

SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE SUMMER 2019

WELL AWARE

**SASKATOON CITY
HOSPITAL
NURSES ALUMNAE:
110 YEARS OF CARING**

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Saskatoon City Hospital
FOUNDATION





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ON THE COVER

Jan Palko (nee Zorkan) takes a historic step in 1969. She was the last nurse to graduate from the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing.

Between 1909 and 1969, the school saw more than 2,000 graduates. This spring the Nurses Alumnae welcomed classes of 1965 to 1969 for their 50th anniversary reunion.

To read more about the Alumnae and its history, turn to page 10.





MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Steve Shannon

Nurses. They're by our side throughout our lives. They're there when we're sick, they're there when we're healthy, they're there when we give birth, they're even there in the end when we leave it all behind.

At the hospital, their role is huge. They're by your side during a surgery, at your bed when you need medication, the first to come when you call. Many are educators, sharing their wisdom with others in the community.

That's why this issue is so bittersweet, notably the story about the Nurses Alumnae reunion. It marks the end of a significant era of history of caring in the life of the community, Saskatoon City Hospital and the Foundation.

Active for more than a century, the Nurses Alumnae have made a terrific and lasting contribution to health care at Saskatoon City Hospital. In addition to their role as caregivers, they've served numerous roles as volunteers, educators and mentors.

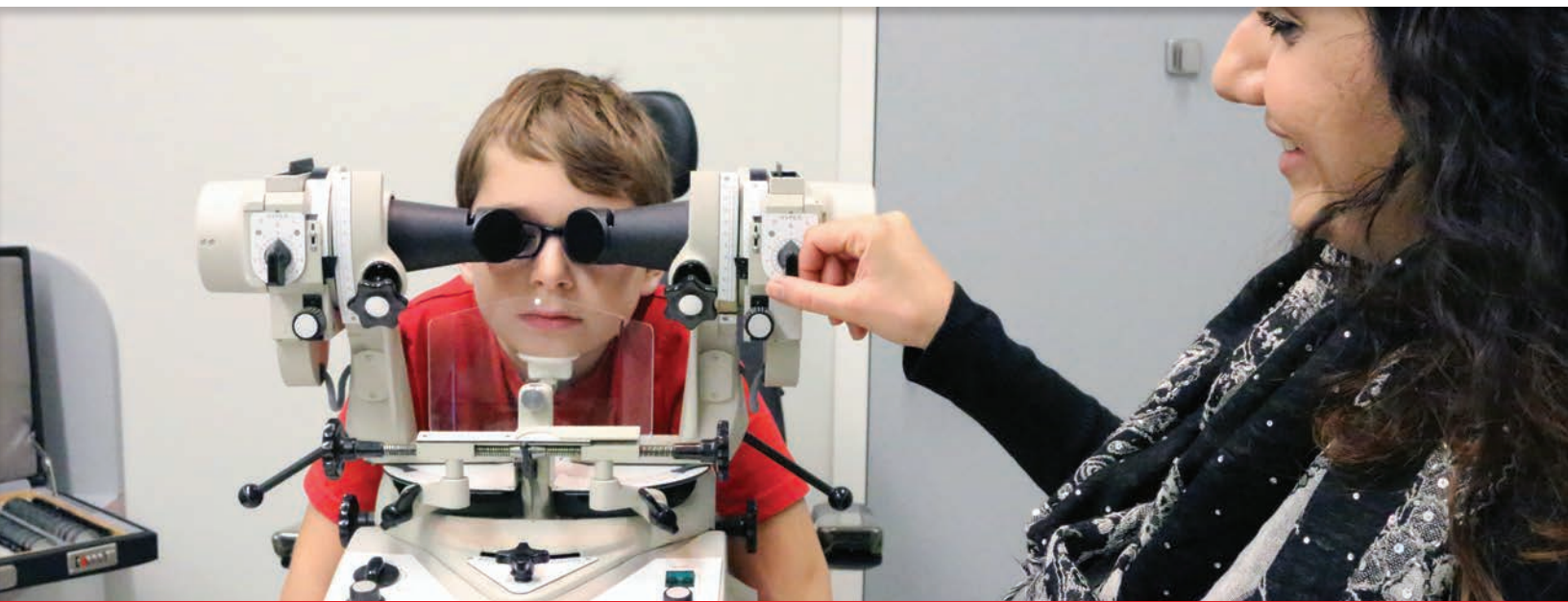


The Alumnae have had a special involvement with the Foundation, with a representative serving on the Foundation's board of directors. I've come to know many of these nurses. Their dedication to health care and the hospital is constant.

These nurses helped to affect positive change in healthcare. Nurses continue to play an important role as innovators who help shape the quality and safety of the patient experience.

While their active commitment may be complete, the Alumnae's impact will continue. Through the Nurses Alumnae endowment and their pledge to maintain the hospital's chapel, they've ensured patients and visitors will have a beautiful, peaceful and ecumenical place to worship or contemplate.

