Each year surgeons at Stratford General Hospital perform more than 10,000 day surgeries and inpatient procedures on people from our area.

And new anesthetic machines, made possible through generous donor support, are having a genuine impact on our ability to care for and monitor our patients, reduce pain, and even minimize our impact on the environment.

“Even for minor procedures, the machines are indispensable. They assist the anesthesiologist to monitor the patient in the operating room, able to monitor breathing, blood pressure, oxygen saturation, heart rate and rhythm – everything needed to make our patients safe and comfortable during surgery,” says Dr. Collan Simmons, Chief of Anesthesia.

The new anesthetic machines, arriving now, have advanced technology that reduces the waste of expensive anesthetic gases, which are also “greenhouse” gases. The new machines also have an advanced ventilator allowing more gentle and efficient ventilation of patients receiving a general anesthetic. The machines also have age-related calibrated anesthetic gas delivery, allowing the anesthesiologist to easily provide care appropriate to that patient’s needs.

Additional features include a compact emergency transport monitor which clips off the machine and onto the patient’s bed for safe, constant monitoring and feedback as the patient moves from the operating room to Recovery or the Intensive Care unit.

“Patient safety and quality patient care are our biggest priority”, says Todd Hartsburg, Manager Peri-Operative Services.

With their ability to use anesthetic gases more efficiently, the new machines also save dollars and reduce the amount of anesthetic gases – classified as greenhouse gas – released into the atmosphere … a positive step for the environment.

Of course as with any piece of new, hi-tech equipment, patient safety is paramount. The new machines are being brought on-line two at a time, with hands-on equipment training from the supplier through a respiratory therapist/technician for an extra level of safety during the first surgeries with each anesthesiologist. The technician returns for physician Locum’s covering for holidays.

The new anesthetic machines will also help address two larger issues at Stratford General: our capacity to handle a projected increase in the number of surgeries and our ability to retain and attract new anesthetists, physicians and other caregivers – a cornerstone in building a healthier community.

According to Andrea 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, new x-ray machines to a CT Scanner, donors will see immediate results from their gifts.

Great excitement as new anesthetic machines unpacked!

L to R: Amy Orchard RN, Dianne Schneider - Porter, Jane Otto - Porter, Irene Kaufman RPN, Carol Dufton RN, Cathy Merkel RN, Teresa Rowntree RPN, Dr Collan Simmons - Anesthesiologist, Marianne Hawley Operating Room Scheduler, Darren Flood RPN, Jan Atchison Operating Room Unit Clerk, Treena Hollingworth - Housekeeping.

Presently we have 5 anesthesiologists and are actively recruiting for two more which may allow us to expand the role of the anesthesia department by adding an anesthesia acute postoperative pain program.

“With some 10,000 day surgeries and inpatient procedures performed at our hospital each year, nearly all of us will come into contact with these new anesthetic machines at some point. That makes it easy to understand how donor generosity can touch the lives of those they know and love,” says Andrea Page, Stratford General Hospital Foundation Executive Director.

“As hospital equipment is not funded by the government, that support helps ensure our patients are given the best care when they need it most.”

Instrumental in Saving Lives
SGH Socks it to Falls Danger!

One out of five falls cause a serious injury. Falls can also lead to negative mental health outcomes such as fear of falling, loss of autonomy and greater isolation, confusion, immobilization and depression. But most falls are predictable, and therefore, preventable. That’s why Falls Prevention strategies are so very important. They may seem quite simple, but can have a huge impact on patient safety.

Patients who are identified as a “falls risk”, those who arrive at the hospital with no socks or slippery socks are given 1 pair of yellow pillow paws non-slip socks. Additional pairs can be purchased at the Volunteers of Stratford General gift shop. The socks are yellow matching the other Falls Prevention visuals:

* Yellow wristband for those identified with falls risk
* Yellow falls risk signage for walkers and on the patient’s bed.

