

Stratford General Hospital

Foundation Monitor



HOPE
is #InOurHands

HEALTH
is #InOurHands

THE FUTURE
is #InOurHands

10, 9, 8, 7...COUNTDOWN TO LAUNCH...



SGH Foundation Launches \$30 Million Campaign

L-R: Mayor Dan Mathieson, Dr. Roberta Bondar, Paul Roulston- IOH Campaign Co-Chair, Rick Orr- IOH Campaign Co-Chair, Andrew Williams- President & CEO HPHA

The future of Stratford General Hospital is “In Our Hands”. The launch of our “In Our Hands” Campaign, was a milestone event attended by some 150 donors and hospital friends celebrating the start of the public phase of a capital campaign that will have a tremendous impact on local healthcare. Who best to help us “launch” than an astronaut and neurologist who has launched into space and has a unique perspective on generosity, healthcare, teamwork and “Touching lives other than our own” – Dr. Roberta Bondar.

The hospital CEO, Andrew Williams and Astronaut Roberta Bondar rallied the whole crowd into a roaring ten second countdown of the announcement of the largest campaign goal in our hospital’s history and the celebration of pacesetter donors who have already committed 72% of the goal amount to date.

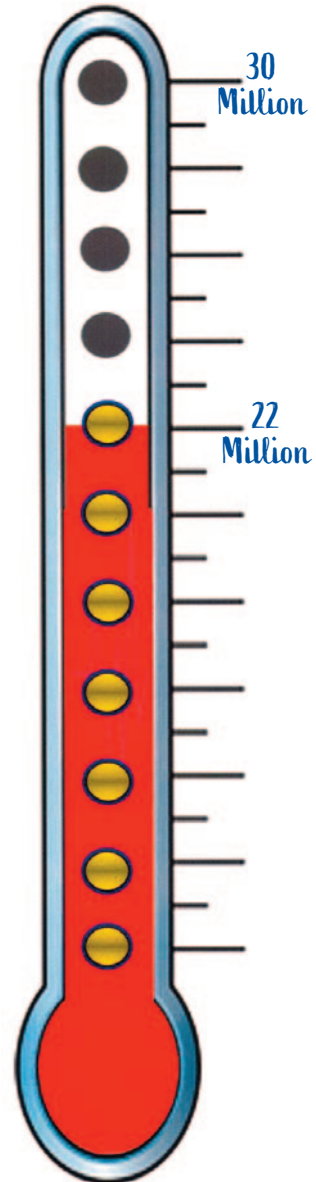
“To date, almost 6,000 people have given towards the almost \$22 million raised, and we have not been sitting on our laurels,” says Andrea Page, Stratford General Hospital Foundation Executive Director. “We have been spending that money as soon as it comes in to have a direct impact on patient care...purchasing the CT Scanner, our new 3D mammography unit unveiled in January, a new fluoroscopy unit, a bone mineral density machine, some 32 new beds and new lab technology.”

In fact, according to Mr. Williams, “You can’t walk 10 feet into the hospital doors without seeing the impact of donor investment. The number one issue in healthcare today is recruitment and retention of the team that is

available to look after the people who need our services...If you want to be in the game of attracting talent and keeping talent here, you need a couple of things. The first thing you need is an organization that provides the team with the tools they need to provide the care they want to provide you. So everything we do when marketing this wonderful facility to the people we want to work here and want to keep here, we very much focus it on having the tools and culture that really makes people come here,” he said.

Thanks to support from the City of Stratford, Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital and a host of large private and corporate donations, the campaign is off to a successful start...but the most difficult part of the campaign will be the final \$8 million...that’s why the future of the hospital – how it can care for its patients with the full complement of inpatient beds, or state of the art pharmacy, chemotherapy unit, diagnostic imaging and lab technology – it is in their hands, say campaign co-chairs Rick Orr and Paul Roulston. The quality of care, level of technology available and the ability to attract and retain the best medical professionals has always and will always depend on local support.

“If you have a passion for healthcare, if you care about yourselves and you care about the institution that’s going to provide the ability to be here and to be here in the most wonderful way to enjoy the short lives that we have on this planet...this is what it’s all about...at the end of it all...we are all in this together,” said Dr. Roberta Bondar.





Andrew Williams, President & CEO, Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance

The community really steps up to support, and they recognize why it's so important not only for themselves but for the community to have strong viable institutions like hospitals. They understand that when we come out to the community and ask, we're asking in a very responsible manner and that the dollars they donate are going to go directly to the areas of priority for them and for our hospital and community, and we developed a great partnership. The Foundation has really set a tone that I couldn't be more proud of, how they engage and respond to community need.