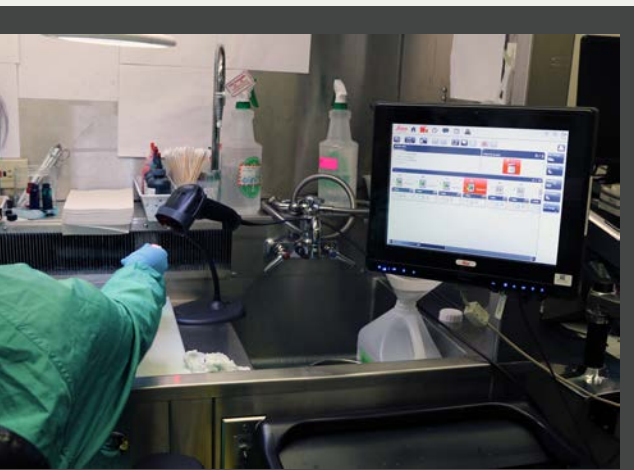
That's a deep care that goes beyond the physical. For this lasting and meaningful contribution to the hospital and the community, thank you! □



HOW YOU HELP!

Donors support numerous purchases and departments

Foundation staff and the anonymous donor who gifted more than \$2 million for the upgrade of Saskatoon City Hospital's **Anatomical Pathology Lab** had a special tour this past February.



They were viewing the lab's new Leica's Cerebro™ Sample Tracking System. Fully automated, the Leica Cerebro allows lab staff to track specimens and samples through every stage of its process, from receiving to diagnosis and storage. Using barcodes, staff know at what stage and where a sample is at any given time.

This is critical, given that the hospital's lab processes hundreds of thousands of slides every year, in addition to other diagnostic work they manage. Automated tracking shortens the average time it takes for results to come. This means patients are getting crucial answers sooner.

Overwhelming was the excitement that each staff person at each step of the lab process showed for the new system. They were especially excited because it allows them to do their jobs better but their great enthusiasm was also from being able to deliver an improved health care to patients.

The Foundation congratulates management and staff of the lab for their great and caring vision to implement this significant and positive upgrade at the hospital.

And for providing the best possible care for patients, the Foundation also says thank you to our special, anonymous donor.

Whether a large, anonymous donation or the collective strength of all of your donor dollars, you are doing wonderful things at Saskatoon City Hospital.

Your contributions saw new lifts added to several hospital departments, including **Ambulatory Care**, the **Clinical Treatment Centre (CTC)**, the **Sleep Disorder Lab**, and the **Emergency Department**, which also needed a new bariatric lift.

The new lifts were necessary with older pieces wearing out rapidly while current Occupational Health and Safety practices are requiring lifts to be used in many more health care areas. Changing demographics, such as an aging population, is another reason more patients require lifts.

There's also a provincial standardization occurring – using the same lifts in nursing facilities and at the hospital allows patients to be transferred more easily.
(continued on next page)



HOSPITAL HOME LOTTERY SELLS OUT BEFORE EARLY BIRD DEADLINE

Winners from several communities

When Pearl Clarkson's phone rang on March 28, she didn't answer right away. The savvy senior didn't recognize the number, and knowing a friend had been scammed, ignored it. Clarkson checked the number online and answered when the phone rang a third time.

Calling was Steve Shannon, Foundation CEO and chair of the spring's Hospital

Home Lottery. He was telling Clarkson she'd won the \$1.7 million grand prize showhome, built by Rocy.

Clarkson, from Porcupine Plain, travelled to Saskatoon later that day to view her new home for the first time. On hand were other winners. Saskatoon's Glenna Long won her choice of a Chevrolet Stingray, Chevrolet Silverado

or \$65,000 cash. Darryl Johnson of Outlook won the early bird prize and chose \$100,000 over a Jamaica trip and a Jaguar. Tammy and Cal Robinson, from Spiritwood, were happy with \$380,567, their share of the 50-50.

A complete winners list is available at hospitalhomelottery.org. Tickets for the fall program will be available in July. □

(continued from previous page)

Your support, and especially your participation in the 2017 Festival of Trees, was of benefit to the hospital's busy **MS Clinic**. Gifts enabled the clinic to add or update IT and technical hardware, including nodules and training that allows for more insightful MRI study of lesions in the brain.

Several rehabilitation pieces will help MS patients deal with mobility. These include kinematics systems, exercise equipment, and various pieces for knees, feet, hips and bariatrics. The clinic also saw the addition of new medical tools such as

a bladder scanner, MSFC kits, and a sphygmomanometer.

The MS Clinic is a key component of the hospital's approach to MS, operating alongside the Cameco MS Neuroscience Research Centre and the Saskatchewan Clinical Research Chair for MS, Dr. Michael Levin.

The **Eye Care Centre** is another department to benefit from your donations as well as event proceeds, in this case the 2018 Ouzopalooza. It was the 10th anniversary of the popular event hosted by Saskatoon's Greek community.

