

WELL AWARE

PEOPLE CARING FOR PEOPLE

SUMMER 2021

Equip for Excellence: Enhancing Endoscopy



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FOUNDATION

2020-2021

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CONTENTS

Equip for Excellence: How you helped	4
Equip for Excellence: How you can help	6
Donor Profile: Marion and Louis Marcotte	8
Donor Profile: Odd Fellows and Rebekahs	9
Donor Profile: Bernice Harrison	14
Centuries of Care Legacy Society	15
Donor Corner	18



EQUIP FOR EXCELLENCE

The Foundation needs your help to raise millions of dollars for the hospital.

6



ENDOPRO UPGRADE NEEDED

Your support will help gastroenterologists detect and diagnose disorders.

10



SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS

What's on, what's off?
Read the latest about the Foundation's events.

12

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Steve Shannon

Faith, Hope and Gratitude

Faith! My mom used the word many times as I was growing up. She was born in 1915. Those born around the same time endured WWI, the Spanish flu, the great depression, WWII, the Korean War, and the Cold War.

The Spanish Flu was a global epidemic, much like we're seeing now. My mom had the Spanish flu on the farm in Kelvington when she was just four years old. She was not expected to survive the night. Her mother gathered the neighbors, who sat around the kitchen table and held an old-fashioned prayer meeting.

Within hours, my mom was running around the house. That story was told to me in the darkest of times. It was a story about faith.

Whether its definition is used in the spiritual context or "complete trust or confidence in someone or something," this past year has demonstrated that faith is what constantly rises to the surface. Without it, anxiety and depression can creep in.

You miss parents, grandchildren and dear friends, being with your mom in the hospital for a surgery, or consoling family who've lost loved ones. It's difficult but what keeps us going is the faith that this will soon pass.

A rabbi, when questioned why God allowed 911 to happen, stated, "don't look for God in the act; look for God in the response."

That's the faith we need now. It's a faith that we can return to a similar life we enjoyed before this happened. A hope that we've all learned from this global experience. AND the resounding gratitude for help we've received from donors like you.

We constantly hear how well patients are treated at the hospital. All of us realize how important quality of life is both for today and for when this pandemic finally ends.



Years ago, Foundation staff created a campaign called Equip for Excellence. It supported all care at our hospital. It comes from a faith that your support will make it possible to equip caregivers to provide excellent care. This year, we're proudly renewing that campaign for all who have faith that their quality of life will return when they visit our hospital.

Thank you to you, our donors, who respond and have faith in our Foundation to help transform your generous gifts into healthy people – people who will soon care for one another with a huge hug. May I selfishly be one of the first. ☐

**Donate at
SCHFgo.com**

HOW YOU HELPED

O.R. campaign sees several more pieces funded



If you were passing by the hospital just before Christmas last year, you might have heard a bit of commotion. It was the staff in the hospital's **Medical Device Reprocessing** (MDR) department. They'd just heard the good news about a new cart and utensil washer, and two new steam sterilizers for their workplace.

"I announced to the staff that these devices were being ordered, thanks to the donors of Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation," reports department manager Scott Zablocki of the moment. "Everyone was clapping, jumping up and down, and cheering. The staff truly felt like they had just received a giant Christmas present."

Thanks to you, these hard-working employees had their Christmas list checked off. Medical Device Reprocessing operates 16 hours a day

ensuring that surgical tools and other equipment are properly washed and sanitized before being re-used.

For many years, two of its four steam sterilizers had been inoperable while the cart and utensil washer – older than the hospital itself – was on its last legs. Your support means employees can keep up with the ever-growing demands of a busy hospital.



"Everyone was clapping, jumping up and down, and cheering like they had just received a giant Christmas present."

MDR isn't the only department donors like you have helped purchase equipment for as part of the O.R. campaign. Thanks to you, the ophthalmology suite in the hospital's Operating Room is now home to a new microscope that lets surgeons view parts of the eye in much better depth and resolution.

Another eye care piece – a microkeratome – was funded by

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donors including the Lions Eye Bank. As described in more detail in the Well Aware Spring 2021 issue, the equipment is a vital part of corneal transplant surgeries.

Providing a donation of \$1 million, Saskatoon philanthropists Leslie and Irene Dubé kick started Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation's Making the O.R. a PriORity campaign. Their gift pays for a new cystoscopy table with fluoroscopic capabilities.

