

# Stratford General Hospital

# Foundation Monitor



## Every Story Matters. Lori-Jo: Lorene & John Donaldson

Lorene Donaldson was a wife, mother, grandmother, artist, and businesswoman. Born in Stratford in 1931, Lorene balanced a life full of creativity and hard work. Together with her husband, John, they ran the Lori-Jo Supermarket for over 25 years, becoming well-known in the community.

In 2021, Lorene was diagnosed with vascular dementia and heart failure. She and John moved to a care village in Waterloo, where Lorene received compassionate care until her passing in June 2022. Their 65-year marriage, defined by deep love and partnership, inspired John to make a difference in dementia care.

John's gift to the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) - Stratford General Hospital honours Lorene's memory by supporting staff training and technology to enhance care for patients with dementia. This donation will provide tools like a WanderGuard system and sensory murals, helping caregivers understand and support patients more deeply.

As John says, "We're giving back to the community because it's what Lorene would have wanted.

She always cared for others."

"When I first met John what was so apparent was his love for Lorene," says Cheryl Hunt, Executive Director, Stratford General Hospital Foundation. "It has been an honour to work with John, hear stories about his life with Lorene and meet his family. The philanthropic journey he has embarked upon will make a real difference in our ability to care for patients living with dementia and other related disorders."

Visit our website at [www.sghfoundation.org](http://www.sghfoundation.org) to read the full version of this story or use your phone to scan the code below to watch a video!



*Behind the scenes, John with his daughter-in-law Susan*



*Scan me*

# Care In Our Hands, Community In Our Hearts

As the holidays approach, I feel immense gratitude for being part of a community that supports such exceptional healthcare. My family and I have experienced this care firsthand—both of our children were born at the HPHA - Stratford General Hospital, and when our daughter Sarah experienced a severe virus as a young child, the hospital's compassionate team made all the difference.

Since joining the Foundation Board seven years ago, I've come to understand just how crucial community support is for keeping our hospital equipped and prepared. Did you know that the government doesn't fund essential equipment like X-ray machines or even hospital beds? It's the generosity of donors like you that makes this care possible.

This is why I'm so passionate about the In Our Hands Capital Campaign. We're raising \$30 million for life-saving equipment, facility upgrades, and projects like the new Cancer & Medical Care Clinic.

We're 95% of the way there, but we need your help to reach our goal and ensure the hospital can continue providing the best care possible for everyone.

As we enter the season of giving, please consider making a donation to support the care that touches so many lives—including yours and mine. Together, we can keep Care In Our Hands and Community In Our Hearts.

Warmest holiday wishes to you and your family,



Josef Frank  
Board Chair

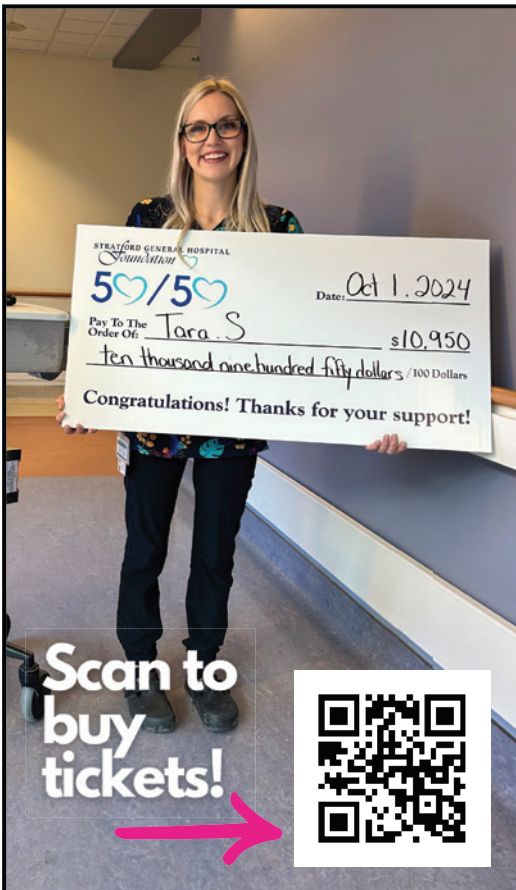
## Our 50/50 Fundraiser is Back!