According to Dianne Gaffney, MSc., RD, Corporate Lead Professional Practice there has been a decrease in falls since the program started. “Patients love them. They are warm and nurturing and add to the patient’s experience,” she added.

The Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital and the Stratford General Hospital Foundation have committed a total of $2,340 yearly for 2 years to support this initiative. The program started in March with a total of $900 already spent throughout the hospital with the majority of patients impacted from in ICU, Day Surgery and the Surgical Unit.

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 - $1.3 million each.
Each donation is precious, and every donor is priceless ... individuals, groups, and organizations.

Nurse focused on tiniest patients – Teddy Bear & Friends exceed goal.

Hospital staff, physicians, friends and Loralee McNaughton’s family thrilled at the ongoing community support to raise $30,000 for the Special Care Nursery. The Teddy Bear & Friends Bowling event raised $5,700 taking the total to $34,781! 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.

Young philanthropists’ lemonade stand proceeds help our tiniest patients!

A big thank you to Rachel, Roisin, Dayna and Saira who dropped by the Foundation with a gift of $200, the proceeds of their lemonade stand! Their generous gift will sponsor 2 bears in support of Teddy Bear & Friends Campaign for Special Care Nursery Equipment at SGH!

We can never say thank you enough to the team from Scotiabank Stratford who dropped by the hospital with a big cheque in the amount of $12,074.40 in support of equipment for Breast Health at Stratford General!! The proceeds from the employee’s spring Charity Bowl event were matched by Scotiabank. A BIG thank you to Scotiabank, Charity Bowl event organizers and all supporters!

L to R: Judy Matthews - Manager, Scotiabank Central Mortgage Unit; Sharon Harding - Business Analyst, Scotiabank Central Mortgage Unit; Cynthia Prymak - Director, Scotiabank Central Mortgage Unit; SGHF ED Andrea Page and Scotiabank Community Branch Manager Don McNabb.

Association of Car Enthusiasts in Stratford & Area (ACES) all revved up with $2,500 donation towards new anesthetic machines!

ACES annual car show and their weekly cruise-ins at Stratford’s Festival Marketplace Shopping Centre showcased some cool cars, great music and 50/50 Draws with net proceeds to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation.

L-R: Jim Voteary, MJ Thomson – Festival Marketplace, Don Cockwell – Club President.

A salute to the Shakespeare Fire Department for donating B-B-Q proceeds to Teddy Bear & Friends!
to Our Community’s Generosity!

Sinclair Pharmacy Dispensing Good Health

You can count on the staff and pharmacists at Sinclair Pharmacy to provide the best service possible and they want to help our hospital with a $3,750 gift towards the state-of-the-art anesthetic machines which will have impact on 10,000 patients yearly. As a Guardian Pharmacy they are independently owned by Stratford pharmacists who are also members of McKesson Canada, Canada’s oldest and largest independent pharmacy services provider.

L to R: Pharmacist Co-Owners Theresa Ryan, Heather Konstant and SGHF ED Andrea Page.

On the Cutting Edge

Over the years Trillium Mutual Insurance Company and the Trillium ROOTS council’s support has had tremendous impact on our patients. Trillium’s generous $20,000 contribution towards our anesthetic machines makes a difference... to our patients and their families (with 10,000 inpatient and day surgeries a year), to recruitment and retention of physicians, to the environment (newer machines emit less greenhouse gases), to our hospital and everyone in it, to our whole region...communities throughout Huron, Perth, Oxford and beyond. We can never say thank you enough!!

L to R: Joe Dietrich, President & CEO Trillium Mutual Insurance Company; Rick Orr, Stratford General Hospital Foundation Board Chair; Margaret Jack, Trillium ROOTS Council; Dr Collan Simmons, Chief of Anesthesia; Todd Hartsburg, Manager Peri-Operative Services; Andrea Page, Executive Director, SGH Foundation; Andrew Williams, President & CEO HPHA.

