

BRINGING LIFE-CHANGING CARE TO THE NORTH SHORE



A tour
of LGH's
new HIGH
ACUITY
Unit **p.10**

NEXT TECH

Leading-edge health
care tools revolutionizing
patient care **p.8**



DONORS TRANSFORM DIGITAL IMAGING AT LGH **p.4**



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Staff celebrate the opening of the High Acuity Unit on May 4 - Star Wars Day.

WELL INTO THE FUTURE

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Main cover photo courtesy of Mike Wakefield.
Cover stars: Top (L to R): Krista McPhail, Marvin Zayac and Dr. Magda Lipowska.
Bottom (L to R): Dolores Mamaradlo and Leanne Menzies.

DONORS Make a DIFFERENCE



A heartfelt thank-you from the nurses, physicians, techs and ward aids on the Interventional Radiology team.

BIG CHANGES ARE COMING to the Medical Imaging Department at LGH following the success of two Foundation fundraising campaigns.

We're pleased to announce that we've surpassed our goal for the campaign to upgrade the Interventional Radiology Suite. With the return of our in-person fundraisers, a generous lead donation of \$600,000 from Dave Ritchie and Gloria Beauchamp, and incredible community support, we have raised \$3.3 million to fund a new advanced suite for LGH.

Interventional Radiologists perform a wide range of minimally invasive procedures, including angioplasty, tumour treatments, pain management injections and the insertion of stents, infusion ports, feeding tubes and dialysis catheters. This equipment upgrade will save lives and enhance the quality of life for as many as 2,000 patients per year.

Dr. Mark Madden, Interventional Radiologist, said: "This is fantastic news. Now we can plan for the future knowing that we will have access to the state-of-the-art equipment we need to best serve our patients. The new IVR Suite will be superior in every way and it will give our patients access to the latest advances in minimally invasive procedures. From myself and everyone on the Interventional Radiology team, thank you for your kindness and for supporting our hospital."

Adds Peter Buckley, chair for the campaign: "The IVR suite saves lives each and every day and your contribution will make a difference to thousands of patients."

We're also pleased to announce that a new MRI suite will be ready in 2024. Donors contributed \$7 million to purchase a second MRI machine and fund renovations to create a new MRI suite at the hospital.

The MRI team will be able to see more patients, waiting times will be shorter and patients will be able to book appointments closer to home.

These milestones were made possible through your kindness. We're truly grateful for your continued support. ▣

X-RAYS IN MOTION

IT MAY LOOK LIKE a cross between a Zamboni and a crane, but the Shimadzu Portable X-ray Machine has been a game-changer for LGH's Medical Imaging Department.

Each year, thousands of X-rays are performed at LGH, and when trauma patients cannot be transported or require bedside care, portable X-ray assistance becomes essential. The versatility of this machine allows the care team to avoid unnecessary movement of patients while offering fast and accurate information on-the-spot.

The fully digital Shimadzu Portable X-ray Machine has proven particularly beneficial for reaching more seriously ill patients, such as those in the Intensive Care, High Acuity and Post-Surgical Units. Without doubt it has brought preventive care to a new level at LGH.

"We are grateful for the generosity of donors who fund technology and give us the opportunity to work with innovative machines. It's been a huge asset to the Radiology Department and has really helped us a lot," says Yvonne van Gelderen, Site Coordinator for Medical Imaging at LGH. ▣

The portable X-ray was funded through a bequest from the estate of Francis Barrie Stewart.



CRITICAL CONNECTIONS



A digital upgrade at North Shore Hospice allows families to make the most of their days together.

PATIENTS AND FAMILIES at North Shore Hospice are benefiting from improved connection to the outside world thanks to a donor-funded digital upgrade.

Hospice is a place where family members across generations visit for many hours – often for days and weeks at a time. With limited digital infrastructure, staff were getting more and more requests from visitors who needed to stay connected with work and other family members, keep younger visitors occupied, and help the patients themselves stay in touch with the outside world.

With funds raised from our 2020 Hike & Bike for Hospice event, each of

the 15 rooms now has its own separate wireless router, a smart TV with basic cable, and voice-activated video-conferencing. With private Wi-Fi available in each room, patients and family members can seamlessly connect to streaming services such as Netflix and Spotify, go online shopping or video conference with distant relatives.

“We’re creating a space for people to gather and create moments and create memories,” says Jane Jordan, Coordinator for the Every Day Counts program at Hospice. “Staff are very grateful and very appreciative of the donations because they see what it does for people and how it makes their stay here more comforting.”

North Shore Hospice and the Every Day Counts program provide inpatient and community support services for hundreds of patients and their families each year. ■



Left: DJ Arash with the Persian Celebration Organizing Committee. Above: Global BC's Kristi Gordon hosts "Thursday Night Almost Live."

Dr. Andrew Thompson tests his putting skills against the field at the Golf Classic.



SEASONAL SOCIALS

A TRIO OF SEASONAL CHARITY EVENTS

boosted the campaign to re-equip the Interventional Radiology Suite at Lions Gate Hospital.

“Thursday Night Almost Live,” the virtual gala variety show for LGH, was broadcast in May. Featuring community members, frontline performers and special celebrity guests, the live show raised an incredible \$519,875 (net).