Our first 50/50 Grand Prize Winner call was made on October 1! Tara, an HPHA Lab Technician at our hospital, was absolutely thrilled to hear she won **\$10,950!**

Her reaction says it all: "No way, stop Cheryl! I thought at least I'm donating to the place I work at. Thank you so much! You just made my day."

Tara's win means a trip with her daughter to Nova Scotia to visit her sister and a brand-new couch! She also knows that her support is helping our hospital provide the best care, with every ticket sale going toward new tools and equipment for our amazing healthcare team.

Draws are happening monthly! Purchase your tickets at [www.sgh5050.ca](http://www.sgh5050.ca) or visit our office during regular hours of operation!



# Donor Spotlight: Shining a light on recent donations from our incredible community members!



## Rotary Club of Festival City Stratford

A big thank you to the Rotary Club of Festival City Stratford for their \$10,000 donation in support of a Chair Bay for the new Cancer & Medical Care Clinic! This incredible support came from their 2024 Wine Survivor fundraiser. We are grateful for a community that cares!



## The Rutherford Group

We are thrilled to announce that The Rutherford Group is celebrating their 50th Anniversary by generously pledging \$50,000 to our In Our Hands Capital Campaign. We are thankful for their support and commitment to healthcare excellence!



## Strickland's Stratford Toyota

We were honoured to receive a generous \$5,500 donation from Strickland's Stratford Toyota in support of our In Our Hands Capital Campaign, made possible by their 50th Anniversary SALE-A-BRATION event. A huge thank you to the attendees and to Strickland's for their ongoing support!



## The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532

Our deepest appreciation is extended to The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 532 New Hamburg for their generous donation of \$5,000 from their Poppy Fund. This donation will directly support Veterans and their families to help ensure Canadians 'never forget'.



## McCarthy Place Residents

A sincere thank you to the amazing residents of McCarthy Place Retirement Residence! They donated \$282 from their recent Silver Fox Bingo Tournament to our In Our Hands Capital Campaign in support of the new Cancer & Medical Care Clinic!



## Optimist Club of Stratford

We are excited to announce a \$10,000 donation from the Optimist Club of Stratford! Thanks to their incredible support we're adding two sleeper chairs to our Pediatric Unit. We are beyond grateful to this club for their ongoing commitment!





## The Return of the Fly-in, Drive-in Breakfast!

Despite the rain and chilly temperature, spirits were high at the Annual Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast hosted by the **Perth County Flying Club, COPA FLIGHT 69**, at the Stratford Municipal Airport on Sunday, June 2. This event, a beloved community tradition, marked its triumphant return since a pause in 2019.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal of pancakes, peameal bacon, local maple syrup, watermelon, and beverages. The weather allowed only one aircraft to

fly in, but that didn't stop the community from showing up in large numbers. Over 300 breakfasts were served, and \$4,000 was raised in support of our In Our Hands Capital Campaign.

Thank you to Bill Verellen, Andy Woodham, Elaine Binning, Jay Ford, Allan/McArthur/Woodham, and Perth County Flying Club Volunteers for your enthusiasm and dedication to this wonderful event!



### A Swinging Success!

**RE/MAX a-b Realty Ltd's** annual golf tournament was a swinging success! This sold out tournament raised an incredible \$32,577 in support of RE/MAX's \$200,000 pledge for the Cancer & Medical Care Clinic Communication Station. While it was a scorcher of a day, golfers and volunteers alike had a great time on the green and in the (air-conditioned) Country Club. Thank you to RE/MAX, all golfers, volunteers and sponsors - you are the best, by par!



### Empties Are Full of Opportunities!

Thank you to all who donated their empties during September's **Teddy Bear & Friends** Bottle Drive. We'd also like to thank the Bridges of Seaforth, the Sebastian wedding party, Rae, Sienna, Andrea and all the helpers at the event! Of course, heartfelt appreciation is extended to Lorelee for organizing the event and spearheading the Teddy Bear & Friends Campaign! A total of \$251.70 was raised to support our tiniest patients in our Special Care Nursery.