Working towards our mission: Giving to life and a lifetime of giving

Over 120 donors attending the SGH Foundation’s Annual General Meeting were spellbound by keynote speaker Elizabeth Manley’s poignant and emotional story of her journey to the Olympics and her struggle with mental health. She praised the Foundation’s and Hospital’s efforts in helping to reduce the stigma of mental health, including the Stratford Rotary Club’s support of the Mental Health Unit.

Visit www.sghfoundation for audited statements and our community report.

L to R: Andrea Page – SGHF ED, Colleen Misener – Honourary Life Member, Rick Orr – Board Chair, Elizabeth Manley – AGM Keynote, Hugh McDonald – Vice Chair, Debbie Reece, Lisa Hyde, Bob Gulliford, Paul Roulston, Andrew Williams – HPHA CEO.

A Big Thank You to the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital

This year’s big cheque presentation of $98,000 towards their $150,000 pledge at the Foundation Annual General Meeting celebrated the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital and their commitment to our community. The Volunteers incredible Matching Gift campaign turned $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. We can never say thank you enough!

L to R: SGHF Board Chair Rick Orr, Volunteer Council Chair Terry Aitcheson, SGHF ED Andrea Page.
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 May 2, 2016 to October 18, 2016.

In Honour of
3rd Floor Surgical Staff
All Shook Up - Drayton
Jim & Marg Brickman
John De Groot
Hugh & Doris Dietz
Dr. Randy Gonser
Shirley Leasa
Howard & Marjorie Luckhart
Dr. Adam Maruscak
Patricia Million
Dr. David Williams and Staff

Barrie Cannon
Judy Carrick
William "Bear" Chambers
Linda Clements
Ken Connolly
Alice Elizabeth Cook
Carmine Costanzo
Ruby Audrey Court
Jose Cozyn
James "Jim" Cronin
Florence H. Darby
Tony DeBrouwer
Mabel Dowswell
Eleanor Drummond
Glen Eaton
Betty Ebel
Rose Egerdee
Grace Ferguson
Walter Finnie
Kay Foster
Doreen Gardner
Maureen Griffin
Nancy Gunn
Gloria Hancock
Arabella Harding
Irene Harloff
Kay Harris
Arnold (Bud) Harris
John Heimpel
Olive Heimpel
Gerry Herod
Wayne Hinz
Cora Hislop
Allan Hodkinson
Lynda Hoffmeyer
Gerald S. Hopf
Tom Hyde
Heinz Kleinhenz
David Koch
William Koch
Myrtle Kruspe
Marion Marshall
Joyce Martin
Robert McClevis
Kevin McComb
Clarence McDougall
James Randall "Rudy" McKinnon
Robert McNair
John Meagher
Geraldine Merkel
James "Jim" Millar
Brandon Million
Doris Murr
Harold Nairn
Robert "Bob" Norris
Gail Osborn
Lorna Parsons
Jean Paul
Beth Pehlke
Trudy Perkins
John Piron
Evelyn Quast
Ron Richards
Kathe Riedel
Mildred H. Rose
Eileen Rothrel
Violet Roulston
Albert Ruby
Kimberly Ann Russell
Antonio Sacco, Sr.
Norman Schultz
Lester Schwantz
Ruth Scott
Brian Shackleton
Margaret Shaw
Lenore Skinner
Alan Slater
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John St. Clair
Betty Stock
Bill Switzer
Jacky Tiplady
Herbina Untucht
Madeleine Vanaverbeke
Keith Volland
Geraldine Waters
Violet Wettlaufer
Lincoln Whitteker
Roy Willis
Patricia Willmore
George Wolfe
Harold Wood
Joseph "Joe" Yausie
Don Yundt

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!

Name: ______________________________________________  Address: ______________________________________________

City: ________________________________  Postal Code: ____________________  Telephone: ____________________________

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

I prefer to give $ _______________________

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!
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

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

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