

## Ushering in **a new era of healthcare** at PRHC

So much has been happening at Peterborough Regional Health Centre! We're sharing a few of the highlights as we reflect on the last year and look ahead to the future of healthcare at PRHC...

For so many of us, the pandemic highlighted just how fortunate we are to have outstanding healthcare available in our region when we need it most.

Throughout COVID-19, your hospital's role in our region became increasingly important, especially during the third wave when a critical care surge threatened to overwhelm Intensive Care Units across Ontario.

PRHC served as the lead for the five hospitals in our region, and was the receiving hospital for patient transfers. The Health Centre ramped up its critical care capacity and over five months, accepted 76 patient transfers



As your hospital ushers in a new era of healthcare through PRHC's Master Planning process, PRHC Foundation donors will be vital to our goal of bringing world-class, specialized care closer to home for patients.

from outside our region to support the system-wide response to the surge.

Now, PRHC has ramped up non-urgent services and adjusted its visiting policy as vaccination rates rise and case counts generally trend downwards. No matter what comes, however, your hospital continues to manage and carefully allocate resources within this

challenging healthcare landscape while continuing to advocate for the current and future patient care needs of PRHC, our community and our region.

Peterborough has become one of the fastest-growing communities in Canada, with one of the oldest populations. During the past five years, PRHC has seen increases in its

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Thank you from PRHC's  
President & CEO

# Learn more about the “the best kept secret in medicine” with Dr. Fady Abdelsayed

Dr. Fady Abdelsayed is an Interventional Radiologist at PRHC. We asked him to tell us about interventional radiology (IR), known as “the best kept secret in medicine,” and how an upgrade to PRHC’s IR facilities will improve care for thousands of patients in our region...

## *What is interventional radiology?*

In interventional radiology we use real-time imaging – radiology – to find and correct – or intervene in – health conditions. We use CT scans, fluoroscopy or ultrasound to steer needles, guidewires and catheters into tiny incisions in the skin or through blood vessels to perform a procedure.

## *What kind of procedures use IR?*

IR is becoming integral to patient care. We use it during scheduled procedures and in emergencies. It’s helpful for a wide range of health conditions and patients. If a patient has an infection, we might use IR to drain it. With cancer, we might use IR to do a biopsy. Bleeding – we might use IR to stop the hemorrhage. And if surgery is too high-risk for a patient, interventional radiology could be a



**IMAGE:** PRHC Interventional Radiologist Dr. Fady Abdelsayed is looking forward to being able to treat more patients with interventional radiology with your help.

safer, faster option. Some days, no two procedures are the same or an everyday procedure needs a new ‘twist’ to get the best result for that patient.

## *How does interventional radiology support great patient care at PRHC?*

IR helps us innovate and push the boundaries of what we can do for patients. It often lets us quickly give a patient relief from discomfort or help get them a diagnosis. Because it’s minimally invasive, patients have less pain, shorter hospital stays, and face less risks than with surgery.

## *If PRHC has this service now, why should donors invest in it?*

Right now interventional radiology is used for almost 6,000 patients at PRHC every year, but the two IR suites were built 13 years ago. They’re too small to fit the medical personnel and state-of-the-art equipment we need to expand and offer this care to more patients. We can do this with renovated suites, a new, third suite and cutting-edge equipment. We’ll also be able to introduce new methods to treat things like stroke and cancer. We all want to give our patients the best care possible, but the government funds only a portion of the hospital’s costs. So we’re very grateful to our community for helping us by donating to the PRHC Foundation. Thank you, donors!

*For more information or to support this exciting investment, please visit [prhcfoundation.ca](http://prhcfoundation.ca) or call 705-876-5000.*

## Do we have your email address?

If not, you’re missing out on exclusive PRHC Foundation digital content!

Sign up at [prhcfoundation.ca](http://prhcfoundation.ca) or send an email to [foundation@prhc.on.ca](mailto:foundation@prhc.on.ca) to receive special subscriber updates.

# Impact Spotlight: Orthopedic Surgical Camera

Last year when your hospital needed help to fund a new, top of the line camera to facilitate orthopedic surgeries, our community responded with enthusiasm.

