Teddy Bear or Friend will be given to a child in the Special Care Nursery or in the hospital. At Stratford General site last year 1,124 babies were delivered, 342 children were cared for in Pediatrics and 91 babies needed the intense care provided in the Special Care Nursery.

Donations will be accepted through the SGH Foundation website.

“When you have a passionate RN who is willing to spend her own time to help the patients she cares for, you have to embrace that and enable her since there is nothing more powerful than that kind of commitment,” said Andrea Page, Executive Director of the Stratford General Hospital Foundation.

Stratford General is the largest hospital in Huron and Perth Counties with over 1,100 births a year. In addition to the babies born at the hospital; babies born elsewhere but needing more than routine care are transferred to our Special Care Nursery which is a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Dr Kirsten Blaine, noted that the delivery and newborn period is often a very happy and exciting time for families. What many families don’t realize is that a newborn has to go through a very complex transition from inside their mother to the outside world, and that there can be unexpected complications.

Babies cared for on the unit include;
- Premature babies as early as 33 weeks
- Babies born small who have problems with feeding or blood sugars
- Babies at high risk of infection and require closer monitoring
- Babies with breathing issues, either as a result from prematurity, infection or part of transitioning from extra-uterine life
- Babies who need intensive treatment and phototherapy for jaundice
- When babies have more severe or complex conditions, our paediatricians and nursing staff have the expertise and training to stabilize them, begin treatment and make arrangements for transfer to a Level III Centre in Toronto or London.

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation Board is in the planning stages of a major capital campaign focused on giving hospital staff and physicians the tools they need to care for patients throughout our communities. At present our Hospital has a priority list of over $18 million worth of medical equipment. Much of it is high tech and leading edge…most of it is expensive…All of it is critical.

According to Page, while the official launch of the capital campaign is not planned until we are halfway to goal, we just can’t wait. In a traditional building campaign, dollars are disbursed to the hospital at the building’s grand opening…so there is time to accumulate generosity. With an equipment campaign we are endeavoring to use that generosity immediately by purchasing equipment once the dollars are in. From anesthetic machines to special care nursery monitors, donors will see an immediate impact from their gifts.

Loralee McNaughton is counting on the community’s generosity and support of our next generation with a goal of $30,000 for her event. “We are going to beat it,” she says with enthusiasm. Donors will get the “warm and fuzzy feeling” and make an impact she adds.
Volunteers are the roots of strong communities. Just like roots are essential for trees to bloom, volunteers are essential for communities to bloom.

Thanks to volunteers, our communities grow strong and resilient. Every volunteer effort leaves a profound and lasting trace in a community, much like tree rings that appear over time.
Did YOU Know?

2015/16 At Stratford General

- 1,161 babies were delivered
- 184 babies were treated in the Special Care Nursery
- 24,949 patients were seen in the Emergency Department
- 1,997 inpatient surgeries and 10,627 day surgeries were performed
- 330 children treated on the Pediatric Floor
- 589 Mental Health inpatients were cared for
- 880 Patients treated in ICU & Telemetry Unit
- 30,348 X-Rays were taken and 11,728 CT Scans were performed
- 17,271 Ultrasound Exams, 2,935 Nuclear Medicine Exams and 1,671 Echo Cardiography Exams were performed
- 6,308 Mammography Exams and 3,125 Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) exams were performed
- 4,870 MRI scans were performed
- 3,878 Dialysis Visits
- 1,104 Oncology Visits (Chemo Only)

2015/16 Throughout HPHA’s 4 sites (Stratford, St. Marys, Seaforth, Clinton)

- Babies Delivered .......................................................... 1,161
- Acute Patient Days ....................................................... 31,141
- Complex Continuing Care Patient Days ......................... 9,479
- Rehab Patient Days ....................................................... 4,020
- Mental Health Patient Days ........................................... 4,466
- Inpatient Surgeries Performed .............................. 1,997
- Day Surgeries Performed ............................................. 12,681
- Patients seen in the Emergency Departments ............... 58,403
Donations in Honour of and in Memory of ...

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation is grateful to the family members and friends who have made Honour and Memorial donations from October 7, 2015 to May 1, 2016.

In Honour of...
Hugh & Gayle Ahrens
Ed & Geraldine Belliveau
Laverne Bender
Brady Dow
Sharon McConnell
Diana McDonald
Lucas McLean
Jillian Rutherford
Andy & Mary Veldman
David Wray

