

The Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital (VSGH)

When you enter our hospital, you are greeted by the warm, caring faces of our volunteer team.

During this time, the Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital continue to rebuild their portfolio. They are dedicated to supporting the patient experience through a variety of specialty programs. Prior to COVID-19, the volunteers supported 32 programs/roles within the SGH Site. At present time, the Volunteers of SGH have 8 programs re-introduced with a plan for more introductions to occur in the very near future. For over 130 years, our community has embraced the volunteer tradition by engaging and supporting the current volunteer needs. During the rebuild phase post-COVID, our amazing community continues to support the volunteer's worthy cause. Two long-standing programs worthy of highlighting are the shops that you will find right inside the front doors of the SGH Lobby. The Coffee Shop and the Gift Shop programs are the Volunteer's main sources of fundraising. These two programs are lovingly referred to as the volunteer's "super fundraisers" raising 80% of their annual donation to help pay for much-needed, state-of-the-art, hospital equipment. Both the shops are currently recruiting volunteers to assist the Volunteers of SGH with their mission.

The Coffee Shop prides itself on creating a quiet atmosphere with walls of windows highlighting the outdoors, allowing you to escape your stress over a freshly ground cup of coffee or a freshly baked-that-day muffin. The menu allows for a nice sit-in lunch or a grab-and-go opportunity when you are on the run.

The Gift Shop is well known to our hospital staff and patients to be retail therapy at its best! The group of dedicated volunteers work hard sourcing and stocking and merchandising the shop with one-of-a-kind items that catch a shopper's eye. In the Gift Shop, you will find boutique items such as tops, scarves, purses, jewelry, and more. We can't forget about our baby boutique filled with lovingly handmade blankets, hats, mittens, and socks, along with clothing, plush, and one-of-a-kind baby items.

April 16th – 22nd is National Volunteer Appreciation Week, and the SGH Foundation encourages everyone to take a moment to thank a volunteer when they visit the Stratford General Hospital site. Their great work slowed down over COVID, but today, we are proud to say they are in the midst of their exciting return! We are grateful for the continued dedication and passion the Volunteers of SGH brings to our patient's experience each and every day. We can never say thank you enough! To learn



Photo L-R: Linda Hawken, Christina Fischer- Shop Manager, Noreen Ollivier, Pieter VanMeekeren, Brent Webley, and Carolyn Yundt, dedicated members- VSGH.

more about the current volunteer opportunities, please visit the HPHA website at www.hpha.ca or contact Mark Gibson, Corporate Lead Volunteer Services and Student Engagement by email at mark.gibson@hpha.ca or by phone at 519-272-8210 ext. 2551.

Reid's Heritage Homes



On-site at the Stratford "Poet & Perth" Townhome community - coming soon...

Thank you to Reid's Heritage Homes who have made an incredibly generous investment of \$20,000 in Youth Mental Health services! Our hospital is aimed at working with our community partners across Huron and Perth Counties to strengthen the elements we know have the most impact on the mental health of youth and young adults. Our goal is to provide a seamless response across age barriers and partners by working together, improving navigation and utilizing technology. This transformation is part of our "In Our Hands" Campaign---mental health...is in our hands. We are working on raising \$1 million to improve local mental health both in our inpatient unit and throughout our communities.

Celebrating Hardworking Staff



One of the raffle winners- Kerry Flood, Chemo Unit

In February, the SGH Foundation staff had the pleasure of visiting Stratford General Hospital departments with our "care cart" to show appreciation for hardworking staff where we have away treats and nutritious snacks. We'd like to congratulate two winners of the raffle for Stratford BIA Downtown Dollars: Kerry Flood - Chemo Unit and Sarah Edwards - Inpatient Mental Health. Enjoy!



Also, the "Wonderful Wednesdays" staff promotion returned this February to the VSGH Coffee Shop. Any HPHA staff were welcome to a free hot or cold beverage on Wednesdays. We're pleased to share that 1669 staff were treated to beverages during February's promo. Thank you for being so WONDERFUL, and hardworking HPHA team!

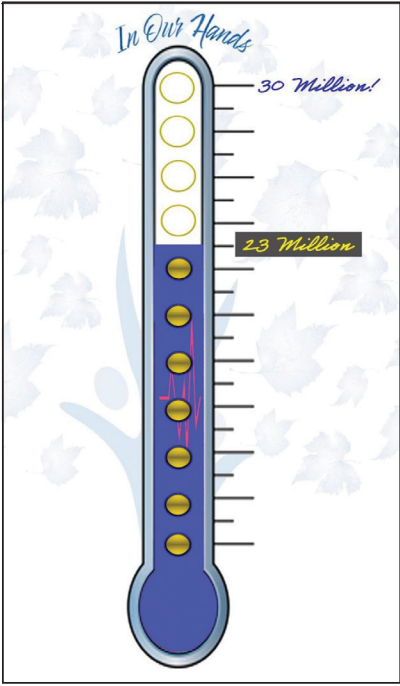
Thank you to Enbridge Staff



Photo, Back Row: Audra Boersen- Manager of Maternal Child, Erin Lindsay- Enbridge Employee, Julie Thistlethwaite - RN and Team Lead for Mat Child. Front Row: Adrienne Harford- Enbridge Employee, & Michelle Lindsay- Enbridge Employee and Successful Grant Applicant.

Please join us in thanking the generous staff members of Enbridge (pictured here) who created "Special Care Nursery Graduation gifts". These gift bags will be given out to our tiniest patients when they graduate from our SCN, and get to move home with their families! Aww!

A big shout out to Michelle Lindsay, an Enbridge staff member who initiated this gift by completing an \$1,000 employee grant application, and worked with our maternal child unit to plan for this special gift.



The FUTURE is #InOurHands ...

In Our Hands campaign update: we are now at **\$23 Million** in cash and pledges thanks to generous donors like you, BUT our work is not done yet! ...

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation's "In Our Hands" Capital Campaign has a goal of \$30 Million.

There is an extensive list of equipment needed for Stratford General Hospital, and some top priorities include:

- Chemotherapy and co-located Pharmacy Renovation
- Mental Health Initiatives
- New MRI
- New Lab & Technology
- New beds throughout the hospital

Connect with us on social media for updates
Visit us online: www.sghfoundation.org // www.inourhands.ca

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