Rick Orr, Campaign Co-chair

What people don't realize is that the government pays for some of the bricks & mortar and operations...they don't pay for any of the equipment in the building...so all the beds, the MRI, CT -none of that is funded by the government. It's all paid for by you and me and our generous community.

Paul Roulston, Campaign Co-chair

It's about providing the highest level of care possible here for the people of Stratford (and area). It helps with the recruitment and retention of staff...people want to work in the best environment possible. That's what this project is all about.



L-R: Josef Frank, SGHF Board John Wilkinson- HPHA Board, Andrea Page- ED SGHF, Paul Roulston- IOH Campaign Co-Chair, Barb Thibeault- Board Chair, Rick Orr- IOH Campaign Co-Chair, SGHF Board Members Hugh McDonald, Robert Gould.



OVER 48,000 DONORS GIVE OVER 39 YEAR HISTORY!

A total of **\$63,169,184.19** raised during this time has translated into tremendous healthcare impact, from new buildings, to state-of-the-art technology, to ensuring hospital staff are supported and have the "tools to do their jobs.

It is truly remarkable how many ways we've been able to support our hospital over the years because of donors and colleagues like you.

Incorporated in 1983, the Foundation is governed by a volunteer board of directors. The Foundation, through the support of our community, has raised millions of dollars to purchase equipment and enhance facilities at Stratford General, touching the lives of countless patients and their families.

We can never say thank you enough for your continued support ❤️

39th Anniversary for SGH Foundation

On August 5th the SGH Foundation proudly celebrated our 39th Anniversary with staff and Board Members.



Scan the QR code for a recap on the ways we've been able to support Stratford General Hospital in these 35+ years- thanks to the INCREDIBLE support of our donors...

We look forward to a BIG party with community members and staff for our 40th anniversary milestone next year!!!

STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
Foundation ❤️



www.sghfoundation.org // www.inourhands.ca // 519-272-8210 ext 262

THE TEAM BEHIND THE RESULTS



**Bill
Brintnell**

Those who know them well say they're obsessed with speed and accuracy. Others say it's their ability to handle huge amounts of data that sets them apart. A little shy, a little retiring, this indispensable group simply referred to as "the Lab" rarely seeks the limelight, choosing instead to toil away in relative obscurity, modestly embracing their moniker – the team behind the results.

Most patients who enter hospital – especially through the Emergency Department (ER) often don't give a second thought about the lab. They're understandably focused on their medical emergency and distracted by the whirlwind of activity – beeping monitors, flashing lights, the possibility of a CT scan, MRI, x-rays...and trying to figure out how to properly tie a hospital gown.

It's little wonder that when a lab technician arrives in the Emergency Department and says, "Just here for a quick poke to get some blood," that patients barely notice.

Yet from that moment, a race has started as that sample speeds towards the lab. And within the hour, test results will be relayed back to the ER Physician where that info can play an indispensable role in confirming a diagnosis, formulating a treatment plan and determining if further tests are needed.

Of course, simple blood tests are only a fraction of what the lab does. More advanced testing of blood for bacterial and viral infections, as well as tests on urine, sputum, cerebral spinal fluids, puncture wounds, various other body fluids and tissue samples are also common. The goal is to identify the organism that's causing the issue and determine what medications are most effective to fight it.

Test numbers have increased greatly in recent years. Of course, the lab not only deals with Emergency patients, but also with inpatients at Stratford General. And the lab does so much more when considering the tests that fall into the Anatomical pathology category – samples that are collected from patient biopsies.

Also, as the "hub lab" for the InterHospital Lab Partnership consisting of 16 hospital labs throughout the region, the Stratford General Hospital location is always busy. Serving as the central lab means there must be an additional commitment to staying on the "cutting edge" of equipment that can deal with the volume of tests required and deliver fast, accurate results.

Not only does staying at the forefront of technology serve patients well, but it also helps attract and retain talented lab workers who want to use and develop their skills using the best technology available.

"There is such a great need for new equipment that can

provide accurate numbers when so many medical decisions ride on it," explains William Brintnell, Manager, Laboratories Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance and Manager of the Interhospital Laboratory Partnership Microbiology Services. "And the lab sector is very competitive. Lab workers want to go where there's an opportunity to enhance their careers, where they can find the biggest, the brightest and the best. We have to compete in that environment."

