



Clinical Nurse Educator Sarah Dauphinee, centre with new High Acuity RNs, (LtoR) Emily Puffer, Ramanjot Cheema, Margaret Law and BCIT Instructor, Aida Nickerson during a visit to the ICU.

NEW TEAM ON THE BLOCK

The opening of our High Acuity Unit (HAU) in May marks a major milestone in the evolution of Lions Gate Hospital.

The creation of the specialized facility for patients with complex medical needs was made possible by outstanding donor support.

A total of 4,432 donors raised \$10,351,924 to support the campaign to build and equip the 12-bed HAU. Funds from the campaign, which was co-chaired by North Shore residents Rod and Jeannie Senft, have been invested in renovations and state-of-the-art medical equipment for the new unit which will treat up to 1,400 highly vulnerable patients each year.

While contractors have been putting the finishing touches to the gleaming new department, a team of clinical staff have been developing a specialized cohort of nurses who will provide the advanced levels of care to patients.

These critical patients who have complex long-term health issues won't need the moment by moment care provided in the Intensive Care Unit but they still need close observation and individualized care that is not available on a standard acute ward.

Registered nurses from across LGH have been recruited and enrolled on the BCIT high acuity nursing program. As well as working and studying part-time, they have also been involved in classroom orientation sessions and

The HAU will be named in honour of Seaspan North Vancouver, following a \$1.5 million gift from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation.

simulation exercises at The HOpe Centre which has extensive teaching facilities.

"The existing skills and experience of LGH staff has been essential in the training and development process," says Sarah Dauphinee, ICU RN and Clinical Nurse Educator overseeing the project. "It has been a real collaboration and everybody has come together and worked hard to ensure that the new team is set up for success."

Classes led by Clinical Nurse Educators from across LGH include sessions on cardiac care, specialized pain management, respiratory support and post-operative care.

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In the final weeks leading up to the first patient intake, the new HAU staff will complete their training by shadowing nurses in the ICU.

The past two years have been extremely demanding and stressful for our frontline health care teams but Sarah Dauphinee says the enthusiasm of the new team shines bright. "They have so much positive energy. They are so keen and very excited to have this opportunity to be a part of a new era of patient care at LGH."

The well-equipped high-spec HAU is unlike any other acute ward at LGH. Each patient will have their own negative-pressure room with ensuite facilities. With more space for visitors, patients are afforded more privacy and an enhanced environment for recovery.

"The HAU is a proud moment for our supporters," says Judy Savage, President & CEO of LGH Foundation. "The pandemic has shown us the importance of this specialized level of care and



Each patient room in the HAU will come with ensuite facilities.

donor generosity has ensured that we don't have to endure a long wait for the critical care services that we need in place right now."



INTERVENTIONAL
RADIOLOGY
CAMPAIGN

LGH needs your help to raise \$3 million to upgrade its aging Interventional Radiology suite, which treats 2,000 patients a year.



Radiologist, Dr. Mark Madden

Technology for Head to Toe

by Nancy DeHart

Interventional Radiology uses real-time moving X-ray images to perform minimally-invasive procedures using needles or catheters guided through blood vessels and organs. Procedures include biopsies, angioplasty, treatment of tumours, dissolving blood clots, pain management injections and the insertion of stents, infusion ports, feeding tubes and dialysis catheters.

Being located on the North Shore, the unit also treats patients with traumatic injuries suffered while skiing, snowboarding and mountain biking on our local mountains.

The funds raised will re-equip the current suite with advanced technology to produce better quality images, reduce wait times for procedures, and reduce radiation exposure to patients and staff.

"A new IVR suite at LGH will help ensure access to reliable state-of-the-art, minimally-invasive treatments to minimize risk, save lives and improve the quality of life for countless more patients on the North Shore," explains Peter Buckley who chairs the fundraising campaign.