Together, you enabled the purchase of a new Innova Auto refractor, a PlusOptix Auto Refractometer, a B-scan Ocular Ultrasound, and numerous orthoptic items such as prism sets and fixation cubes.

The Eye Care Centre sees thousands of patients, ranging in age from infancy to geriatric, every year. Its staff is dedicated to preserving, correcting, and restoring vision.

Thank you for enabling these and many more purchases. For more information about equipment needs, visit SCHFequip.com. □



HELPING PATIENTS SEE BETTER, WALK BETTER, LIVE BETTER

New equipment needed for Eye Care Centre, Central Therapies, NIC, Rehab

You can help four departments and hundreds of patients by supporting equipment requests.

The hospital's Central Therapies department, Eye Care Centre, Non-Invasive Cardiology Unit, and Rehab Clinic have all asked the Foundation to help with specific needs.

"Continuous passive motion machines (CPMs) are used to provide continuous assisted range of motion to joints such as knees," says Marla Fieber, who made the request on behalf of **Central Therapies**. "It's used when patients have limitations in joint movement and require repeated movement to the joint to try to increase that range of motion. CPMs for knees are most commonly used after surgeons manipulate the stiff joint under anesthetic to release scar adhesions. Following this, a CPM is applied to maintain motion for the next 24 to 48 hours."

With City Hospital performing numerous orthopedic surgeries daily,

the machines play a vital part in some patients' rehabilitation. As a result of their use over the years, Fieber says the current CPM's "are repeatedly being sent out for maintenance with gears and mechanics wearing down. Replacement parts are no longer available. New CPMs will benefit many patients who come to the hospital."

A busy workload is also why the hospital's **Non-Invasive Cardiology and Cardiac Device Clinic (NIC)** is asking for your help. "We provide 24- and 48-hour cardiac monitoring on an outpatient basis for patients who are experiencing symptoms related to fast or slow heart rates," reports Crystal Horvath with the clinic. "Referrals come from family physicians as well as cardiologists. Our patients range in age from toddlers to the elderly."

Horvath says, "because our waitlist is so high, we're booking patients at the first available spot. We schedule five patients per day at SCH and have six monitors. That means if a monitor is

returned late, the next patient has to wait until it's returned."

She says the NIC experiences the same situation with home-use blood pressure monitors. "Having three more heart monitors and three new blood pressure monitors would allow us to schedule one more patient per day per monitor. We'd also have a spare of each to compensate for machines that are returned late. Anything that could be done to ensure patients don't need to wait is a benefit for them."

Your support also will help the high volume of patients requiring eye surgery, through the purchase of seven new surgical stretchers.

There are more than 1,500 eye surgeries at the hospital every year, reports Jennifer Link, **Surgical Services** manager. Given the demographics of the province, that number is growing by more than 120 patients every year.



Dr. Waill Kahlil does an ultrasound on a patient's knee to determine if injection would help remediate her pain.

"On surgery days, we can see up to 15 eye patients," Link says. "The surgeries are typically for strabismus (lazy eye), lens implants, cataracts, and vitrectomies with occasional trauma related cases as well.

Many of the patients are children being treated for strabismus.

"The stretchers have separate molded holds that keep the patient still but the head piece allows a surgeon to get very close to the patient's face so they can work on the tiny delicate muscles of the eye," Link explains. It's important to keep patients still but even more so when these patients can be as young as one year old.

Dr. Waill Khalil, physician with the hospital's **Physical Rehabilitation and Medicine Clinic**, is asking for your help to purchase two sonosite ultrasound machines, one of which is portable.

He's a fellowship trained physician whose specialty is managing

interventional pain as an alternative to pharmacological solutions. His practice's waiting time increased from one month to one year since he returned to Saskatoon.

The ultrasound that he uses in his clinic was purchased by donors when the MS Clinic was conducting a specialized study a number of years ago. "It's an older machine and when I first started using it, I was able to change its head so instead of looking at veins, I could look at the musculoskeletal parts of the body."

It's limited, though, in what he can see and he has to defer 50 per cent of his patients to the St. Paul's pain clinic, which also has a yearlong waitlist, or to other equally busy radiology practices.

He points to patients with carpal tunnel syndrome as one way the sonosite ultrasound will help patients. "Injection is an alternative to remedy this but these injections used to be done blindly. The sonosite helps physicians

more accurately point the injection to the spot where it needs to be. This works the same for other joints in the body such as ankles, knees, shoulders, and even the spine."

Conditions treated include pinched nerves, arthritis, osteoarthritis, joint, and spine issues. The sonosite would let Dr. Khalil treat patients without referring them to fluoroscopy or C-Arm x-ray. It would let him treat more patients that wouldn't need to return to their family doctors and pursue treatment with drugs as an alternative.

Having two new sonosites also allows for training of residents on site, Dr. Khalil adds. "It would mean they wouldn't need to leave the city to train."