Even without the scramble to stay on top of new technology, lab equipment – just like equipment throughout the hospital – can only be expected to last so long before it wears out. Often, equipment becomes prohibitively expensive to repair and maintain towards the end of its life, similar to an aging vehicle.

"We always try to get every ounce of utilization out of our equipment, but you simply can't afford to have these machines breakdown at the wrong time", explains Mr. Brintnell.

In the last several years, SGH Foundation, with the support of its donors, has made the purchase of new and replacement lab equipment a priority. This includes the purchases of:

- a new immunohistochemistry stainer in Anatomical Pathology as well as new voice recognition software that reduces time for report generation.
- the MALDI-tof bacterial identification system. A real game changer and a lifesaver for people throughout our region, helping to quickly and accurately identify bacterial infections like sepsis. This new Analyzer can do the job in minutes, saving many lives in the process.
- a new 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. It can handle a high volume of specimens with fast, precise results. It also provides a test unavailable in most labs – the test for carbon monoxide poisoning.
- an upgrade to a higher throughput BDMAX molecular identification system – molecular testing equipment used to detect and identify viruses like COVID and influenza.
- a new Immunohistochemistry stainer for use in Anatomical Pathology.

And one of the most exciting recent additions: the Phoenix antibody sensitivity testing system that provides results in 18 to 24 hours. It standardizes set-up and eliminates the potential for human error and can handle very large volumes.

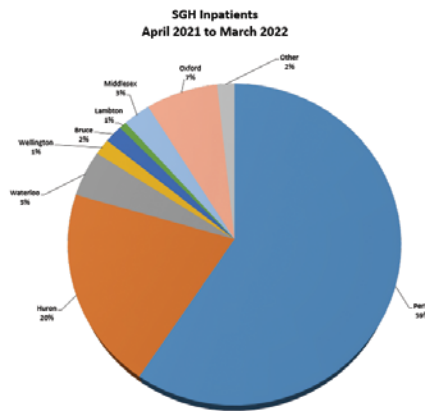
"This new equipment provides what we're looking for in terms of better, faster, more accurate results," says Mr. Brintnell. "Most of our machines can now even 'talk' to each other through the latest software."

"Of course, lab equipment is very expensive – just like most high tech hospital equipment – and the cost of it is not covered by the government, he explains. "The Foundation, through the support of its donors, has been like a fairy godmother in fulfilling these needs. That strengthens the services we can provide through our IHLP labs for hospital patients throughout the region and right here in Stratford. And healthcare is one of those things we all need – particularly as we age."

Did YOU Know?

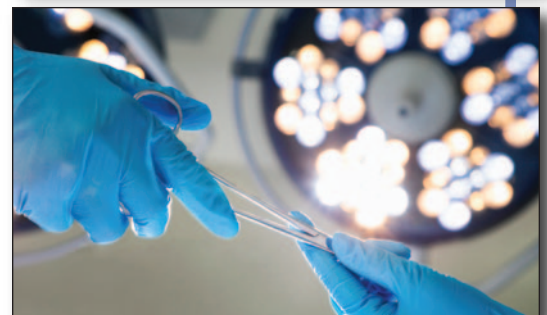
2021/22 at Stratford General

- 1,202 babies were delivered
- 150 babies were treated in the Special Care Nursery
- 28,760 patients were seen in the Emergency Department
- 1,795 inpatient surgeries and 7,786 day surgeries were performed
- 373 children were treated on the Pediatric Floor
- 455 Mental Health inpatients were cared for
- 776 Patients treated in ICU & Telemetry Unit
- 26,357 X-Rays were taken and 14,322 CT Scans were performed
- 19,078 Ultrasound Exams, 2,999 Nuclear Medicine Exams and 1,427 Echo Cardio Exams were performed
- 7,812 Mammography Exams and 4,211 Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP) exams were performed
- 4,944 MRI scans were performed
- 3,507 Dialysis Visits
- 2,311 Oncology Visits (Chemo Only)



2021/22 Throughout HPHA's 4 sites (Stratford, St. Marys, Seaforth, Clinton)

• Babies Delivered	1,202
• Complex Continuing Care Patient Days	10,069
• Rehab Patient Days	5,849
• Inpatient Surgeries Performed	1,795
• Day Surgeries Performed	8,752



Hemoglobin

HPHA labs analyze 13,000 glycosylated hemoglobin (HbA1C) specimens to diagnose and monitor diabetes and examine 5,300 throat cultures for Strep A, the pathogen that causes strep throat on an annual basis