Urologist and surgeon, Dr. Kunal Jana, says the table is used for procedures such as endoscopic urology, kidney stones, removing bladder tumours, and laser treatment for prostate cancer. It will also bring the ability to do video urodynamics, a first for the province.


Other pieces funded and now ordered or in place include three new video tower stacks, three anesthetic gas

machines and three monitors, all vital equipment for surgical procedures.

The Foundation also used its donor-funded Centre of Care Endowment to purchase new Coronis Uniti Fusion monitors for the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre of Care Breast Health Centre.

The units, used by radiologists as part of mammography, broke down and were not repairable. The equipment vendor lent the Breast Health Centre monitors but immediate replacement was needed. Fortunately, donors have established endowments with SCHF that allow for such contingencies.

Installed in the Breast Health Centre to improve the patient experience, its overhead music system was outdated and beyond repair. A former patient of the centre graciously agreed to fund a new wireless speaker system.

For all that you do to make the hospital not only better but the best, thank you! 



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Equip for Excellence campaign goes full tilt

Are you up for an exciting challenge?
Can you help Saskatoon City Hospital
Foundation raise 15 million dollars?

That's the amount on the most
current list of needs identified by the
hard working and dedicated staff at
Saskatoon City Hospital. It's also why
the Foundation is shining a brighter light
on its Equip for Excellence campaign.

"Equip for Excellence was created a few
years ago as an umbrella campaign,"
reports Foundation CEO Steve
Shannon. "When donors give, whether
to support a certain piece of equipment
or to support a department they care
about, essentially it goes to Equip for
Excellence, to make the hospital the
best that it can be."

The Equip for Excellence campaign has
resonated well with donors since being
created in 2013 – more than \$10 million
has been raised, with many departments
and wards at the hospital benefitting.

"The new campaign will continue to do
that but, instead of seven years, we're
hoping to raise what's needed in just
two to three years," Shannon says.
"We're really counting on donors to step
forward and step up. If they do, it will
be the largest investment in equipment
we've seen at the hospital in some time.
Thousands of patients will benefit."



Since being created in 2013, the Foundation's Equip for Excellence campaign has raised more than \$10 million. Many departments and wards – and thousands of patients – have benefited.

Endoscopy will be one of the first areas
highlighted by the Equip for Excellence
campaign. An upgrade to the EndoPro
system will allow for clearer and quicker
diagnoses of many disorders, cancers
included. The improved system will
allow health professionals to record and
share results, leading to faster design of
treatment options.

Another item urgently needed is a
new ultrasound for the Breast Health
Centre. You can read more about
this, endoscopy needs, and the O.R.
campaign elsewhere in this issue.

Other departments that will be included
in the renewed Equip for Excellence
campaign include Laboratory Medicine,
Day Surgery, Rehabilitation Services,

Diagnostic Imaging, Women's Health
Centre, Eye Care Centre, Pharmacy,
Respirology and the hospital's Sleep
Disorders Centre.

"A hospital employee once said to me,
'give us the best and we'll do the rest,'"
Shannon adds. "That's the spirit with
which we originally designed Equip for
Excellence. While our offices are closed
to personal visits, we always welcome
your generous support by mail,
telephone or online at SCHFgo.com."

For more information about Equip for
Excellence, watch for future Well Aware
issues, visit SCHFgo.com, or follow
the Foundation on Facebook, Twitter,
Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. □



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Breast Health Centre needs new ultrasound

You can help patients have access to the best imaging equipment.

Nearly two decades old, the ultrasound in the hospital's Breast Health Centre needs to be replaced, says radiologist Dr. Carolyn Flegg.

"This is the traditional ultrasound machine with the handheld wand that most people will be familiar with," she says, noting its difference with the automated breast ultrasound that donors recently purchased.

"While that unit is more specifically for patients with high density breasts, the traditional ultrasound is the imaging workhorse of the Breast Health Centre."

Dr. Flegg estimates it's used for 1300 to 1500 imaging procedures every year. "If we're going to do a needle biopsy of the breast under ultrasound, drain an abscess or cyst, or insert a wire localization for a mass on the day of surgery, this is the machine we use."

Given this, Dr. Flegg says it's no surprise that the current machine is wearing down. "It was purchased in 2005 and moved to the Breast Health Centre when it opened in 2006. It's on year 16 of its lifespan when most like it last only seven to nine years. It's past its life expectancy and getting to the point of being unrepairable."