To donate, visit SCHFdonate.com, call the Foundation directly at 306-655-8489, toll free at 1-800-603-4464, or visit the office adjacent to the front entrance of the hospital. □



BREAST HEALTH CENTRE NEEDS NEW PRONE BIOPSY TABLE

Equipment is more flexible and comfortable for all patients

You can ensure that patients facing breast health issues have access to the latest and best equipment.

Installed when the Breast Health Centre first opened in 2006, its prone biopsy table needs to be replaced.

“The prone biopsy table allows physicians to biopsy using mammogram images for guidance,” explains Dr. Carolyn Flegg, radiologist. “It’s used for biopsy of something abnormal seen on a mammogram that cannot be seen with ultrasound.”

Dr. Flegg explains the procedure: “A patient lies on the biopsy table on her stomach and the breast goes through an opening in the table into the mammogram machine directly beneath the table. The breast is compressed in the same manner as for a regular mammogram but the compression plate used has an opening in it through which the radiologist can insert the biopsy needle into the breast.”

She says the current machine’s compression plate is entirely metal which means the mammogram taken for the biopsy shows only a very small part of the breast. “Before positioning the patient we have to estimate where the abnormality we’re targeting for biopsy is, and position that area in the small opening. If we estimate the position incorrectly, we have to reposition the patient and try again.

“It can be uncomfortable for patients because sometimes there’s the need to really maneuver a patient so the correct part of the breast can be biopsied. The current table doesn’t allow many options for positioning.”

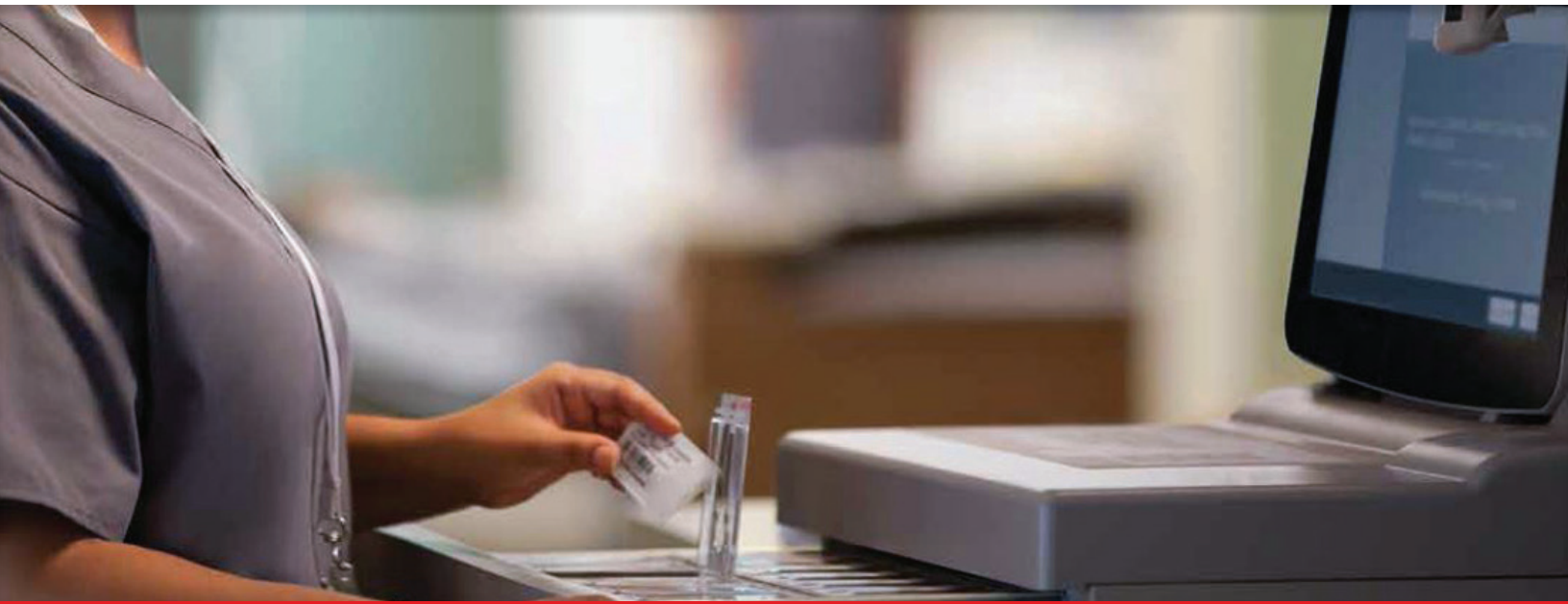
Dr. Flegg adds that new tables have different options for sizing, allowing more room for getting the larger breast through. It lets doctors compress the breast from multiple different angles, allowing them the right angle and thickness for safe and accurate biopsy.

“The greatest advantage with the prone biopsy table is that a diagnosis can be achieved without having to send a woman to surgery.”