Lab Cancer

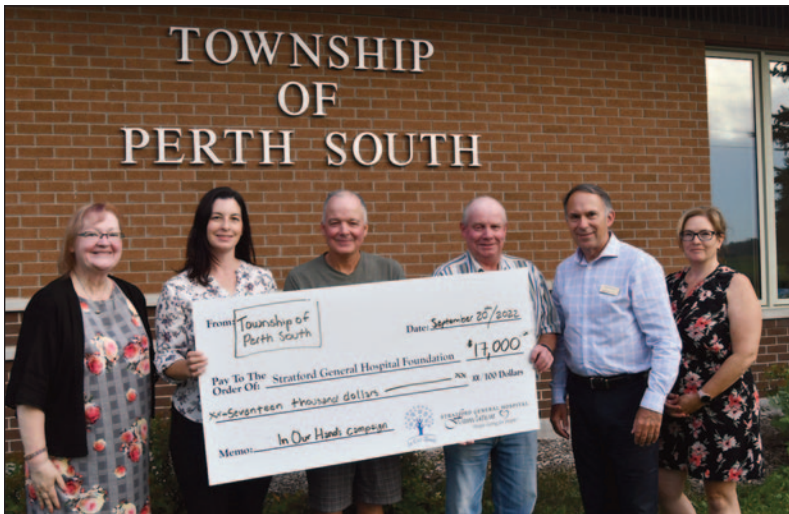
Our lab views 32,000 tissue specimens for cancer on an annual basis

Stratford General:

- Secondary Care Centre
- Schedule 1 Mental Health Facility
- Regional Stroke Centre
- Major training site for Schulich/Western
- Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Urology, Orthopedics, Psychiatry, Otolaryngology, Obstetrics Gynecology, Paediatrics, Pathology, Anesthesia, Emergency, Family Medicine, Ophthalmology and Radiology
- ✓ Top Performer in the Province MRI Access
- ✓ Top 5 Performer in the Province CT Access
- ✓ Emergency Wait Times Exceed Provincial Targets
- ✓ Significant Improvements in Access to Hip and Knee Replacements
- ✓ National Leader in Patient and Caregiver Engagement

Making A Real Impact . . . A Salute

Each donation is precious, and every donor is priceless...individuals, groups,



Perth South Council

L-R Andrea Page- ED, SGHF, Jaime Martin, Sam Corriveau, James Aitcheson – Deputy Mayor, Paul Roulston- In Our Hands Campaign Co-Chair, Rebecca Clothier

We are so appreciative of Township of Perth South for their investment in our community's healthcare. They have made another generous donation of \$17,000 towards the In Our Hands Capital Campaign.



A Thoughtful Gift To Aid in Patient Rehabilitation

Steve and Terry Walkom

A big thank you to Steve and Terry Walkom - of Walkom's ValuMart, Mitchell for generously donating a shopping cart to our Occupational Therapies unit! Your gift has real impact. Also, thank you to Tammy McLean from the therapy department – HPHA for helping coordinate this gift



Peter and Beverley Maranger

Community Members Give Back

A big thank you to Peter Maranger & Associates Inc. (PMAI) and Co-operators for their very generous combined gift of \$50,000 to help purchase a Cardio Respiratory Ventilator. Your support has real impact!



Investing in your future. Together.™



Hensall Co-op "Strong Communities" Grant Announcement

We are so grateful to be selected as a "co-winner" for the Hensall Co-op "Strong Communities" Initiative. The funds from this grant (\$10,000) will help purchase a bed for our Surgery Unit. We can never say thank you enough!



Thank you for giving
CANCER a
knock-out punch
raising \$94,875
to date.

to Our Community's Generosity!

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



Community Donations for the Special Care Nursery

We are so grateful to organizers: Stratford Maker's Market- Mother's Day Event and Brittany's Bath Bombs (pictured here with Anita Ball, RN from SGH Special Care Nursery), + our very generous community members who helped raise funds to purchase equipment for our NICU...

Donations totaling: \$1515.10 (Brittany's Bath Bombs) and \$4057.80 (Stratford Makers Market) will help fund: a C Pap machine, a digital infant scale, a slider board, and a donation towards an Isolette. We can never say thank you enough for your support!



Thank you to a Young Philanthropist

A young philanthropist named Rylin Connolly (5 years old) donated \$100 from her firewood sales "to help the people who help us when we are sick". We'd like to thank you for your hard work and generosity- well done, Rylin!