Updating the machine will bring enhancements to imaging technology, she adds. "The transducer, or the wand that the sonographer holds, will see improved resolution. It means better



A sonographer talks to a Breast Health Centre patient prior to an ultrasound. Used for hundreds of procedures every year, the centre's current ultrasound is more than 15 years old and to the point of being beyond repair. Your gifts will help patients with breast health issues.

quality images that let us see smaller abnormalities, better images of dense breast tissue, and little calcifications in the breast that we couldn't see before. Anything that we can do to improve how and when we see these abnormalities is ideal for patients.

"We've also learned how many women find that the traditional ultrasound is the most comfortable way to have a biopsy. They can lie on their back, not be compressed, and not be exposed to radiation. It's also faster so that makes it more comfortable for patients."

"Anything we can do to improve how and when we see abnormalities is ideal for patients."

Dr. Flegg says, "The new machine will improve the ability to demonstrate blood flow at a finer level. That's important because, when I do a biopsy, I like to know how much the area might bleed and how much bruising there might be. It's also important when looking at lymph nodes under the arm because abnormal blood flow raises the suspicion that there might be metastasis present in the patient."

For all these reasons, a new ultrasound is a must. "Replacing it before it breaks down for good is absolutely crucial. If we were to not have a working machine, there would be an impact on patients from cancelled appointments and waiting for diagnoses."

To help patients with breast health issues, donate at SCHFgo.com. □

MARION MARCOTTE, 1929-2020; LOUIS MARCOTTE, 1926-2012

Couple felt it was their duty to be charitable

It was always a treat when Marion Marcotte visited the Foundation office and CEO Steve Shannon. Even until her later days, Marion dressed formally for all of her visits.

Marion passed in May, 2020 at the age of 91. She was predeceased by husband, Louis, in 2012; the couple had been married for 63 years.

They were constant donors of the Foundation and made sure to remember it in their passing. With no children, family members say the couple felt it was their duty to give to charities and were quite proud of it. They would always stop to see their name on the donor wall near the front entrance at Saskatoon City Hospital.

At their passing, both Marion and Louis requested that people donate to charities of their choice.

Louis, who had suffered a stroke, was a resident of Extendicare at the time of his passing. Marion lived more independently and enjoyed her final years at Preston Park 2 retirement home. She passed shortly after having a brain aneurism.

“She always had a chipper salutation when she greeted you, usually with a smile and a look of excitement.”

Prior to that, Marion suffered a stroke in 2018 and spent time in hospital, including two months in the in-patient rehab ward at Saskatoon City Hospital.

Her niece, Della, calls her a friend who always had a “chipper salutation when she greeted you, usually with a smile, and look of excitement on her face.”

A meticulous dresser, Della says that carried over to her vehicles, especially a white Lincoln and later a Ford Escape. “She was always washing them and would always mention it if your vehicle looked dirty.”

With Louis, Marion enjoyed fishing, camping and spending time at one of their two cottages at the lake. She also curled and did yoga. In later years, she enjoyed casinos (The Dunes), bus trips, and Nevada tickets.

Della adds that Marion, “would keep in touch on the phone with all her family and friends. She would talk about the family in Prince Albert, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Camrose, Calgary, Kelowna, Saskatoon and the farm. She would always give updates. She would



Above: Marion Marcotte's family recalls that she was a meticulous dresser who always greeted people with a smile. Below: Louis Marcotte enjoying one of his favourite pastimes.



also keep track of you and wanted to know exactly what you did and with who. “She hated cooking, and would meet up often with family or friends for a meal out, or get take out. Sunday night supper with her and Uncle Louis were the norm. She was one of a kind,” Della adds.

The Foundation is honoured to have known someone like Marion and grateful for support received from her and Louis. □

CHARITY WAS WING OF ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS

Visual Research and Equipment Foundation ceases operations in Saskatchewan

A long-time supporter of the Foundation and eye care in the province is closing after 46 years of operation.

Founded in 1982 and incorporated in 1985, the Visual Research and Equipment Foundation (VREF) of Saskatchewan was created by Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges throughout the province. Its very first donation in 1985 was made to Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation.

“What’s happened in the last four years is that our members no longer have the ability to raise funds,” explains Laura Argue, the Foundation’s secretary and a long serving executive member of the Rebekahs.

“For the past two years, it’s cost more to operate than we took in for the year. So, we’re in the process of winding it down.”

“It’s a wonderful legacy to have contributed so much to vision care in Saskatchewan.”

Through the past 46 years, the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs VREF has raised more than \$2 million in Saskatchewan.

