

THE BULLETIN

HGH FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER – FALL 2020



IT'S HERE! HGH'S FIRST-EVER MRI MACHINE GOES LIVE!

This monumental gift you have brought to the hospital has already impacted the lives of HGH's patients.

Thanks to your donations, the new MRI machine has arrived at HGH and is now fully operational! It has only been a matter of months since patients have benefitted from this new state-of-the-art equipment in Hawkesbury. Yet already, we have heard from HGH's medical team that many patients' lives have been deeply affected by a quick diagnosis as a result of an MRI at HGH.

One such patient is a middle-aged woman from Hawkesbury, who prefers to remain anonymous at this time due to ongoing health issues. The patient attended the Emergency Department at HGH with weakness and neck pain that had been progressing. Having a history of cancer made these symptoms especially concerning. The treating physician suspected she may be suffering from a serious condition called a spinal cord compression, which occurs when a mass places pressure on the spinal cord. MRI is the diagnostic tool of choice in this case and until recently, the patient would have had to travel to Ottawa for this service. There is no telling how long she may have waited for the MRI given the current demand in the Ottawa region. Luckily, the patient was able to receive an MRI at HGH, where unfortunately, the cord compression was confirmed. This condition is considered a surgical emergency and if unrecognized or untreated, can result in irreversible neurological damage and disability. The patient was immediately transferred to The Ottawa Hospital, where she was admitted and underwent neurosurgery. Fortunately, analysis of the mass now shows that it is unrelated to her prior cancer and further treatment is underway. It is with much gratitude that the patient tells us she feels that her life was saved as a result of the MRI at HGH.

Thank you for this amazing gift for HGH and its patients.



I would like to express my utmost appreciation to you, the donors of the HGH Foundation. The MRI is a highly important development for HGH. It allows for better support of our programs and services by providing our physicians with specialized medical imaging capabilities with this highly sophisticated device. Having an MRI at HGH is a huge benefit for our community enabling access to this vital service closer to home. We are very grateful for your generous contributions to this campaign.

- Marc LeBoutillier, CEO of HGH

ADJUSTING TO A NEW REALITY IN THE FACE OF A PANDEMIC

How donors are helping support the HGH Foundation through COVID-19

Like many organizations, the HGH Foundation has sadly had to cancel all in-person fundraising events for this year. However, we have seen an increase in online donations from generous donors wanting to help during this difficult time. It is in this vein that we wanted to share the story of two donors who have gone out of their way to support HGH.

In mid-March, as the world was so suddenly changed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Tiffany Jones didn't hesitate to take action in an effort to make HGH safer for patients and staff. Although Tiffany lives with some challenges, her reaction was in no way a surprise to her family, who tell us what a big and caring heart she has. "Tiffany has always been a very giving person and immediately asked me what we could do to help nurses at the hospital," says her mother, Annette, a nurse herself, who was quickly recruited by her daughter to help sew handmade masks for HGH.

Tiffany plans to make and donate 500 masks to HGH before the end of the year and says she loves making the masks and knowing she is helping someone who may not have one. Her masks, and those donated by other generous members of the community, are given to patients who arrive at HGH for an appointment without one. This incredibly kind gesture represents many hours

of Tiffany's time and hard work, but she doesn't mind, adding proudly, "We are lucky to have the hospital close by and I feel good knowing that what I am doing is helping people."

Thank you Tiffany for this wonderful gift. We appreciate all of your donations, especially during this difficult period. Please consider supporting the HGH Foundation through an online donation at www.hghfoundation.org



The HGH Foundation Goes Virtual

Special thanks to everyone who participated and voted in our first-ever virtual photography contest, held in May, which successfully raised funds in support of COVID prevention and safety at HGH. Congratulations to our winners in each of the three categories:



Lucie Bertrand
(community involvement)



Anne Laviolette
(nature)



Annik Crête
(fun activities)

“HGH is my hospital and the staff have been there for me when I needed them”

John, a grateful patient, shares why he has chosen to include the HGH Foundation in his Will

When the COVID-19 pandemic began in March, grateful patient John Denney wondered how he could go about helping the Hawkesbury and District General Hospital (HGH) Foundation.

