

## Donors invest **\$1.1 million** in diagnostic imaging technology for Emergency Department

One of the most important parts of an Emergency physician's job is to identify the most critically ill and injured patients in the Emergency Department. Read on to find out how your donations have funded the technology that helps them do just that...

PRHC's Chief of Emergency Medicine Dr. Mark Troughton says one of the most important parts of his job is to identify the most critically ill and injured patients in the Emergency Department.

"When we're on shift in the ED, we're concerned about the patients we have and committed to giving them the best care possible," says Dr. Troughton. "But we're also thinking about the ones we haven't seen yet

because the sickest person in the hospital could be the one sitting in the waiting room."

It's no easy task. PRHC has one of the busiest Emergency Departments in Ontario, with more than 88,000 patient

visits last year alone. So it's not surprising to hear that he and his colleagues depend on having access to state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging technology, particularly X-rays, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to help them get that patient treatment as quickly as possible.

*Continued on page 4...*



PRHC's Chief of Emergency Medicine Dr. Mark Troughton, second from left, and members of the X-Ray Trauma Suite team gather around donor funded state-of-the-art X-ray technology to say "thanks" for your support of patient care.

### what's inside...

2



Grateful patient says thanks for support of pediatric cancer care

3



Legacy donor Audrey Ashdown shares her reason for leaving a gift in her Will

4



Spotlight on surgical innovation investments

## IMPACT UPDATE:

# Electronic Fetal Monitors

**Thanks to your generosity, brand new electronic fetal monitors are helping keep mother and baby safe during labour...**

When a woman comes into PRHC's Labour & Delivery (L&D) Unit to give birth, the doctors and nurses there actually have two patients. The ability to monitor the health of both the mother and her unborn baby is critical to their safety.

That's why for each of the 1,600 babies born at PRHC last year, L&D staff relied on electronic fetal monitors to help them know how their patients were doing.

Tracy Dunn, Manager of Labour & Delivery and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit says the monitors are essential to the safety of both mother and child during the birthing process.

"Small transducers are placed on the mother's abdomen to continuously record the heartbeat of the baby and the contractions of the mother's uterus during labour, ensuring early detection of any sign of distress, and letting our team know how the baby is reacting to the labour," says Dunn. "However, because they are used so often and for prolonged periods, the wear and tear on the machines is substantial and they needed to be replaced. With the help of

**PHOTO:** Tracy Dunn, Manager of Labour & Delivery and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and her "patient" Lois Geiger, RN in Labour & Delivery demonstrate one of the new donor funded electronic fetal monitors.

PRHC Foundation donors, last year we were able to purchase six new monitors so that PRHC can keep offering the best possible patient care to our moms-to-be and their babies, close to home. Thank you. We're so grateful for your support."



**Patient Anthony and Pediatric Outpatient Clinic RN Shay Cannon want to say "thank you" for helping to fund the equipment and technology needed to open the new Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) Satellite Clinic at PRHC**

## Patients & families say thanks...

*Cancer patient Anthony Serracino-Inglott knows all about the power of gratitude and the impact that donations are having on patient care at your hospital...*

"Hi. I'm Anthony. Just two years ago I was a typical 16-year-old kid from Lindsay, going to school, playing hockey and hanging out with my friends. In the blink of an eye this was all taken away from me when I found out I had Philadelphia-Positive Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

I spent months in a Toronto hospital bed, far away from friends and family. Now thanks to donors, I can receive my cancer treatment at PRHC, close

enough that I can still get home and play video games with my friends and sleep in my own bed. You know, normal stuff. I can fit my treatment into my life, not my life into my treatment.

Thank you to everyone who supported this project and helped make sure kids like me can get their cancer care close to home."

*UPDATE! With your support, the PRHC Foundation was able to fund all of the new equipment and technology needed to operate the new Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) Satellite Clinic at PRHC, completing the hospital's current funding needs for pediatric cancer care in our region. Thank you!*

# How to leave a gift in your Will

## It's easier than you think!

The decision to leave a gift to charity in your Will is a highly personal one, but it can have a tremendous impact on our community. In fact, for many people, a single gift in a Will can amount to more than a lifetime of charitable giving, even after you've ensured your loved ones are cared for. Leaving a legacy gift to the PRHC Foundation is a simple process:

- Your advisor can help you determine the best way to make a gift in your Will. It can be a percentage of your estate, a specific amount, or what's left over after you've made specific bequests to loved ones. However you choose to give, you'll know that you're helping members of our community receive the very best care at PRHC.
- Contact your lawyer to work out the details of your gift. If you're not planning a full update of your Will, you can simply include a codicil in your Will outlining your wishes. Please ensure you use our full legal name: Peterborough Regional

Health Centre Foundation.