While support was given to major eye care centres at Saskatoon City Hospital and Regina’s Pasqua Hospital, VREF funds also benefitted smaller centres such as Swift Current, Moose Jaw, Yorkton and Prince Albert.

“Every lodge had their own way of raising funds,” Argue recalls. “Some did



Through the Visual Research and Equipment Foundation, Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges in Saskatchewan have contributed millions of dollars for eye care.

it through catering or walkathons, others by rolling pennies, and some by rolling newspapers into fireplace logs. Whether it was \$500 or \$5,000, all the lodges contributed and we met our goals.”

She says that the Odd Fellows, a world-wide organization, have been active in Saskatchewan for more than 120 years; the first lodge was established in Moose Jaw in 1883. But time and ever-changing demographics has taken its toll on many service organizations in the province, both the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs included.

Argue notes there are only six Rebekah lodges and three Odd Fellow lodges remaining. “Our membership is aging – I’d say the average age is 75 to 78 but

most are above that category. It’s hard to attract young people.”

In addition to eye health, Odd Fellows and Rebekahs awarded numerous scholarships, grants and funding for a variety of events across the province.

“It’s too bad that people who’ve benefitted haven’t helped out by joining organizations like ours,” Argue comments.

“We’re sorry to see the eye Foundation close down but it’s a case of economics,” she adds. “Still, it’s a wonderful legacy to have contributed so much to vision care in Saskatchewan.”

The Foundation thanks the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs for their many years of support and dedication to eye health. □

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Endoscopy upgrade can save lives

Your gift today could save a life.

That's because it would support a massive upgrade to Saskatoon City Hospital's Endoscopy program. In recent years, donors like you have helped create and equip an impressive endoscopy suite in the hospital's Ambulatory Care department. It's retained and attracted very highly qualified gastroenterologists.

These professionals are using highly advanced scoping procedures to detect, diagnose and treat abnormalities and disorders in patients' digestive systems. In many cases, they're able to discover cancers in its early stages.

One tool assisting them is known as EndoPro and has been in use in Saskatoon since 2014. It enables

physicians to capture important patient information and data, then share that with the province's provincial screening program.

Gathering these statistics is vital, because it helps the provincial government understand the demographics such as age, sex or population type. With this important information, the screening program can

work to refine the scope of people who would benefit from early detection.

"The upgrade of our EndoPro system to EndoPro IQ will improve patient safety, allow for more timely reporting, and better access for clinicians to support patient care," says Dr. E. Ha, gastroenterologist and assistant professor of gastroenterology and hepatology at the U of S.

One of the cancers this applies to is colorectal cancer. It's the fourth leading cause of death from cancer in Canada; in Saskatchewan it's the second leading cause of death from cancer. One time thought to be a cancer in people aged 50 and over, changing lifestyle is now seeing it happen more often in people much younger.

It's now estimated that one in every 14 men and one in every 18 women will get colorectal cancer.

But colorectal cancer is also the number one preventable cancer. If patients are screened properly and follow through with physicians, survival rate is very high.

This is where implementing new technology is ideal. The EndoPro IQ offers enhanced imaging that allows physicians to better spot polyps, capture, store and share the data.

One way this works is to guide doctors during colonoscopies as the scope is inserted and withdrawn. Encouraging a slower, more calculated withdrawal means it's more likely that a physician and the scope will find a cancer.

Another enhancement of the EndoPro IQ is the ability to capture and then share information. Currently, the results of endoscopies are only saved in and thus only viewable in the endoscopy suite. The upgrade will allow other professionals – such as a doctor in the emergency department or a surgeon in the operating room – to view the results of the procedure where they are.

"The upgrade to EndoPro IQ with HL7 interface will allow clinicians to read and access reports outside of the endoscopy departments which will allow us to provide timely interventions and treatment," reports

gastroenterologist Dr. Mina Niazi, who is also an assistant professor of gastroenterology and hepatology at the university.


The system will work well with the provincial Screening Program for Colorectal Cancer, which provides an easy-to-use test kit, called a fecal immunochemical test (FIT), to Saskatchewan residents between the ages of 50 and 74. The test can find blood in the stool that is not visible to the naked eye.

If it does, patients are referred to their family doctors, who often suggest screening such as colonoscopies.

"Saskatoon City Hospital sees about 20 people each week referred through the home screening program to endoscopy," reports Beverly Schaff, director of the Ambulatory Care department. "Improvements to our endoscopy program allows the health care system to meet the current gold standard, which suggests that, after a positive fecal immunochemical test through the colorectal screening program, a patient receives an endoscopy within 60 days.