In Memory of...
Maurice Allard
Margaret Allen
Alice & Gerald Anderson
Esther Anguish
Murry Arthur
Howard Ballantyne
Florence Bartant
Maria Basras
Frances Batten
Melchor Bayani
Linda Beare
Alison Becker
Beatrice Beighton
Ruth Bell
Louisa Biggelaar
Anita Billo
Anne Billo
Gordon Billo
Brandon Blake
Dorothy Blasdale
Bill Bodenham
Arthur W. Boon
Elizabeth Boon
Arden Bott
Betty Jean Boyce
Ron Boyce
Allene Bradley
Wendy Brenner
Dorothy Brock
Shirley Brodhagen
Miles Browning
Aidan James Butler
Leonard Butson
Marlene Buuck
Lynn Buxton
Frederick Canning
John Cassidy
William "Bear" Chambers
Bill Cheoros
William Chessell
Warren Cleland
David Clifford
Ken Connolly
John & Elsie Conroy
April Cook
Rita Cook
Russell Cook
Walter Cook
E. Anne Copeland
Violet "Billie" Corke
Jose Cozyn
Frank Crowley
Anthony W. Culliton
Rocco Cupido
Elizabeth Daub
Harvey Daub
Jeltje de Young
Rev. Donald Deas
Tony DeGroot
Noel deWever
Domenico "Dom" Di Diomete
John Dietrich
Ray Dill
Theresa Dinell
Gerald Dingman
Jack & Verna Dolson
Walter Douglas
Sam Doupe
Miriam Dunbar
Robert Dunseith
Pamela Dwyer
Irene Eisler
Wilfred Epp
James 'Jim' Erickson
Bernice Facey
William Fehr
Neil Leonard Ferguson
Louis Feryn
Grace Finnie
Harvey Fleischauer
Joan Fletcher
Paul Ford
Lloyd Forman
Lorne Foster
Jerry Franken
Harold & Margaret Fuhr
Ken Fuhr
Aaron George
Irene Glab
Bill Gorsline
Irene Gorsline
Shirley Gottschalk
Sharon Graham
Ken Gransden
Nellie Green
Karen Greensides
Robert Greensides
Maureen Griffin
Nicholas Groenestege
Dolores Gulliford
Norman Hall
Walter Hansen
Mrs. Irene Harloff
Bill Hartsburg
Darlene Haynes
Vic Hayter
Audrey Marie Heinbuck
Larry Herman
Wilbert Herman
Dennis Gerald Hinz
Don Hocking
Howard Horn
Donald Hoshel
Sheila Huntley
Jack & Irene Hutchison
Shirley Hutchison
John Hutton
Christine Hyde
Dilos Jones
Gary Josling
Nelson Kahle
Nora Kahle
Don Kan
Linda Karkheak
Gunter Keller
Peter Klomp
Elmer Kropf
Frank Lange
Don Larkworthy
Harold Leasa
Clara L'Heureux
Molly Lindsay-Kent
Jack Listman
Marion Long
Murray Long
Carlton Lotz
Alice Louwagie
Mervyn Luckhardt
Dr. A. J. MacDonald
Dora Mallon
Ted Mallon
Catherine Manners
Dr. Hassan Ben Mansour
Marion Marshall
Gary Martin
Betty Masson
Sandy McCormick
Kenneth McEwen
Ken McIlroy
Marlene McInnes
Harold McKittrick
Robert McLauchlon
Joan McLean
MacKenzie Arthur McLeod
Clarence McNaughton
George McRae
Arnold Merkel
Bill Merkel
Edward Messerschmidt
Viola Messerschmidt
William Moffett
Darren Mohr
Glen Mohr
Murray Mohr
Helen Morrison
Margaret Murray
Helen & Hugh Myers
Lillian and Robert Myers
Bob Nagle
Leonard Nagle
Dolores Neeb
Paul Neidig
Elsie Newton
Barbara Norris
Bernice Norris
Bruce O'Donnell
Joe O'Keefe
Lorne Ruller
Jean Rumig
Dorothy L. Ryde
Ken Sallows
Lillian Sallows
Fred & Violet Savelle
Ray Savile & Sons
Howard Schade
Flora Schauber
Roy Schauber
Sharon Scheircih
Stanley Schellenberger
Ed Schepka
Doris Schmidt
Duncan Scott
Jean Scott
William Scott
Dave Seigner
Don Sheridan
David Sherwood
Ralph Siemon
Elizabeth Simpson
Joe Skinner
Ronald F. Skinner
Allan Smith
Paul Smith
Charles Snell
Eileen Spellman
John St. Clair
John Steckly
Robert Stere
Marjorie Stock
Robert Tam
Al Tapley
Adrian Thejsmeijer
Maureen Thomas
Wilhelmina Thompson
John Tompkins
Clifford Tosh
Harry Tribick
Larry Urbach
Wilhelmina Van Den Tempel
Bernice Van Herwynen
Tony Van Klooster
Adrian Van Nynatten
Jim Veldman
Christina Viani
Keith Volland
Darryl Vorstenbosch
Wilmer Wagler
Elsie Walker
Vincent Walker
Dennis Washburn
Olive Weicker
William Weicker
Richard Wells
William Wellwood
Anna Wessel
Bob Sr. & Vera Weston
Alma Wettlaufer
Edward Wettlaufer
Jack Whyte
Victoria Wiedemann
Dennis Wilhelm
Glenn A. Wilhelm
Jean Wilker
Elmer Williams
Jean Williams
Roy Willis
Martien Wilts
Harold Wood
Patrick "Paddy" Woods
David Wray
Richard Wray
Sharon Wreford
Elmer Yantzi
Jim Yeates
Peter Young
Irene Yundt
Patients are the true heroes at our hospital. Their experiences and struggles are poignant and powerful: a tiny baby fighting for each breath in our special care nursery; a young man recovering from cancer surgery; a dad in the ICU struggling to overcome blood clots in the lung; a mom waiting for her breast biopsy results; a family in Emergency Trauma after a car accident. Every patient story is fraught with emotions from pain and despair to joy and resilience.