Some relatively serious health issues had brought John to HGH for ongoing care and even an in-patient stay earlier this year. As his healthcare suddenly became front and centre, he says he "depended on HGH's incredibly caring and competent staff, at all levels, for help."

John felt that it was important to share his appreciation for the care he received in a Letter to the Editor, published in his local newspaper:

"...HGH has been a beacon of calm and great quality medical care. I consider us to be quite privileged to have access to their services. May I strongly suggest you consider donating to the Hawkesbury and District General Hospital Foundation, as I have done? It remains, and must continue, as a source for our healthcare. They have been forced to cancel many fundraising projects recently and need our help."

John tells us that he has never experienced such a truly dedicated, professional and optimistic team and that his experience at HGH has only reinforced his desire to



continue supporting the hospital by recently naming the HGH Foundation in his Will. "I believe it is only natural to support a hospital and staff that are so dedicated. I am proud to have named the HGH Foundation in my Will and plan to leave behind a legacy that will support patient care in those important moments I have lived there myself."

Thank you John, for your ongoing support and incredible generosity. If you would like to receive a copy of the HGH Foundation's Legacy Giving Brochure, or have a confidential conversation regarding how you can support the hospital with a gift in your Will, please contact Erin Tabakman, Donor Relations Officer, at (613) 632-1111 ext. 21102 or etabakman@hgh.ca

Join us for a virtual fundraising concert launching November 8th at 7pm!

What's up next? We hope you will join us for our very first virtual fundraising concert, featuring well-known artists such as Méliissa Ouimet, Manon Séguin, Christian Marc Gendron, Marc-Antoine Joly, Céleste Lévis, Héloïse Yelle, Didier Chateau and Mario Pelchat! Enjoy an incredible evening of entertainment and support the hospital from the safety and comfort of your home when it premieres Sunday, November 8 at 7pm on Facebook and YouTube. The recording will also be available online thereafter and all proceeds from the concert will support much-needed orthopedic surgical equipment at HGH.



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BRING SURGERIES SUCH AS KNEE & HIP REPLACEMENTS TO HGH!

When every movement hurts, care closer to home makes all the difference

The recent expansion at the Hawkesbury and District General Hospital (HGH) has provided the hospital with three functional state-of-the-art operating rooms, and a fourth has already been built and will be added in the near future. That is why Dr. Chris Kennedy and several of his colleagues from the Ottawa Hospital are enthusiastically helping develop the orthopedic program at HGH.

HGH has provided the physical infrastructure and can cover the costs of more surgeries; however, it must ask the community to help provide the specialized equipment required to make this program a reality. **With the help of our generous donors, many patients from our region will be able to undergo knee and hip replacements, surgery to repair fractures, and more right here in Hawkesbury.** People will no longer have to wait months and travel to Ottawa before, during and after surgery.

Developing the orthopedic program has become a top priority at HGH. *"Too many people have to wait too long in pain," says Dr. Kennedy. "We can do something about it and we want to help as many people as we can as quickly as possible."*

Dr. Kennedy and his colleagues treat patients aged 12 and over who are suffering from challenges such as broken bones, sports injuries, joint pain from repetitive stress, osteoarthritis related deterioration and pain and so many more. *"These kinds of health problems are very common at HGH and have a really significant impact on a patient's quality of life. The reality is that when you're in pain, travelling to Ottawa for multiple appointments is difficult and even the chores of daily life can be excruciating."*



Your gift to the HGH Foundation will help purchase specialized instruments for HGH's new orthopedic program, ensuring your friends, family and neighbours can receive orthopedic care in Hawkesbury.

Please support the HGH Foundation by returning this form with your tax deductible gift in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Thank you for your support!



YES! I want to help bring new orthopedic services and equipment to HGH!

Here is my gift of \$ _____

☐ You will find enclosed my cheque payable to HGH Foundation. **OR** Please charge to my account: ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS
_____ Expiration date ____ / ____

Name of donor : _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____ Email : _____

Signature : _____

- ☐ Please send me information about leaving a gift in my Will
☐ Please contact me to arrange an automatic monthly gift

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