"In addition to patients coming through the FIT program, there are numerous others referred directly to endoscopy by their family doctors because of issues such as rectal bleeding," Schaff adds. "Ensuring we have timely access and the ability to document results to share with physicians and patients will decrease the anxiety of waiting for diagnosis for our patients."

And it will save lives.

To support this program through Equip for Excellence, visit the Foundation's new website at SCHFgo.com and click where ever you see donate. 

FOUNDATION EVENTS ADAPT TO CHANGING TIMES

EY Black Tie Bingo goes virtual



"Put away your bingo cards and get out your credit cards!"

That was how **EY Black Tie Bingo Shopping Experience** organizers invited people to take part. Running March 15 to 19, it was a week-long way to capture some of the fun and excitement of the EY Black Tie Bingo.

This year marked the second time the live portion of the event was cancelled due to the ongoing pandemic. Instead, "attendees" were invited to view and bid on 57 different items and packages, available from a variety of local businesses and donors.

It proved to have a wide appeal. Over the course of five days more than a thousand bids were made. Many items went for bids of several hundred dollars while a few choice favourites garnered well more than a thousand dollars!

The auction closed at 9:00pm on the Friday night and successful bidders were notified by email. Three raffles

were also held, one for Hillberg and Berk jewelry packages, sponsored by Hillberg & Berk, and two travel vouchers valued at \$2,333 and \$5,000, sponsored by EY. Raffle winners were also notified by email.

Organizers are so very grateful to event supporters. Between the silent auction, the three raffles, and 2020 sponsors or ticket patrons who converted their support to donations, \$95,500 was raised.

Proceeds will support the Foundation's Equip for Excellence Campaign and the Fellowship/Residency Training Program. Through it, three doctors have travelled for specialized training and returned to use their skills in the hospital. A fourth physician is currently participating in training and will return to SCH in fall this year.

The Foundation and Black Tie Bingo organizing committee especially wants to thank EY, who has remained as title sponsor through these challenging

times. Gratitude also goes to all our silent auction item sponsors, media sponsors Rock 102 FM, 650 CKOM, C95, Sik Pics Productions for their promotional support, and the Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon.

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In the last issue of Well Aware it was reported that the **BHP Enchanted Forest Light Tour** had a huge season. Almost 92,000 people viewed dazzling lights, which included the newest display, the Blue Cross Tunnel of Lights. The Tunnel was a heart-warming and fitting tribute to all essential services workers.

It's exciting to report that this great attendance, as well as super support from sponsors, raised \$255,000 each for Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation and our partner, the Saskatoon Zoo Foundation! SCHF proceeds were directed towards its Making the O.R. a PriORity. Thank you for supporting the Operating Room at the hospital!

On a less joyful note is the news that the 2021 **Swinging with the Stars**, already postponed due to the pandemic, is altogether cancelled. While every effort was made to adapt the event for COVID restrictions, the



tightening of those restrictions with the second wave meant staging the event this year was just not feasible.

Cross your fingers and mark your calendars. Next year's Swinging with the Stars is scheduled to take place on Saturday, January 29!

You may have noticed that the spring version of the **Hospital Home Lottery** sold out before it was even spring. If you didn't notice, that's no surprise. All available tickets were snapped up by the third week of February and draws done in early March.

Congratulations to all winners, especially the winners of the lottery's largest grand prize ever – a \$2.5 million home by Décora Homes. The lottery also saw a record 50-50 AddOn of more than \$1.2 million with winners receiving \$612,000!

A full list of winners is available at HospitalHomeLottery.org. And start

watching the site in early July when ticket sales for the fall lottery begin. It will be another exciting list of prizes.

Normally a June event, organizers hope the 2021 **Ouzopalooza** will take place in October this year. More details will be announced later.

While the Foundation and event organizers work hard to present all events, the pandemic has meant that rules and restrictions may change without notice and may affect these events.

To stay informed, check in frequently with the websites and social media pages of the events you enjoy and support.

You can do your part to return events to normal. Get vaccinated, wear a mask and follow all COVID guidelines and restrictions. Being apart now means we can be together having fun later! ☐



BERNICE HARRISON, 1929-2020

Saskatoon mother, educator leaves a legacy to Foundation

A caring mother and devoted wife. Passionate about small children and their education. Dedicated to her church and its work. Independent and determined to remain on her acreage.