# Volunteers of Stratford General Hospital

Our volunteer family is growing, enriching our hospital with expanded clinical support and engaging fundraising. We are committed to exceptional care, building national partnerships to broaden the services we offer. With various training opportunities, we can better meet the needs of our patients and caregivers. We value our volunteers' experience and welcome their input on Patient and Caregiver Partner committees.

Volunteers are an integral part of our Emergency Department, assisting arrivals, reducing stress, and serving as liaisons between patients, visitors, and staff. Equipped with Non-Violent Crisis Intervention training, they help navigate difficult situations. We aim to replicate this support in Medical Imaging and the Critical Care Unit, enhancing patient comfort throughout the hospital.



In partnership with March of Dimes Canada, stroke survivors act as peer mentors, offering resources and emotional support to patients in the Integrated Stroke Unit. Volunteers also receive Meal Assistance Training to safely support patients with aphasia. As part of Stroke Awareness Month for June 2025, we are planning a Bike-a-thon/Walkathon—stay tuned for more details!

We are proud to partner with St. John Ambulance Therapy Dogs to bring comfort and companionship to our Inpatient Mental Health department, providing a positive impact on patients. Through art therapy, we encourage self-expression, helping patients process difficult emotions.

The Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) is dedicated to providing an exceptional patient, family, and caregiver experience. The Patient and Caregiver Partner Program supports this commitment by involving volunteers who share insights and ideas to improve care. Learn more about these opportunities at [www.hpha.ca/patientpartners](http://www.hpha.ca/patientpartners).



We are excited to share that we surpassed our \$85,000 fundraising goal for the new Cancer & Medical Care Clinic, with \$17,896.02 raised through our 'Christmas in July' raffle. A significant portion—80%—of funds is raised through our volunteer-run Coffee and Gift Shops, with all proceeds going toward new patient care equipment.



## Interested in becoming a volunteer?

Visit [www.hpha.ca/volunteer](http://www.hpha.ca/volunteer) to learn about current opportunities and to apply!

# Highlights from the HPHA: Stratford General Hospital

## Expansion of Ontario Breast Screening Program

People in Ontario ages 40 - 49 are now included in the Ontario Breast Screening Program (OBSP). It's estimated that this will help more than 305,000 people with an additional 130,000 mammograms that can be completed annually. The HPHA - Stratford General Hospital is a proud OBSP certified site and our Mammography team is ready to assist.

"This expansion will allow for participants to self-refer to any OBSP screening location. This will create easier access to breast screening for all individuals within this population. At all ages, there are many potential benefits of regular breast screening. Regular screening may find a breast cancer early. This could mean that treatment may be less intensive or invasive, it may have a better chance of working, and the risk of a fatal outcome due to breast cancer is reduced." - Lauryn, Senior Technologist, Breast Assessment Centre.



**Donor Dollars at Work! The purchase of this \$433,644.14 Mammography Machine was made possible because of donors like you!**



## Masking in Clinical Areas Returns

HPHA has updated masking guidelines ahead of the respiratory season in anticipation of increased spread of influenza, RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) and COVID-19. Masking is currently in effect and required when in any clinical area of our hospitals and recommended, but not required, in non-clinical areas. Visit [www.hpha.ca](http://www.hpha.ca) for full details.

## HPHA Recognized by Ontario Health for Achievements in Organ & Tissue Donation

The HPHA is proud to announce its recognition by Ontario Health's Trillium Gift of Life Network for outstanding support in organ and tissue donation. HPHA received the Hospital Achievement Award - Provincial Conversion Rate. The conversion rate is the percentage of potential organ donors who went on to become actual donors. This honour emphasizes the HPHA's commitment to saving and enhancing lives through the gift of donation, a vital aspect of healthcare in Ontario. Did you know that only 35% of eligible Ontarians are currently registered as organ and tissue donors. Anyone 16 years or older with a valid Ontario health card can register – either in person at any ServiceOntario location or online at [www.beadonor.ca](http://www.beadonor.ca). Register to donate and speak with your family about your wishes.



**One organ donor can save up to 8 lives and enhance as many as 75 others through the gift of tissue.**



# In Honour and In Memory

The Stratford General Hospital Foundation is grateful to the family members and friends who have made In Honour and Memorial donations from May 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024.