More accurate biopsy will let radiologists determine sooner if calcifications are benign, which they usually are. New tables also make it easier for them to obtain and process tissue samples.

The greatest advantage, though, is that a diagnosis can be achieved without having to send a woman to surgery.

To donate, visit SCHFdonate.com, call 306-655-8489, or toll free at 1-800-603-4464, or drop by the Foundation office in the hospital. □



PROTECTING PATIENTS

Advancing patient safety by adopting medication dispensing technology

A mistake can happen in only a second. But you can prevent the most serious of mistakes...

Every year, Saskatoon City Hospital's Pharmacy Department processes an average of 5,000 doses per day. That's more than a million doses for the hospital, affiliated health agencies in the Saskatoon area and several provincial programs. That's a million times every year when patients are taking medication prepared at the hospital. A million times a year when it's crucial that the right medication and dosage is administered.

You can ensure that those medications are safely dispensed. The Pharmacy Department has requested \$2.5 million to install a new medication dispensing system throughout the hospital.

Robertson says, "when complete, the system will be installed in about a dozen patient care areas, including OR suites, recovery rooms, Emergency, and outpatient units for provision

"This will become the standard method of dispensing throughout the hospital and in Saskatoon."

of narcotics, usual first doses and wardstock medications.

"These automated dispensing cabinets (ADCs) are computerized drug storage devices that allow medications to be stored and dispensed near the point of care, while controlling and tracking drug distribution."

Tracking is crucial to promoting patient safety – it improves precision and accuracy of user access with biometric identification. "For example, a patient may be admitted into emergency and given a dose of morphine for pain.

The system would automatically track that and if the patient was admitted to a ward or sent to surgery, the system there would automatically be updated.

Staff elsewhere in the hospital would easily know what dosage the patient received and when."

Robertson says automated dispensing decreases the time for patients to receive initial medication because ward staff don't have to order the medication and wait for a Pharmacist to fill and deliver the order. It also enables staff to process routine orders or dispense medication in emergency situations.

"This is being widely used across North America and will become the standard method of dispensing throughout the hospital and in Saskatoon," Robertson says. The system is currently in use elsewhere at the Dubé Centre, St. Paul's and RUH emergency. More units will be added including 24 at Jim Pattison Children's Hospital.

To support this initiative, visit SCHFdonate.com, call 306-655-8489, or toll free at 1-800-603-4464 or drop by the Foundation office in the hospital. □



SASKATOON CITY HOSPITAL NURSES ALUMNAE: 110 YEARS OF CARING

It's the summer of 1969. The young woman, in nurses attire, steps to the podium and scans the crowd. She looks at the words she's written for the occasion and begins to speak.

"When we entered our course, graduation was but a hope," she tells those assembled on that day. "Looking back we wonder how time could have passed so quickly."

Clarice Olson is the valedictorian of the last graduating class from Saskatoon City Hospital's School of Nursing. In her remarks, the nurse recalls the time she and the other 55 graduates spent training in the previous three years. She reminds her classmates, as so many valedictorians do, that graduation is not an end but a proud beginning.

"Although tonight marks the completion of our course, we look with anticipation to the future, the opportunities and responsibilities it holds," Olson says towards her conclusion. "As graduates we will soon help set the tone for whatever changes will be made."

That future has now become a past filled with rich experiences. It's led to another historic gathering. Earlier this month nurses from that 1969 class joined with graduates of the 1965 to 1968 classes to commemorate the 50th anniversaries of their graduation from

the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing. The event was hosted from May 31 to June 2 by the Saskatoon City Hospital Nurses Alumnae, who presented the 400-plus attendees with their Golden Grad Pins.

The occasion was significant for another reason. "We're confident in saying that this will be the final Alumnae reunion for our school of nursing," said one of the organizers, Gwen Joa. "These are the last classes from the hospital's nursing school to receive their 50 year pins."

Beginning in 1909 and for six decades, the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing produced 2,110 graduates. The last of those graduated on that day in 1969, after the province had chosen to move to a centrally-governed training system in post-secondary schools.

The association between nurses and Saskatoon City Hospital actually began more than 110 years ago when city administration realized the need for a municipally operated hospital in 1906. City Hospital was originally housed in the building where Nurse Sisley had operated a private hospital.

Nellie Parker, the first superintendent of nursing for Saskatoon City Hospital, started the School of Nursing in 1909, the year the new hospital building opened. Sarah Miscampbell was its first graduate in 1912.

Nursing students were expected to live in residences, strictly overseen by matrons. Students originally resided in temporary facilities until the first nursing residence was constructed in 1912 at King Street and Sixth Avenue.

Archival material describes life for nurses at the school as being very regimented. Probationary students worked for two months without pay and, if accepted, signed agreements to remain in school for all three years. They were expected to live in residence, were assigned around the clock duties for upkeep, and were expected to maintain immaculate appearances and behave with civility.