Those are just a few of the characteristics that defined Bernice Harrison's nine decades. Bernice died in early 2020 at the age of 90. Predeceased by her husband, Mervin, who passed away from cancer in 2002, she is survived by her daughters, Terry and Kathy, of Saskatoon, and her son, Scott of Surrey, B.C.

Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation was also a recipient of her kindness. Bernice was a long-time donor who made a kind and generous bequest in her will of \$132,000.

Her daughters, Terry and Kathy, don't recall a specific connection with Saskatoon City Hospital that might have led to the donation. "Neither of our parents needed the health system much until later in their lives. But in her will, our mom left significant donations to several health-related agencies," Kathy says. "I guess she just felt that health care was super important."

"I know she was very aware," Terry adds, "of various programs at hospitals and always commented on them. She was especially fond of pet visitation, music or art therapy programs. She also volunteered at hospitals, doing play therapy programs before they were officially a thing."

Kathy adds that Bernice's volunteer efforts included working with child patients at the Saskatoon Sanatorium, which treated tuberculosis until it closed in 1988.

The daughters say her connection with children was a lifelong passion that became an occupation. When her children were teenagers, Bernice took correspondence courses in early childhood education. "She also added classes in special education," Terry says, "and worked in a daycare with special needs kids. She taught preschool for many years and initiated establishing the preschool in Forest Grove School."

"She wanted to be sure that kids, especially ones with special needs, had an opportunity to go to preschool," Kathy adds. "She did this before there was support for this."

"In her will, Mom left significant donations to several health-related agencies. I guess she just felt that health care was super important."

The daughters remember their mom as a crafts person, thrilled to sew clothes for them and their dolls, make birthday cakes and provide art activities.



Bernice Harrison at her Merrill Hills home.

In later days, Bernice loved their acreage in Merrill Hills, southwest of Saskatoon. "Towards the end, we wished she wouldn't live out there alone but she was so strong-willed and independent," Kathy says. "Mom had a walker for both inside and outside so that she could walk around the yard and fill the bird feeders."

Terry adds that, "she loved watching wildlife and yard work and later paid people to help. She and dad had moved there in the 1990s. She continued to enjoy the cabin at Pike Lake as long as she was able."

The Foundation is grateful to Bernice for this kind bequest. □

~ the ~
**CENTURIES
 OF CARE**
legacy society



A GIFT IN YOUR WILL IS A PROMISE TO PROVIDE HEALTH, HOPE AND LOVE TO YOUR NEIGHBOURS

In non-pandemic times, the Rependa wing of Saskatoon City Hospital is abuzz with activity. A Medical Library offers access to health information. The Foundation office door opens and closes numerous times daily with visits from patients, donors, and staff. Staff is constantly training in the Nursing Development Resource Room. Nearly every day of the year there is a meeting or conference occurring in the Asher Auditorium or one of the wing's many other rooms.

The wing, though, wasn't there when the hospital was opened in 1993. It was completed in 2005 and, wouldn't have been possible were it not for the

kindness of John Rependa. The son of pioneers from Poland, John farmed in Strongfield. He retired in 1985 and moved to Saskatoon. He passed away at Saskatoon City Hospital in 2002.

He left the Foundation a gift of \$2 million, a gift his family said came because of how impressed he was with the care at the hospital. His gift was his way of leaving something behind.

John Rependa is not alone. The kind and compassionate support of caring neighbours is felt here every single day at the hospital as it provides holistic healthcare delivery from prevention through to post-treatment care.

That's why Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation has created the Centuries of Care Legacy Society. Through it, you're invited to imagine the future of the hospital. With your future support, the Foundation will invest in the most innovative technologies and expand its courageous approach to exploring better and simpler ways to deliver healthcare that results in the best possible outcomes for tomorrow's patients and their families.

Like John Rependa, you're invited to be part of this story.

(continued on next page)

THE CENTURIES OF CARE LEGACY SOCIETY

Donors share their stories

(continued from previous page)

On the following pages, you'll see stories of some of the Foundation's loyal and cherished donors who've made a gift to the hospital in their Will. The Foundation hopes that you enjoy reading these stories and reflecting on your own story and about what matters to you most.

You are invited and encouraged to connect with us anytime for a confidential conversation.

"Helping now, helping forever"
Gwen and Lionel's story:

I worked as a nurse at City Hospital in the 1970s, and had both my kids there. Lionel and I have also both experienced excellent care since. Lionel had both knees replaced. I found a lump in my breast in 2018 and was treated at the Breast Health Centre.