- If you've made a gift in your Will, we would love to hear from you! Letting us know your intentions allows us the opportunity to say "thank you" and include you in special events where you can get a first-hand look at the incredible impacts your gift will have on the lives of patients at PRHC. Additionally, we'd be happy to recognize your generous gift on our Celebration of Giving donor recognition display in the main lobby of the hospital, or keep your donation anonymous if you would prefer.

A legacy gift may be one way you can make sure that excellent patient care will remain the standard at PRHC for generations to come. For more information, please contact Lea Thomas, Charitable Giving Advisor at (705) 743-2121, ext. 3957 or [lthomas@prhc.on.ca](mailto:lthomas@prhc.on.ca).

*Always consult a professional financial advisor to discuss the best charitable giving options for you.*

PRHC Update:

## PRHC Awarded Stroke Accreditation

PRHC is home to our region's designated District Stroke Centre, providing comprehensive stroke services across the continuum of care for patients from Haliburton, the City of Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland, Peterborough, and Northern Hastings County.

Last fall, the program was awarded Stroke Distinction, the highest possible designation in stroke care granted by Accreditation Canada who stated that PRHC "has demonstrated national leadership in the provision of high-quality stroke care."

**Congratulations to PRHC and the District Stroke Centre on this outstanding achievement!**



**PHOTO:** Audrey Ashdown, Legacy Donor

## "My gift is an important part of my life's legacy..."

*We asked legacy donor and long-time PRHC volunteer Audrey Ashdown why she's chosen to leave a gift to the PRHC Foundation in her Will. Here's what she told us...*

"I see my gift to the PRHC Foundation in my Will as an important part of my life's legacy. When I'm gone from this life, I will leave a footprint – one that I hope is a very positive one. My legacy includes my kids and grandkids – but it's more than that. My legacy also includes the kindnesses I've shown to others, my values and beliefs, and my commitment to helping provide first-rate healthcare through my volunteering and donating. I guess you could say that my bequest is the icing on the cake!"





## Equipment Spotlight: Integrated Video Management System

Continuing our investment in surgical innovation, the new integrated video management system will transform PRHC's operating rooms into a multimedia hub for collaboration and access to information during surgery.

Controlled from a touchscreen on a boom arm, the system will provide advanced external communication and access to patient information – both images and data – all through a screen that can function in a sterile environment. From bringing in more data to aid with decisions being made in the operating room, to providing environmental controls, this new system will deliver improved safety, infection control, and clinician support through every operation.

We need your help to bring this surgical innovation to your hospital. For more information or to make a donation, please call (705) 876-5000 today or give online at [prhcfoundation.ca](http://prhcfoundation.ca).

"But there are also significant upgrades that increase patient comfort. For example, some parts of the new machines are wireless, so technologists can position the equipment to suit the patient's injuries."

*Continued from page 1...*

"Whether we're diagnosing a broken bone or confirming life-threatening congestive heart failure, having timely access to high quality X-ray technology is central to our ability to provide the highest quality patient care," says Dr. Troughton.

PRHC has two X-ray trauma suites dedicated to emergency patients and on a typical day, an Emergency Department physician might see 40 patients and send at least half of them for an X-ray for an annual total of 23,400 exams.

Last year, the hospital advised that these suites were reaching the end of their lifespan and asked for the support of the Foundation and our donors to replace them, helping them avoid future breakdowns and any resulting delays in patient diagnosis and treatment.

"When older technology starts to break down, it causes delays in patient diagnosis and treatment," says Dr. Troughton. "We knew we couldn't afford to let that happen – not in a department with patients in urgent need, when minutes or even seconds can mean the difference between life and death."

Thanks to the incredible generosity of donors, the PRHC Foundation was able to fund the \$1.1 million investment in two new X-ray trauma suites. The suites are now installed and helping our healthcare professionals deliver world class patient care every day!

Of course it was not a case of replacing like with like. Connor Teno, Senior Technologist Diagnostic Imaging says that just like our cell phones and computers, X-ray technology has advanced in the last decade, becoming smaller, faster and more portable.

"Any time you upgrade diagnostic imaging technology, you're going to improve diagnostic quality," he says. "But there are also significant upgrades that increase patient comfort. For example, some parts of the new machines are wireless, so technologists can position the equipment to suit the patient's injuries. This means less moving and repositioning for the patient, significantly reducing their pain and discomfort."

"On behalf of our patients and everyone here at PRHC," adds Dr. Troughton, "I'd like to say thank you to everyone who supported this priority."



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Look for us on...