## In Honour of

Tom & Joanne Costick  
Cheryl Froud  
Sheila Gowing  
Colton & Charlotte  
Rockwell  
Terry Ross  
Paul & Ada Schmidt  
SGH Staff  
Mike & Carolyn Uniac

Gwendolyn Christian  
Sheila Ann Cochrane  
Ken Connolly  
Rayfield "Ray" Cornish  
Diana & Bradley Crawford  
Maurice Peacock Dean  
Dorcas Debus  
Scott Diamond  
Rebecca "Becky" Douglas  
Sheila Easun  
Beulah Eckert

Bill Hildenbrand  
Robert Hutchison  
Ella M. Jackson  
Marilyn Johnston  
Marie A. Jones  
Betty Jordan  
Debbie Koebel  
Klaas Kroesen  
Lois Lantz  
Joe Lorentz  
Stan Mailloux  
Louise Marrocco

Charles Robinson  
Donna Rose  
Matthew Rose  
Marlene Ross  
George Roulston  
Ruth Roulston  
Lorne Ruller  
Barb Savile  
Keith Savile  
Brian Schade  
Ken Schieckoff  
Ron Scotchmer

## In Memory of

Clayton Norman Anthony  
John W. Bain  
Gertrude E. Ball  
Gordon Balmain  
Sonia Bart  
Gertrude Baulk  
J. Richard Blackburn  
Judith Boersen  
Brian Boyd  
Lynn Buxton  
Gary Byrd  
Glenda Byrd  
James "Jim" Chapman  
Neil Cheney

Randy Fink  
John Fischer  
Harold & Margaret Fuhr  
Jeffrey Gerber  
William "Bill" Gibbons  
Darleen & Robert "Bob"  
Good  
Levern Gould  
Alan Graff  
Leo Greidanus  
Paul William Haase  
Don Harris  
Shirley Hartleib  
Paul Haynes  
Peggy Heinbuch

Thomas "Tom" Mathieson  
Florence McArthur  
Rosemary McArthur  
Edgar "Ed" McCarthy  
Robert McTavish  
Paul Moffatt  
Leanne Montgomery  
Lee Nowack  
Vanda O'Donnell  
Eldon "Scotty" Offen  
Mark Ortelli  
Andrew Preston  
Brenda Preston  
Lisa Prong

Verlie Sippel  
Eileen Smith  
Alan Stagg  
Janet Sylvain  
Jack Thompson  
Brian Waldie  
Matthew Whiting  
Ross Wilker  
Baby Jaxx Wreford  
Kathleen Wyllie  
Sheralyn Yundt  
Gerald Zehr  
Jack Zimmer

## 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

I'd like to receive future issues of the Monitor via email.

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!



# Without You, We Have Nothing

Every piece of patient care equipment is at our hospital because donors cared.

“We think of our Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) - Stratford General Hospital like an insurance policy. We know we need the policy, but we hope we never need to use it! Life has been good to our family and the Stratford General Hospital Foundation’s In Our Hands Capital Campaign is the perfect way for us to give back to the community while ensuring we can receive the best quality care close to home, if ever needed. This has also been an opportunity for us to teach our grandchildren about giving and helping others.”

~Richard & Maxine Cook & Family



## Cancer & Medical Care Clinic Expected to Open this Winter

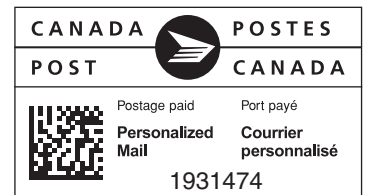
We are very excited to announce that the new Cancer & Medical Care Clinic is expected to open this winter! **Stay tuned to our website and social media** for an announcement regarding opening celebrations, including public tours. This new space will be bright with natural light and increased space to care for more patients closer to home.

Clinic highlights:

- Additional patient consult and treatment space with upgraded chairs and beds.
- Improved medication compounding facilities.
- New mechanical and electrical systems along with enhanced security, data and Wi-Fi systems.
- A new negative pressure room to care for high risk patients.
- Expanded support service areas including new staff break and change rooms.
- Replacement of windows along with exterior building repairs including new roof.



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PORT DE RETOUR GARANTI



“People Caring for People”



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