We believe strongly in supporting the Hospital Foundation. I know first-hand that staff need and deserve the best equipment and updated training. In fact, that's precisely how they can deliver terrific care to people like us. When I was in nursing, you really didn't have much to work with. But today, when we can give and help provide life-saving and life-improving equipment, that feels really good. And I look at the whole picture: when we all help out, the Foundation can buy new equipment, train staff, predict what they have to spend, and they can know they have a combination of reliable funds and also have enough for urgent needs.



Gwen Wurm and Lionel Gilbertson.

Lionel and I both agree that once you start giving, it's so easy to keep giving! We donate every year and we also have left a gift in our Will. We like to give both ways—we like to see how we are helping right now, and we also know that we'll continue to help after we're gone. Lionel and I are so blessed, and our faith tells us to share what we have.

Every bit counts. You have to realize that even if you give or leave what might seem like a little bit to you, it all adds up.

"We trust this Foundation"
Randy and Sherri Singler's story:

Growing up in a trades family, my dad always taught me to help others when they ask for help. So, I've always been that guy who loved fixing things and

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**"Once you start giving,
 it's easy to keep giving.
 We know we'll continue
 to help after we're gone."**



Randy and Sherri Singler.

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helping our friends and family. Sherri and I are both very passionate and dedicated to helping and volunteering in our community when we can. It feels so good to put your time and energy into volunteering together with other great people to build the strongest possible community. Saskatoon is a big small town and the community really stands behind making it the best place to be, we couldn't be more proud to be part of it.

And City Hospital is close to our heart because it saved my life. When I was 25 years old, I had a blood clot in my leg after a work accident. I got very sick, very suddenly, and the next thing I knew I was in a high-speed ambulance to City Hospital. I received 24-hour care for 2 days and the whole experience was amazing.

This hospital is second to none. Our staff are fantastic, our facilities are clean, bright and beautiful. As a volunteer, and board chair until this June, it makes me proud to hear people share stories and rave about the care they and their loved ones get.

Sherri and I maintain insurance premiums on a policy that we've donated to City Hospital Foundation, and indicated that we want our gift now—and in the future—to be used where it is most needed. We trust this Foundation, and we know that the staff and Board leadership will make the right decision for how to best spend funds. I've seen for myself how the Foundation and hospital collaborate—the hospital comes forward with what they need, little things and big things, and they work together to make the



Rose Jarman, 101.

**“If we take care of it,
our hospital will just
keep getting better.”**

best possible investments to help the most patients they possibly can. I encourage you to help too. When you give to the future of our hospital, you're making a difference for our city in the right way.

**“When you're sick, where do you go?”
Rose Jarman's Story:**

I'm 101. Well, closer to a hundred and two. I give to City Hospital to honour and remember my family, George T. Jarman and my beloved son Zenon G. Kotelko. This is our hospital and I'm proud to give what I can now, and also make sure that City Hospital stays this great for the next 100 years.

For me, supporting the hospital is simple. It's about our health. It's about your health. When you're sick, where do you go? If we take care of it, our hospital will just keep getting better. And you know that we'll always need new equipment, and medical staff will always need to keep up to date.

That's why I give.

For more stories like these, visit SCHFgo.com and click on Ways to Give. The Foundation would love to hear from you about what you want to make possible with your giving, and match that up with the inspiring programs at City Hospital.

You are welcome and encouraged to contact Tracy Boyle, director of Development at the Foundation by email at tracy.boyle@schfgo.com or by calling 306-655-8538. □

DONORS EXPRESS LOVE AND SUPPORT

Actions and words help raise spirits

You've likely heard of grass-fed beef but what about love-fed beef?

That's what's happening with a farm family from the Bjorkdale area. About two years ago, we told you the story of Mark van Haastert, a multiple sclerosis patient being treated by Dr. Micheal Levin, the Saskatchewan MS Clinical Research Chair. Mark and his wife, Erin, were so impressed by Dr. Levin's care, that they decided to sell a heifer and donate the money to assist with his research. They initially thought they could raise \$3,000; community and family support saw that jump to an amazing \$30,000.

Last fall, Dr. Levin received an email from Mark: "Good afternoon, we just wanted to let you know that the heifer legacy is living on! The people who won the heifer bid last year are donating her back to be sold at our bull sale this year, with proceeds going to MS research! We are super excited about carrying this forward and I wanted you to know about it."