Re/Max a-b Realty Charity Golf 2022

After a long hiatus due to COVID... the Re/Max A-B Realty Charity Golf event returned on June 15th at Stratford Country Club. Proceeds totaling \$15,000 support the "In Our Hands" capital campaign. THANK YOU to sponsors and community members for your incredible support!



November 14th-27th "BIDS FOR BEDS" CHRISTMAS Online Auction



follow us on Facebook for updates



Ron Touzel, VSGH with Mark Gibson, Corporate Lead Volunteer Services and Student Engagement HPHA. Funds raised will be used to purchase new beds.





*Your
Gift
Warms
the Heart*

SGH Celebrates 1st digital x-ray machine with one more payment to go. Four more machines on the list for replacement.

This Christmas we are asking for something very special under our tree...no gift you give will have greater impact on the health of our community and our families...your donation is the gift of health.



This year we are asking for another digital x-ray machine and a fleet of new ultrasound machines to ensure we can offer the clearest images possible for the best diagnosis. We just paid the 4th instalment of \$91,510 and have one instalment left to pay it in full on our first machine. We are now in the process of ordering our next digital x-ray machine ultimately replacing five machines at some \$500,000 each.

This new technology replaces older machines that are over 15 years old. New machines emit less radiation, have crisper images and takes only 3 seconds to view. Automated positioning provides accuracy and ease of use for our technicians.

Both x-ray and ultrasound machines are the "bread & butter" of digital imaging...there is not one of us who has not had one whether through the emergency department, or as an inpatient or outpatient of the hospital – there is no denying the importance of this equipment in diagnosing everything from broken bones to blood clots. The fleet of new ultrasounds, five in total cost \$180,000 each – but their impact on care is priceless.

Every piece of equipment at our hospital is here because donors care. The government does not fund medical equipment – that is up to our community. Please watch our 52 second video at www.inourhands.ca



Lasting Legacy
the Promise
of Tomorrow

Ordinary people show extraordinary generosity by leaving legacy gifts to our hospital in their wills



STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
Foundation
"People Caring for People"

SGHFOUNDATION.ORG
519.272.8210 ext. 2626

We Can Never Say Thank You Enough to Our Donors



2021/2022 EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation disbursed **\$1,614,186.54** to the hospital.

The items sponsored through our donors' generosity include:

- Biopsy Gun – \$1,732.13 – Breast Assessment Centre
- Vital Signs Monitors (2) – \$9,093.69 – Chemotherapy
- ECG – \$15,555.51 – Emergency
- Ultrasound System – \$43,704.81 – Emergency
- Ultrasound System – \$43,704.80 – ICU
- Abbott Architect C4000 C-Side Chemistry Analyzer – \$28,952.58 – Laboratory
- Abbott Cell DYN Ruby – \$7,500.00 – Laboratory
- TX-150BT Rotor Centrifuge – \$4,004.58 – Laboratory
- Sorvall Centrifuge – \$2,096.59 – Laboratory
- Medical Grade Freezers – \$13,827.76 – Laboratory
- Pathology Microscope – \$21,609.02 – Laboratory
- Immunohistochemistry Stainer – \$137,042.14 – Laboratory
- Blood Bank Refrigerators – (2) \$23,859.13 – Laboratory
- Histocore Autocut Microtome w/ 2 in 1 Blade Holder – \$28,701.13 – Laboratory
- Processors - Tissue (20% Third Payment) – \$26,153.00 – Laboratory
- Mammography Unit – \$322,463.00 – Mammography
- PACS/Mammo Monitors – \$974.63 – Mammography
- Vacuum Assisted Biopsy Mammotome – \$38,922.48 – Mammography
- Incubators - Giraffe Carestation Incubator – \$40,000.00 – Maternal Child
- Ultrasound System – \$43,704.81 – Maternal Child
- Warmers - Giraffe Infant Warmers (Third Partial Payment) – \$30,220.54 – Maternal Child
- Warmers - Panda Infant Warmers (Third Partial Payment - 20% of Balance Owing) – \$36,055.00 – Maternal Child
- Imaging Suite (20% Fourth Payment) – \$91,510.36 – Medical Imaging
- Digital Mobile Standard C-arm (20% Second Payment) – \$26,491.42 – Medical Imaging
- Fluoroscopy System – \$412,000.00 – Medical Imaging
- YAG Laser – \$65,209.65 – Operating Room
- Convection Oven – \$6,342.66 – Volunteer Services
- Education & Building – \$92,755.12

VOLUNTEERS



Message from HPHA Volunteer Services

We are excited to see the gentle return of our amazing Volunteer program at the Stratford General Hospital. The volunteers have been an integral part of our hospital's ability to support our patients with their healthcare journey for over 130 years. Prior to COVID-19, you would find volunteers supporting HPHA patients and family members with wayfinding, clinical support, direct patient care, hospitality programs and fundraising initiatives. At the present time, the HPHA remains focused on a slow and supportive rebuild of the volunteer complement. "We are excited to see the return of a few volunteer programs. At this time, we are still working towards our complete complement, but we are hopeful, that in time, our team will be flourishing once again," says Mark Gibson, Corporate Lead Volunteer Services and Student Engagement.