As enrollment increased, the nurse's residence became very crowded, with students shuffling rooms often. A larger brick residence was built adjacent to the hospital in 1930. In 1947, it was replaced by the three-story structure, still standing and currently known as the Nurses Alumnae Wing (NAW).

The NAW eventually became part of the City Hospital building built in the 1950s and was used until 1993. While most of that hospital building was demolished, the NAW was left intact and is used today to deliver numerous health programs as well as for office space by the hospital and the Saskatchewan Health Authority.



The Nurses Alumnae was formed in 1916 and has remained active for the last 103 years. A key contribution was the creation of an endowment to ensure the maintenance of the Saskatoon City Hospital Chapel in perpetuity under their stewardship. "This is the legacy we wanted to leave," Joa said. "The Alumnae are committed to carry it out and have set up the funds necessary to do it."

The Alumnae, with chapters in several cities across Canada, has held a reunion every five years. It also had a representative sitting on the Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation board of directors. In the community at large, retired nurses serve as teachers, role models and mentors. They remain an inspiration to those wanting to follow in their footsteps.

These and other accomplishments were noted at the reunion, Joa says. "It served as one last opportunity for the Alumnae to celebrate and be together."

While the Alumnae may be winding down its operations, the role that nurses have played in the life and history of the hospital, and the fondness people have for the profession, will never diminish.



Above, the Nurses Alumni Wing, built in 1947. Facing page: The Class of 1969, the last to graduate from the Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing. Top right: The Nurses Alumnae has been active since 1916.



SASKATOON CITY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION LEGACY SOCIETY

Care received in past lead to gifts of future care

A couple who runs their own real estate business. A retired nurse. The Foundation's CEO.

What do these people have in common? Either they or their loved ones received great care at Saskatoon City Hospital. They decided to ensure the care they experienced would continue for years, even generations.

They're all leaving a legacy gift to Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation.

When Steve and Cindy Shannon's son, Billy, was three years old, he was diagnosed with amblyopia, or lazy eye. He was referred to the Eye Care Centre, where surgery and patching corrected that problem. "He's a fine young man," Steve says, "and has been driving for almost a year."

Randy and Sherri Singler are owners of Coldwell Banker Signature. Their gift was made because Randy experienced a broken leg when he was 25. "My family doctor sent me to emergency at

City Hospital where they discovered a blood clot moving towards my heart," Randy recalls. "If I had waited any longer, I could have died. The doctor and hospital saved my life."

Valerie Stacey trained at the former Saskatoon City Hospital School of Nursing and enjoyed a long career as a nurse. Her connection with care runs deeper than that. "I've had malignant melanoma twice and then breast cancer. I had surgery five years ago but was very blessed because I didn't need chemo or radiation."

This great care is why the Singlers, the Shannons, and Valerie decided to act today while thinking of tomorrow.

Randy and Sherri purchased a \$50,000 life insurance policy, naming the Foundation as owner and beneficiary. "I'd heard about other people doing the same," says Randy. "I realized it was a great way to give back."

Steve and Cindy also chose life



Retired nurse Valerie Stacey

insurance. "A planned gift allows us to give more than we ever thought possible," he says. "We're happy to know it will be used wherever it's needed at the hospital."

Valerie changed her will to include a bequest to the Foundation, specifically the Breast Health Centre. "The health care aspect of my life was very important to me. I thought I should do what I could for health care."

"There are many options for people who, like Valerie, the Shannons and the Singlers, want to leave gifts in their will or legacy gifts," says Tracy Boyle, director of Major and Planned Gifts at Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation.

Boyle says legacy giving is low cost and flexible and can be tailored to everyone's needs and wishes. "We recognize that every person, couple or family is different and so too are situations and experiences. Gifts can be made to honour people and memories while serving to enhance care at the hospital in future years."

While these are future gifts, she notes "donors can opt for recognition today. It's with this in mind that we created the Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation Legacy Society. Donors who support the Foundation in their estate plans are invited to join. The Legacy Society is our way of thanking you for being a valued supporter and friend to Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation."

Boyle adds that, "while the Foundation knows donors give willingly, it also realizes the need to recognize special and accumulative donations.



Foundation CEO Steve Shannon



Realtors/business owners Randy and Sherri Singler

Sometimes a thank you suffices; but the Foundation may say thank you in other different and meaningful ways.

The SCHF Legacy Society serves as a daily reminder to patients, staff and the community of the vital support that donors provide the hospital in delivering excellence in patient care. It also serves to inspire others to become donors themselves.

She says donors who've pledged gifts in their wills will be listed on a designated panel on the Foundations's donor wall, with their names moved to the main wall when the gift is fulfilled.

"But they'll also receive extras such as personalized thanks and public recognition, complimentary subscriptions to our Well Aware

magazine, and invitations to special SCHF Legacy Society and Foundation events," Boyle adds.

"We think the latter is especially significant. Donors may find it really interesting and enriching to meet other donors like them, while learning about the past and future plans for the hospital and the Foundation."