Dr. Mark Madden, an Interventional Radiologist at LGH, calls the IVR suite a workhorse that saves hospital resources, as a trip to the IVR suite is faster, less invasive and less painful for patients than traditional surgery. Many procedures can be done using only a local anaesthetic.

For example, if a patient is bleeding into their gastrointestinal tract Dr. Madden can cauterize or block the bleed via a tiny hole in the skin.

"We can work from inside of a blood vessel to quickly and safely stop bleeding from a torn artery. We often are the first place people come for active bleeding, before the OR."

But the complex equipment is reaching the end of its lifespan and starting to show its age with increased down times and stoppages. "We have not had a critical problem, but it's just a matter of time before something could happen," says Dr. Madden.

He compares the current suite and its machines to having an old iPhone. "It's like a 10-year-old iPhone. Technology is growing so fast that our actual machines were probably designed 15 years ago."

The upgrade would include a ceiling-mounted angiographic suite with a state-of-the-art X-ray tube, an image intensifier that can move around the patient and perform limited CT exams, on-table ultrasound equipment, a patient imaging table, surgical instruments and high-definition imaging monitors.

There are eight interventional radiologists at LGH and the team is always busy, treating 20 to 25 scheduled and emergency patients a day.

Due to covid delays, wait times have only increased, so the team now does a weekly "Push Day" – booking a very high volume of patients to get through the backlog, sometimes seeing up to 70 plus people a day, mostly for pain management injections.

"Every donation of every size is important to us and we are truly grateful for your consideration of this critical need in our Radiology Department," Dr. Madden says.

LGH Foundation would be pleased to honour donors who give \$1,000 or more on our donor wall. Learn more and donate at: lghfoundation.com/IVR

A Gift for All of Us



The Division of Neurology at Lions Gate Hospital is getting a big boost to update its operating room equipment to improve patient care.

Philanthropists Rosemary and Ian Mottershead recently donated \$2 million to equip neurosurgeons with leading-edge technology to enhance patient outcomes and accelerate recovery times. Their gift is being used to purchase two specialty microscopes, a 7D Navigation System, a Jackson Table, and a Nerve Integrity Monitoring unit.

Seeing more than 1,400 patients per year, the Division of Neurosurgery at LGH is one of only five neurosurgery centres in the province.

The Mottersheads were inspired to make their gift after learning that some of the hospital's neurosurgical equipment was nearing the end of its lifespan. "It was an easy decision to help put the finest surgical equipment into the hands of skilled neurosurgeons," says Ian Mottershead, a retired investment executive.

The state-of-the-art technology will improve the care of patients with complex neurological diseases including brain tumors, stroke, spine, and traumatic brain injury.

It's not the West Vancouver couple's first donation to Lions Gate. In 2018 they generously contributed \$5 million to help build the Paul Myers Tower, expected to be completed at the end of 2024.

The Mottersheads have seen LGH grow from what Ian calls a "country hospital" to a Level 3 Trauma Centre and the fourth busiest hospital in Vancouver. They have chosen to support LGH because over the years, they have witnessed the care and professionalism of its staff first-hand.

Relatives have spent time in the neurology and palliative wards, and last year, Rosemary herself broke her leg while hiking a West Vancouver trail. "She found the physicians and nurses in Emergency skilled, empathetic and swift," says Ian.

We are grateful to the Mottersheads for this generous gift to our hospital and our community.

Mission Accomplished

We're thrilled to announce that Lions Gate Hospital will soon have a long-awaited second Magnetic Resonance Imaging machine.

Thanks to an amazing fall/winter campaign, you raised more than \$6.5 million. Our gratitude goes to all of our donors including Annabelle and George Gaffney, who were lead donors for the campaign with a gift of \$1.5 million. The money will be spent on the new 3-Tesla MRI and renovations to the Medical Imaging Department.



Head of Radiology, Dr. Andrew Thompson thanks MRI donors.



Friends & Neighbours

Caroline and David Grace can see Lions Gate Hospital from their apartment. Its location, within a block of the hospital, was one of the reasons they chose it when they moved two years ago.