Welcome Back to Our Chemotherapy Volunteers

Our most recent reintroduction was our Chemotherapy Unit. Our volunteers are on site, supporting our patients and our family members ensuring their social emotional needs are being met. The Volunteers engage in conversations and are happy to provide comfort measures, including fresh water, warm blankets and handmade gifts such as pillows, hats and blankets, lovingly made and donated by volunteers and community members. When speaking to Carolyn Yundt, 25 year volunteer expert about her return to the Chemotherapy Unit her response was simple, "I love what I do, and feel blessed to be able to support people who are experiencing a very delicate time in their life." With the new Chemotherapy and Pharmacy refresh on the horizon, the volunteers are ecstatic to be included in the preparation for the new space. "It will be wonderful to have a beautifully designed, comforting place for our patients to receive their care. A state of the art facility that I am proud to be a part of," Says Carolyn. At present time, new recruitment into the volunteer program remains on hold. The community is encouraged to watch the HPHA Website for confirmation of when regular recruitment will return.



Community Outreach Focus!

The Volunteers remain focused and as dedicated as ever on increasing their outreach into our community. The Volunteers of SGH have committed to 1 million dollars in support of the SGH Foundation's "In Our Hands" campaign. Their programs which support this goal include the Coffee Shop, the Gift Shop, the Lottery program and a variety of community initiatives. New to their community outreach this year is a Bids for Beds On-Line Auction. The first auction was very successful, raising almost \$6,000 towards a bed. "We wish to engage with our community and encourage them to be a part of our cause and Bids for Beds is a fun way to involve them", Charlie Peterson, 5 year volunteer expert, Co-Chair of the Volunteers of SGH Council. Bids for Beds will be returning with a Christmas theme, encouraging our community to participate in hopes to obtain Christmas gifts for family and friends, or something nice for themselves! This past year, through determination and perseverance, the VSGH were able to pay, in full, their commitment of \$150,000 towards the Matching Gift Bed campaign. There still remains a great need for new hospital beds, therefore, the volunteers remain devoted to the bed cause, and continue to raise funds through their Bids for Beds Fundraiser which is proudly sponsored by CHARTWELL ANNE HATHAWAY retirement residence.

ARCHIVES MATTER

In the furthest corner of the hospital basement is a very special room - a room devoted to the whole human experience of health, sickness, life, death, science, technology, art and craftsmanship - the Stratford General Hospital Archives.

With its beginning in 1993, our Archives was established by members of the Alumnae of the School of Nursing to preserve our proud heritage and contribution to the city and region.

Now, almost 30 years on, the growing collection of artifacts continues to document our humanity's ongoing concern with health and well-being.

Each and every piece from the collection tells a story, and makes a historical statement. It reflects the values and influences of its time in our institution and in our community. Through these stories, we see how attempts have been made to solve many of the challenges of medicine, to diagnose, to care for us at all stages of life, to continue to develop treatments and just make sense of our bodies.

Since its relocation in 2017, to the main building, the Archives has undergone a reorganization, with each piece within the permanent collection being classified according to museum nomenclature, researched, catalogued and an accompanying file created. An ongoing task.

As well, it is hoped, in partnership with the SGH Foundation, to expand our exhibit space with the creation of a new gallery, providing an enhanced experience as we showcase our hospital history and evolution of health care.