The second sale again raised more than \$20,000 and Dr. Levin is pleased to announce that funds will support education. "The 2021 van Haastert Multiple Sclerosis Research Scholar has been awarded to a Saskatoon medical student so that she may pursue Multiple Sclerosis research full-time over the course of summer."

Now into the third year of this unique fundraiser, the van Haastert's sold the first calf off their 'MS heifer' and the company that purchased the animal



Above: Mark and Erin van Haastert. Below: The cover of Pinups and Pets.

also made a donation to MS. With Mark and Erin donating the sale proceeds, the purchaser making a donation and Mark's parents, Kees and Corry van Haastert matching, they've collectively donated another \$6,400 to support Dr. Michael Levin and MS research right here in Saskatchewan.

Thank you to the van Haasterts and the livestock community for terrific support.

Another group in Saskatoon is working with animals for the good of charity. Last year, the **Free Flow Dance Theatre** professional dance company released the picture book, *Pinups and Pets*. It depicted Free Flow dancers and board members, therapists, dance centre volunteers and instructors, and performers with their amazing pets.

The book costs \$10 and, while Free Flow had to shift to handle sales during the pandemic, they raised \$282 to support Saskatoon City Hospital COVID-19 emergency fund. The Saskatoon SPCA also benefitted from the venture.

The Foundation thanks Free Flow not only for this generosity, but for their dedication to performing arts. If you'd like to know more about the organization, visit FreeFlowDance.com.

The support of donors is always touching but last year's efforts for Making the O.R. a PriQRity struck chords with several people, who sent personal notes.

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"Yes, I can relate to Elsie," wrote one donor, in reference to the subject of the holiday appeal. "I am in my own home yet but with problems. I had my first hip replaced at City Hospital in January, 2012. Now I am waiting for my other hip, which I had hoped to have done last February [before the pandemic]. My left knee is bad now, too.

"But unlike Elsie, I can still see my family. Hopefully, she will be looked after soon."

"Got your mail and know many people are in need. Hope all staff is safe from the COVID bug," another donor wrote.

She went on to say that her son and daughter-in-law were making masks in response to numerous cases of COVID in Alberta. "I've been helping them and my daughter so I'm only able to send a little less. My husband passed in 2019, so this is donated in his memory."

The writer's 'little less' was \$1,000!



"Please find enclosed a cheque for \$5,000," was the beginning of another note! "We request the funds be used to assist the O.R. equipment replacement program. We have appreciated the good services provided by your organization over the past year; keep up the good work."

Working with them closely, the Foundation knows firsthand how caring and dedicated the staff at Saskatoon City Hospital are. We're always pleased to share notes from people, praising hospital employees for their exemplary service.

One came from a grateful patient. "I received superb care in every detail with compassion. Thank you to the caring staff at City Hospital."

Another was from the family of a patient in the Transitional Care Unit. "The nursing staff were very professional, caring and compassionate in the care they gave to her until her passing. Thank you!"

While financial support enables the Foundation to continue its mission, these heartfelt letters help raise spirits, especially during these challenging times. Thanks for writing! □

IN MEMORIAM/ IN HONOUR

Donations were made from Dec. 1, 2020 to Feb. 28, 2021 in memory of the following people:

Orme Asher	Zenon G. Kotelko & George T. Jarman	Sylvia Stadel
Merv Bodner	Joanne Learmonth	Evan Sorestad
Tom Bodner	Hazel Libke	Dale Soroski
Lyle A. Broadfoot	Shirley M. Newby	Anton Steffen
Edward Brodzki	Jean Martsinkiw	James Godfrey Strachan
Shirley East	Lyle McPherson	Martin R. West
Alice M. Guttormson	Margaret (Mary) & Ivan Norlander	Albert G. White
Gail Hawthorne	Bernice Ogryzlo	Beatrice M. Wilson
Roberta Hodge	Erna Reimer	Rongzhang Zhou
Ella Hoffer	Wayne Sanderson	

Donations were made from Dec. 1, 2020 to Feb. 28, 2021 in honour of the following people:

Cathy MacFarlane	Rick Steffen
Neurology Rehabilitation Unit - SCH	Garry A. Ward
John & Phyllis Oliver	

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DONATE AT SCHFGO.COM



IT'S EASY TO DONATE

It feels good to give. And it's easy, too, if you're wanting to give to Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation.

You can give in person at the Foundation office, next to the front entrance of Saskatoon City Hospital. You can also call 306-655-8489 or toll-free at 1-800-603-4464.

If you prefer online, you can give conveniently by visiting 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.