Not only did individual donations help fund this equipment, but a local Foundation giving group, the "Ladies of the Lakes," chose to contribute their annual collective donation to the cause.

As a result, the PRHC Foundation was able to fund this state-of-the-art camera. It's been on site and in use since early this year.

Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Crawford Dobson and his colleagues are grateful for your support. The high definition camera is helping them perform minimally invasive arthroscopic knee and shoulder repair for hundreds of patients a year so they



**IMAGE:** Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Crawford Dobson demonstrates the new donor-funded orthopedic surgical camera in one of PRHC's operating rooms.

can quickly get back to living their lives with less pain and more mobility.

"Our new high definition camera allows us to see very subtle differences in tissues to diagnose and treat conditions that we might not otherwise have been able to treat or done so easily," says Dr. Dobson. "Thank you for all your generous donations. Without you, we wouldn't be able to function in the same capacity."

## Make an impact for generations to come with a legacy gift

After providing for your loved ones, choosing to include the PRHC Foundation as a beneficiary of your Will can have a tremendous impact on our community, helping ensure that excellent patient care remains the standard at PRHC for generations to come.

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.

*For more information, please contact Lesley Heighway at 705-743-2121, ext. 3859 or visit our website: [prhcfoundation.ca/ways-to-give/leave-a-gift-in-your-will/](http://prhcfoundation.ca/ways-to-give/leave-a-gift-in-your-will/).*

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

"Thank you Dr. Richard, Sarah, Kelly and Cathy for all that you are and all that you do to care for our family in such a skillful, compassionate manner. We are so blessed to have you as our health team!"

-Albert & Linda P.

## Patients share their Grateful Heart

Grateful patients and their loved ones, like Albert and Linda P. and their family, can make a donation in honour of their healthcare providers and include a message of gratitude that will be sent to those who've been recognized to remind them of the difference they've made.

But that's not all tribute gifts do. By expressing gratitude with a donation, donors help ensure doctors, nurses and staff at PRHC have access to the equipment and technology they need to provide great care to every patient, every day.

Send a Grateful Heart message when you give online at [prhcfoundation.ca](http://prhcfoundation.ca)





## Thank you from PRHC's President & CEO, Dr. Peter McLaughlin

"We are fortunate to have some of the most hard-working, caring and dedicated people on our team at PRHC, and a wonderful community supporting us here in the Peterborough region.

On behalf of your hospital, I would like to acknowledge and thank our patients and their families; our leaders, healthcare professionals, staff and volunteers; the PRHC Foundation and through them, our generous donors; and our partners in the community and region for your ongoing insights, collaboration and support. Thank you!"

## Consider a gift of securities

It's easy and allows you to take advantage of tax benefits!

Consult your financial advisor or find out more at our website: [prhcfoundation.ca/ways-to-give/give-a-gift-of-securities/](http://prhcfoundation.ca/ways-to-give/give-a-gift-of-securities/)

"In their bold vision for the future, PRHC will be the go-to large acute care hospital between Kingston and the Greater Toronto Area."

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patient volumes and the level of care those patients need. In response, the Health Centre has expanded and enhanced programs and services as both a community hospital and a regional referral hub for our surrounding communities. Their goal and ours remains the same: to continue to bring specialized care closer to home for patients. That's a mission that's never been more important.

One exciting project underway is the launch of PRHC's Clinical Information System (CIS), Epic. Launching a CIS is one of the most important transformations a hospital can make. It's been almost a decade in the works at PRHC. Epic will enable seamless access to health information across the Health Centre and six other hospital organizations, enhancing patient safety and quality of care. This collaboration represents the largest number of individual organizations joining together on the Epic system in Ontario. It will transform the way healthcare is delivered for generations to come.



**IMAGE:** PRHC staff are grateful for how the people of the Peterborough area support the hospital. (Photo by Mary Zita Payne.)

Looking ahead to the next five, 10 and 20 years of the hospital's evolution, PRHC is in the early stages of its Master Planning process.

In their bold vision for the future, PRHC will be the go-to large acute care hospital between Kingston and the Greater Toronto Area for patients to receive care. We and our donors will be by their side, helping fund essential equipment and technology, and exciting innovations, to support this transformation.

Thank you for your continued support as we usher in the next era of healthcare in our region!

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Look for us on...