"We can walk to the ER if need be and save the paramedics a trip," Caroline jokes.

The retired couple donates monthly and has a long history with LGH. Caroline was born at the old North Vancouver General, their daughters and grandchildren were born at LGH, their granddaughter had life-saving surgery there, and David had colon cancer surgery at the hospital.

Save the Date

- **April 9**
Med Ed Conference
(online)
- **May 12**
LGH Gala (online)
- **June 13**
LGH Golf Classic
Capilano Golf & Country Club

For the latest information go to:
lghfoundation.com/events

Caroline also credits an observant LGH technician for helping save her life a decade ago. During a lung scan he spotted an aortic aneurysm. Her father and brother had both died from the condition, and Caroline had to have open heart surgery.

"Our hospital is one of the most important things in our community. If you haven't used it yet, you will, or someone you love will need treatment there."

Caroline grew up when much of North Van was dirt roads and has witnessed LGH evolve as the North Shore's population has grown. "We would not want to be anywhere else. Lions Gate is top-notch, with wonderful experienced and caring staff."

Neither of the Graces could have predicted how often they would be treated at LGH as they grew older. Last July they were both in hospital at the same time on different wards, Caroline for a hip replacement and David for surgery to save his badly infected foot from amputation.

For 20 years the Graces have been monthly donors and it is very important to the couple to keep their charitable giving local. "We aren't able to give a lot, but we give what we can," says Caroline. "We take pride in supporting our local hospital."

The Power of 12

Monthly gifts provide LGH with stable funding from a reliable flow of donations. It's easy to set up and even modest donations can make a big impact.

For more information, visit **lghfoundation.com/donate-monthly** or call **604.984.5785**.

1 A big thank you to **Susan Hilton and the Har El Sisterhood** from the **Taylor Way Synagogue in West Vancouver**. They raised funds to purchase panda stuffies to occupy and comfort young children visiting family members on the Palliative Care unit at LGH.

2 Our Christmas community partner **Save-On-Foods and their customers** helped raise a total of \$12,610 through LGH Week fundraising and the sale of Foundation chocolate bars and charity Christmas cards.

3 A pledge by **Valor Gas** to provide up to \$5,000 in matching donations inspired an astonishing response from our donors. We hoped to raise "\$10,000 in 10 hours" on Giving Tuesday in December. Instead, we shattered our goal and raised \$77,764 for the MRI campaign.

4 The **Tzu Chi Foundation** has had a big impact on local health care over the last three years. Since 2019 the philanthropic organization has donated more than \$117,000 including a contribution of \$20,000 for the High Acuity Unit which opens in April.

5 Thank you to **Blue Shore Financial** who supported the MRI campaign by providing \$10,000 in matching funds for all online donations made during LGH Week in October. With their help, we raised a total of \$71,926 throughout the two-week campaign.

Kudos to Our Community!

Lions Gate Hospital Foundation is pleased to acknowledge the generosity of the following thoughtful supporters.



Organizing a fundraiser for LGH is now easier than ever with our personalized online fundraising tools that enable our donors to give directly to the Foundation. Learn more at lghfoundation.com/createEvent

Thank you

for your support

Did you know that **100%** of your donation will help support patient care at LGH?

If you would like to support LGH Foundation through your event, please email us at info@lghfoundation.com



Brook McDonald of Prince George, took home \$21,750 after his winning ticket came up in our Valentine's Day draw.

More Chances to Win

Welcome to our 2022 fast and furious 50/50 Draw. We have more draws, with faster rising jackpots and more tickets for your money. With more chances to win, what are you waiting for?

The next two draws take place on March 31 and May 12 and tickets cost \$10 for 20 tickets, \$20 dollars for 100 tickets and \$50 for 250 tickets.

The LGH 50/50 is the only health care lottery that supports health care on the North Shore. Purchase your tickets now at lgh5050.com



Visit us at lghfoundation.com



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