In any story, a Hero has a Purpose/Mission, meets an Obstacle and must overcome it. The Hero achieves victory and emerges transformed and wiser. A clear mission is crucial because it helps the public to see just what the stakes are and how to value the success of the hero.

In patient stories, the Heroes are the patients, the Purpose is living a healthy, productive life and being there for family members, the Obstacle is an illness or injury which they must overcome with the help of our hospital. And the stakes are high; with everyone focused on the best result – a success story with the patient emerging with gratitude to their doctors/caregivers and a greater appreciation of life.

Every story needs an enabler, a mentor, or a helper for the hero – that’s where our doctors, nurses, other care givers and donors come in. Donors are a critical part of the narrative – with donors as key partners empowering our caregivers through your generous support, helping them to continue their fight to save lives, promote health and battle disease.

Who amongst us hasn’t battled a life threatening illness in our family, rallied around a neighbor or friend as they underwent life-saving surgery, or felt the sting of loss of someone near and dear to us?

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 job is all we ask. 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.

I wish I could show you how important every donated dollar truly is. Each day a surgeon uses equipment purchased with donations to save lives … a seriously ill patient’s vital signs are monitored with equipment funded by a donor … high tech images are examined, helping to detect cancer at an early stage, bringing the hope of a longer, healthier life. All are possible because of the generosity of donors.

Devotion to quality, compassionate care and commitment to excellence is unrivaled amongst our doctors, nurses, volunteers and other healthcare professionals – the people we trust with our lives when we walk through the hospital’s doors.

We are all working towards our mission: Giving to life and a lifetime of giving. With our donors and hospital staff working together, our stories will have the best endings possible.

Donor stories have Impact – Happily Ever After

Jamie and Brady Dow
A picture is worth a thousand words…

Our son Brady Dow was born at 35 weeks due to me having Toxemia. We both spent 10 days in hospital… Brady in the nicu and I recovering from the harm the Toxemia did to my body. He is our strength and joy.

Thank you Stratford General Hospital maternity ward and nicu doctors and nurses for helping our little man and I to be healthy and strong enough to come home.

Not a day goes by that we don’t forget how grateful we are for all you did for our family. Thank you.

Gratitude Names
Surgery Bay

Dr. Lefebvre stands beside a plaque that reads; “In appreciation of Mary MacDonald, Kyle MacDonald – In honor of Dr. Kevin Lefebvre and the OR team for excellent care.

Dear Dr. LeFebvre,

On Monday, July 6, a lovely elderly lady named Mary MacDonald was sent to your hospital emergency department by Dr. Nelson Chan of South Huron Hospital in Exeter. I am Mary’s daughter Kyle, and I had the “pleasure” of meeting you and Dr. Shane Smith under unfortunate circumstances that afternoon.

I wanted to let you know that we did the right thing! My mother finally went home on July 31, after a brief stay back in South Huron hospital, and then an additional week in a respite room at Royalcliffe residence in London. Being at home in her familiar surroundings has accelerated her recovery, and she is just “like new” again.

I appreciate that it was difficult for you to make the decision to operate on a 96-year old lady, and we were certainly cognizant of the risks involved. But I will never forget her saying to you “I think we should go for it!”

I wanted to take the time to say thank you, Dr. Smith and entire team at Stratford General Hospital for your time, your amazing care of my Mother, and your dedication to improving the lives of Canadians.

Sincerely, Kyle MacDonald
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

Your Donation COUNTS! Your Gift = Medical Equipment

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 a faxitron – our equipment pieces range from $300 - $750,000 each.

YOUR DONATION COUNTS!

Please take a moment and reflect on what our community would be like without our hospital. Our health care team has one main focus - YOU - the patient. In the last year the health care team has touched the lives of countless people and their families with their compassion, skill and expertise.

Every gift you give impacts the care we are able to provide. Your support purchases essential medical equipment - equipment we can't afford to be without. We count on you to help us provide quality and patient-focused care. Thank you!

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
"People Caring for People"

☐ YES, I care! I wish to support our Hospital.

Name: __________________________________________ Address: _______________________________________________________________

City: ______________________ Postal Code: ________________ Telephone: ________________

☐ Enclosed is my cheque to Stratford General Hospital Foundation. Email: ____________________________

☐ $1,000 ☐ $500 ☐ $250 ☐ $100 ☐ $50 ☐ $25 I prefer to give $ ____________________

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ American Express 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

Our donor records are confidential. We do not share our lists.

Thank you for caring!
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.

We’re there for you 24/7
Now we need you!

Please give generously from the heart for state-of-the-art technology.

Promises made; promises kept

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.

Charitable Reg. BN 11920 0004 RR0001

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