SCHF encourages bequests that fulfill your giving wishes and intentions, after all this is a part of your legacy. This is why donors are also advised to seek professional advice when preparing wills and considering bequest options.

To learn more, call the Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation office at 306-655-8489 or visit the webpage at bit.ly/SCHFlegacy. □



EY BLACK TIE BINGO HIGHLIGHTS SPRING SOCIAL SEASON

New title sponsor welcomes sold out crowd, event raises \$150,000!

They came in their gowns and tuxes. They mingled and imbibed, they tasted and bid, they posed for elegant photos. Then they got out their dabbers and played some bingo.

It was another great Black Tie Bingo, the 24th organized by Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation's amazing volunteers. But the night was presented by a new title sponsor, hence the change in name to EY Black Tie Bingo.

EY was attracted to the Black Tie Bingo because of the cause. Proceeds supported the Foundation's Physician Fellowship/Residency Program. The initiative enables the hospital to attract

and retain talented doctors through funding that enables them to travel elsewhere for specialized medical training. They promise to return and use their newly acquired knowledge for the benefit of the hospital and patients.

The EY sponsorship also allowed bingo organizers to put the go in bingo! The six games, four live auctions, raffles, and silent auctions featured many spectacular travel awards.

Lucky players and bidders will enjoy some great trips in the near future. There were dozens of other prizes available, with many players and bidders going home happy.

The end result was fantastic – EY Black Tie Bingo raised \$150,000!

The Foundation thanks the 430 attendees for making it an awesome night. Thanks also goes to the diamond, platinum, gold and silver-level sponsors as well as all gift-in-kind donors and sponsors and the numerous prize sponsors and donors. And special thanks goes to EY and the staff in its Saskatoon office for their overwhelming support!

For more information and great photos of the event, follow EY Black Tie Bingo at facebook.com/BlackTieBingoSCHF.





CRYSTAL MCLEOD, RSVP EVENT DESIGN

Local company brings zing and bling to Black Tie Bingo

If you've been to Black Tie Bingo in the past few years and were wowed by the décor or smooth organization, there's a person and local company to thank.

This past year marks the fourth time Crystal McLeod and RSVP Event Design have played a vital role in what's now the EY Black Tie Bingo.

While hired for her services, Crystal is a key member of the organizing committee, which is active between September and March. She also donates a portion of those services to make it more affordable for the event.

For its contribution, RSVP Event Design was recognized on the Foundation's donor wall at the \$10,000+ gift category.

Crystal has owned the local company, currently celebrating its 20th year, for seven years. "I was working as a dance teacher in Humboldt but I'd always wanted to be an event planner. I cold-called Tammy Forrester, who

owned RSVP then, and applied without having any experience.

"We hit it off and she hired me, even though she didn't really have a position," she recalls. She eventually became a partner and later became RSVP's sole owner.

She quickly put her mark on the business by doing more events that were truer to her heart. "I had more passion for weddings and galas. I always envisioned teaming with a charitable organization to hold an amazing event and help raise money."

That's where EY Black Tie Bingo fits. "It's the glitz and fun and awesome night that I really enjoy."

Crystal does this all with a streamlined staff. There's only herself and one more full-time employee at RSVP. She



coordinates her magic with contracted employees and volunteers.

In seven years since acquiring RSVP, she's seen it grow. "We're now in a position where we can choose what projects we take on. But I love Black Tie Bingo and plan to keep doing it until they no longer have me."

For her efforts and talent, the Foundation and the EY Black Tie Bingo are grateful to Crystal McLeod and RSVP Event Design. □



ENS SWINGING WITH THE STARS GREETSS SOLD OUT CROWD

2019 event nets \$290,000 for Breast Health Centre

If you were driving past TCU Place on January 26, you might have seen the roof raise a bit.

Inside were eight local celebrities paired with professional dance partners, a crew of volunteers and organizers, and a crowd of 750 wildly enthusiastic dance fans. They were there for the seventh annual version of Swinging with the Stars Saskatoon, once again sponsored by Ens Auto. And what a night it was!


The highlight, of course, was the eight local celebrities who'd volunteered to show off their moves in front of that raucous crowd with the help of their

professional dance partners. They were storm chaser Ricky Forbes and Andrea Fontaine, pharmacist Tammi Hanowski and Cole Chorney; hotel manager Martin Gilbert and Sacha Favel; business owner Jordana Jacobson and Jonathon Pickrell; financial advisor Darren Ulmer and Jacqueline Block; firefighter Deb Davies and Stephanie Cowan; oral surgeon Kabir Viridi and Katie Bergen; and former curler/business owner Sherri Singler and Brogan Beechinor.

In addition to their stage performances, they poured their hearts into fundraising for votes and were equally amazing. Jordana brought in

an incredible \$80,000, breaking the previous individual record. But even this was eclipsed by Dr. Viridi, who raised an astounding \$119,000!