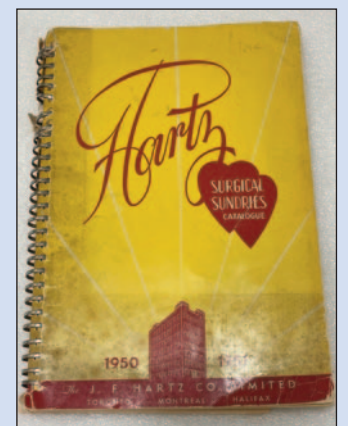
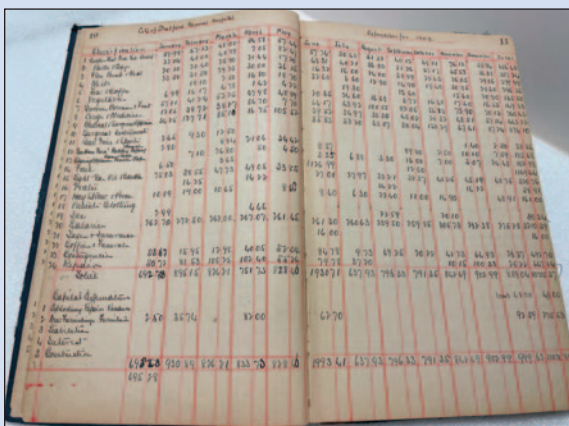
With this new era in mind, we are looking to expand the collection. Community donations are an excellent opportunity to contribute to the growing awareness of our hospital history. Donations of artifacts continue to be sought, especially nursing school graduation pins and rings, as well as documents or medical equipment relating to the hospital.

If you are interested in making such a donation, please leave a message at: 519-272-8210 ext. 2547 and a volunteer will be happy to discuss it with you.

Joan MacDermid and Janette Veal, Volunteers
SGH Archives



Archive Volunteers: left to right; Joan MacDermid with a framed photo of Lady Superintendent Aleandra M. Munn and Janette Veal with sterling silver dish.....



Tim Hortons. Smile Week 2022



Thank you to our very generous community who helped support this year's SMILE cookie week at Stratford Tim Hortons locations. Proceeds from the cookie sales will support our "In Our Hands" campaign-replacement MRI for Stratford General Hospital.



Over
\$31,000
raised!



A Warm Welcome to Cheryl Hunt, Community Giving Manager:



We are excited to welcome our newest member to the SGH Foundation team. Cheryl Hunt, Community Giving Manager, has recently joined our dedicated staff to support our team, mission and donors.

Cheryl has joined our organization with inside knowledge of the Stratford General Hospital where she was the Corporate Lead for Volunteer Service for over 11 years. In 2017, Cheryl became one of 22 professionals in Ontario to obtain their Certified Volunteer Administrator credentials (CVA). In total, Cheryl has over 25 years of experience in healthcare with a focus on fundraising, event planning and volunteer management.

Along with her passion for people and tremendous organizational skills, experience, continuous education in both the volunteer development and philanthropy sectors coupled with a commitment to our patient focused healthcare industry, she will be a welcomed addition to our team.

As the Foundation continues to engage our community for support with the In Our Hands campaign, helping us reach and exceed our \$30 million goal, Cheryl will be a dedicated staff member who will be here to support all with their giving journey, and she will support our hospital with exemplary patient experience.

Welcome to the team, Cheryl.

Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness

As seen in HPHA inSITES, October 2022

Pregnancy and Infant loss not only affects the mother and father, but it affects siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, neighbours and co-workers. Unfortunately, 1 in 4 pregnancies will end in loss. You may know someone or you, yourself, may have experienced a loss. Please know that you are not alone. It is important to honour your loss and receive support and guidance on your journey.

The Maternal Child unit, at Stratford General Hospital, has a comprehensive program that supports patients and families during such a loss. Supported by donations, resources are provided to families. These resources include weighted teddy bears (so that when leaving the hospital “empty arms” have something to honour their little one), footprints, literature, comfort shawls, keepsake boxes and angel gowns. Foot/hand molds can also be arranged so that grieving families have a keepsake to cherish.

A recent addition to the program is the honouring of “Rainbow Babies”. Rainbow babies are babies born to families whom have suffered a loss prior to this pregnancy, whether miscarriage, stillbirth or neonatal death. Honouring the child who has passed, a rainbow symbolizes something promising at the end of a storm. With the consent of the family, a rainbow butterfly will be lit in their labour room.



L to R: Julie Thistlethwaite, RN, Team Leader & Stephanie Masse, RN.

A graphic for stroke awareness. On the left is a photograph of a woman hugging a young girl. To the right is a blue and green graphic with the text "Learn the signs, Say it's a Stroke" and "Save #Precioustime". Below the text are four icons in a row: a face with a drooping mouth labeled "Face Drooping", an arm with a downward arrow labeled "Arm Weakness", a face with a question mark labeled "Speech Difficulties", and a telephone with a plus sign labeled "Time to Call".