Their combined efforts smashed all previous Swinging with the Stars Saskatoon proceeds, netting an impressive \$290,000! Proceeds from the event will support the purchase of a new prone biopsy table at the hospital's Breast Health Centre.

Thanks to all for being part of this great event! For more information, visit SWTSevents.com or follow at [Facebook.com/swtsSaskatoon](https://www.facebook.com/swtsSaskatoon), and on Instagram or Twitter. 



WIEGERS FINANCIAL & BENEFITS

Giving back is natural to financial advisor company

For Cliff Wiegiers and Wiegiers Financial & Benefits, giving isn't just something to be done. It's a core-value built into how he and his family operate their business.

Both the firm and family's accumulated gifts have been very beneficial to Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation. They've also decided to ensure a strong future for the hospital through a legacy gift of life insurance.

The Wiegiers have supported the Foundation with donations but also through attendance and sponsorship of events such as Black Tie Bingo and Swinging with the Stars. Cliff won the latter event when he first participated and then returned for the all-star edition in 2017, the first to support Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation.

Cliff also sat on the Foundation's volunteer board of directors for several years. "The hospital is near and dear to my heart and will always be in our minds when it comes to giving."

The company also stages its own charitable event, Care for Kids by Wiegiers, which benefits various local children's charities.

"We've been blessed to have a good life," Cliff says of the business he co-owns with his wife, Debra, also known for her charitable activism.

Wiegiers Financial & Benefits started with one employee in 1991, Cliff reports. "We now have 48 employees and associates in Saskatoon, Humboldt and Kindersley. The community has allowed us to grow our business, which dedicates itself to helping make



The Wiegiers family gets their Shrek on.

a difference in people's lives. Part of that is helping people and businesses become more philanthropic."

Cliff says he plans to do that with his four children, Colton, Tobi, Jackson and Randi. "We'll take care of them and their kids especially in terms of their education but our plan is to leave 50 per cent of our wealth to a foundation. I think that's the responsible thing to do.

"I plan to be in business for another 20 or 30 years and will do what I can to make a difference," Cliff adds.

"We're passionate about building the community, and influencing others to do what we do. Everybody has it in them to give, they just have to be asked."

The Foundation thanks Wiegiers Financial & Benefits for the continuing and meaningful support. □

SASKATOON EXPRESS

Saskatoon's **REAL** Community Newspaper

SASKATOON EXPRESS

Community newspaper helps Foundation with presence in city

Celebrating its eighth anniversary of operating in June, 2019, the Saskatoon Express proudly carries the label of community newspaper.

Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation is glad to be part of the Express community. The newspaper works hard to give the Foundation and its events very competitive rates that ensure success in the busy event landscape.

One such event is the Foundation's EY Black Tie Bingo. This past year, the Express was prominent in helping the Foundation publicize a new title sponsor for the 24-year old event. It led to the bingo selling out a few weeks ahead of the actual date.

"A good community newspaper has to be diverse, and local, local, local," says editor Cam Hutchinson. "It's incredibly gratifying when we make a difference. That can take many forms. One of our stories led to a baby being adopted.

"A story on a fundraising steak night resulted in organizers running out of steaks. We've also been credited as being a reason why attendance has been up at various festivals. We're proud of that and proud to serve the community."

Pointing to a crew of well-known writers including Ned Powers, Joanne Paulson, Shannon Boklaschuk and Theresa Kirkpatrick, Hutchinson says, "Readers have come to know us. In a world of change, our original group of writers is still going strong, eight years after our launch. It's a privilege having our paper in people's homes."

Advertising representative James Weinmaster says its nature is why the Express succeeds. "Community papers like the Express are more than holding their own in many markets. Our demographic leans to those older than 40, so many of our readers grew up with the print product."

"The newspaper works hard to give the Foundation competitive rates that ensure success in the event landscape."

At the same time, he says the Express is embracing the digital market. "We have a great looking new website that's easy for readers to navigate. It also gives us the opportunity to prominently display advertisements, especially through features such as Friends to Follow. It's a scroll of our advertisers that lets readers navigate the website easier."

Weinmaster and Hutchinson say community newspapers will continue to have long lives. Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation thanks the Saskatoon Express for doing a wonderful job helping the Foundation connect with the community. □

SASKATOON CITY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Charitable Business Number
119140739RR0001

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IN MEMORIAM/ IN HONOUR

Donations were made from January 1 to March 31, 2019 in memory of the following people:

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If you prefer online, you can give conveniently by visiting SCHFdonate.com. If you want to learn a little about the Foundation first, go to SCHFgo.com. You can see our latest equipment needs, check out donor stories, discover upcoming events, and view your options for legacy giving.

Finally, a great way to give is monthly giving. It saves you the trouble of writing and mailing cheques. Each month, a set amount is automatically deducted from your bank account or credit card and you receive one handy receipt at year-end. You can increase your donation or stop it anytime by contacting the Foundation.