One in four of us is at risk of experiencing a stroke in our lifetime, so it is important that we all know how to react because when it comes to stroke, “Save minutes, Save lives.” You can do your part by talking about the signs and symptoms of stroke and the importance **to call**, not drive, to access medical care. It is vital that you **call 9-1-1** rather than drive to the hospital when experiencing signs and symptoms of a stroke because paramedics use screening tools to identify a stroke and follow protocols to ensure timely access to stroke specific care. In Huron and Perth counties, HPHA – Stratford General Hospital and Alexandra Marine & General Hospital sites both administer the clot busting drug, tissue plasminogen activator (tPA). Some patients are then transferred to London Health Sciences Centre for consideration of clot retrieval surgery, known as endovascular therapy (EVT).



Page's Page

Having just celebrated Thanksgiving my thoughts are focused on what we are thankful for...good friends, good health, and family. Yet it goes beyond that where many pieces make up the whole of our lives and how if even one piece is missing the whole picture, like a puzzle, is incomplete.

In healthcare what makes our hospital picture complete includes staff (from nurses to lab techs, environmental services to maintenance, IT to occupational therapists and everyone else who all work as a cohesive team) physicians, volunteers, suppliers, donors and of course patients and their families.

Often we take our local healthcare for granted...It takes something dramatic like a pandemic to realize that one missing piece can make such a difference and many missing pieces can shake the foundations of care. From supply chain to staffing issues we can see the impact not only in our healthcare system but throughout our community. It means that our frontline workers and physicians are working even harder in their unwavering dedication to do whatever it takes to provide compassionate care.

A message I always share is, when I count my blessings – I count my donors twice. Once for their



One of the many ways to thank staff for their dedication – the SGH Foundation in partnership with the Volunteers of SGH has established Wonderful Wednesdays where staff and physicians can get a free beverage at the coffee shop every Wednesday as a thank you for their hard work.

generosity and once for their impact. As a donor you are an indispensable part of our healthcare system. Your generosity unlocks such potential...from putting vital tools and technology into the hands of our caregivers...to attracting the best physicians and hospital staff to expanding facilities to house lifesaving programs close to home – we can't do it without you. The provincial government pays for the day to day operating of the hospital covering wages and keeping the "lights on"; this does not cover new or replacement equipment. From beds to x-ray machines, every piece of equipment you see when you walk into our hospital is there because donors cared.

We are so grateful. We can never say thank you enough.

Having had health issues and family with health challenges over the past year has really underlined that we count on our hospital through times of crisis and stress. No matter how the pandemic affected our healthcare team – they were always compassionate and here for us when we really needed them. Many of you have shared the same experience in the last year.

So I want to take a moment and recognize and acknowledge the sacrifice, the "blood, sweat and tears", and the absolute dedication of all those in our healthcare team who each are an important and vital piece of the puzzle...the picture would be bleak without them.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Thank you.

ELIMINATE YOUR CAPITAL GAINS TAX

Consider a gift of listed securities to the Stratford General Hospital Foundation

The Federal Government has eliminated capital gains tax on appreciated listed securities when they are donated to charity. This results in a double tax benefit for donors.

By transferring the security directly to the Foundation, donors can eliminate all capital gains tax on their gift. Furthermore, the Foundation can provide a charitable receipt for the full 100% of the fair market value.

Please contact us for more information

519-272-8210 ext. 2627

andrea.page@hpha.ca



STRATFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL
Foundation ♥

"People Caring for People"

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 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022.

In Honour of

Tom & Sharon Crozier
Garry Lobsinger
Lorelee McNaughton
Jeff Orr
Bryce Ryan
Paul & Cheryl Ryan
SGH Surgical Unit Team
John & Sheron Stadelmann
Henry & Lykke Van Drunen
Peter & Linda Zettel

Mary Rose Cannan
Daniel Carter
William "Bear" Chambers
Denise Champagne
Yeon Hwa Choi
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Lavern Cupskey
Scott Diamond
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Susan Etler
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Verla Schmidt
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Wayne Franklin Shantz
Alex Smith
Mark Smith
William Smith
Lisa Lenore Thornton
Vince Tiano
Henry Van Dyk

In Memory of

Barbara Aitcheson
Earl James Akins
Norah Frances Allan
CheeCheeshkee Eagle
"Chee" Barron
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Sean Vandervliet-Whitley
Cherian Varughese
Muriel Vincent
Stefan Voros
Jeffrey "Jeff" Walsh
Paul Wheeler
Alice Wilson
Jane Wittig
June Wray
Baby Jaxx Wreford

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!



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 \$ _____

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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!

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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.

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