A month later, the 24th Annual Lions Gate Hospital Foundation Golf Classic was generously hosted once again by Capilano Golf and Country Club; 130 golfers took a swing for LGH, raising \$333,635 (net).

In July, volunteers from the local Persian community hosted their third annual fundraising gala, A Persian Celebration, in support of improved patient care on the North Shore. The elegant event, which was hosted at Mulgrave School, garnered an impressive total of \$131,986 (net).

Thank you to all volunteer members of these organizing committees who worked diligently to support these events, as well as the generous sponsors, donors, guests and event volunteers for making our return to in-person fundraisers a great success. ■



IN THE BAG

Thanks to your donations, community nurses on the North Shore are now equipped with a full complement of medical tools for their house calls.



LGH FOUNDATION has invested in equipment to support the work of community nurses across the North Shore.

Having enough reliable oximeters, stethoscopes and other medical supplies on hand is important for staff to manage unexpected assessments and patient interventions.

With funding from the Foundation, each of the 45 full-time community nurses now have their own stethoscope, oximeter and personal medical bag.

According to Aliya Heywood, who currently works as a community palliative care nurse: "The biggest difference is being able to respond to a client's needs right away."

The North Shore Home and Community Care team make close to 40,000 home visits per year and care for clients with a wide range of needs. ■

EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVERS

DESPITE THE CHALLENGES of these past two years, dozens of staff took the time to recognize and nominate their colleagues for the 15th annual North Shore Health Care Awards.

Cheryl West, recipient of the Brian & Betty McManus Workplace Inspiration Award, has worked in the cardiology department at LGH for 20 years. She was the driving force behind the introduction of a set of wireless electrocardiogram (ECG) carts at the hospital. The innovative carts allow technologists to carry out ECG tests while the cardiologist looks at the results in real time, even if they're in a different location.

LGH was one of the first hospitals in B.C. to introduce this technology, and Cheryl's commitment ensured the successful implementation of the project.

Ruth Farnan, RN, Clinical Nurse Educator in the LGH Emergency Department, was awarded the Dr. Les Janz Leadership Award.

When Ruth took on the role of nurse educator, she focused her attention on strengthening orientation procedures, creating a more nurturing environment and

increasing educational and training opportunities for staff.

Dr. Anis Lakha, Family Physician and Palliative Care Specialist at LGH and North Shore Hospice, was the recipient of the Clinical Practice Award. Dr. Lakha is the pioneer behind the Every Day Counts program that provides psychosocial supports for patients with life-limiting illness and their families.

The Foundation awarded the Spirit of Philanthropy Award to Jane Jordan, Coordinator of the Everyday Counts Program at Hospice. Not only has she worked tirelessly with LGH Foundation to raise funds for Hospice and Palliative Care, she has given her time generously to support the wider mission of the Foundation.

"We're really proud of the work that takes place across the North Shore, and staff and physicians deserve our recognition and appreciation for all that they do," says Judy Savage, President and CEO of LGH Foundation.

We would like to thank Julian and Barbara Kirstiuk for funding The Dr. Les Janz Award, and Betty and Brian McManus for sponsoring the Workplace Inspiration Award. ■



Cheryl West – Cardiology Department
Brian and Betty McManus Workplace
Inspiration Award



Ruth Farnan – RN Clinical Nurse Educator
Dr. Les Janz Leadership Award



Dr. Anis Lakha – Family Physician and Palliative
Care Specialist / Clinical Practice Award



Jane Jordan – Coordinator of the Every Day
Counts program / Spirit of Philanthropy Award

While PCL Construction builds the Paul Myers Tower from the ground up, health care staff fine-tune the design and lay out interior spaces.



SCALING THE TOWER

WORK IS WELL UNDERWAY on the high-tech Paul Myers Tower, the biggest investment in health care on the North Shore in more than a generation.

The first floor of the six-storey development is now completed and the building is expected to be patient-ready towards the end of 2024.

The state-of-the-art facility is part funded by the remarkable generosity of the local community, which raised \$106 million towards the cost of the development. The campaign was made possible by a life-changing \$25 million donation from local philanthropist Paul Myers, after whom the tower will be named.

The remainder of the \$310 million cost will be met by Vancouver Coastal Health and the provincial government.

As well as 108 patient rooms (each with their own en suite facilities), eight new operating rooms, and pre-and post-operative care areas, the tower will provide outpatient clinic space on the ground floor.

As the Paul Myers Tower takes shape, planning and project teams from across Vancouver Coastal

Health have been working on the specific details of the patient rooms and other medical facilities to be built within.

The development teams started with life-sized cardboard mock-ups. From those early models and initial staff feedback, they created more sophisticated floor plans. Following further consultation and collaboration with health care teams from across LGH, they produced the final template for high-fidelity inpatient rooms that look and feel almost identical to the real thing.

Erected in an unused office space in North Vancouver, the full-size rooms have the same dimensions and layout as those planned for the completed tower. Everything from the fittings in the en suite facilities, observation alcoves, the position of electric panels and oxygen outlets, space for wheelchairs, to window coverings, the height of handrails and the size of visitor sofa beds have been taken into account.

Mock-ups for a bariatric patient room for large patients, prep/recovery bay for perioperative services, and hand hygiene alcoves were also created during the

development process. Feedback from clinical staff has informed the final construction plans of the rooms.

“The mock-up exercises held with our clinical stakeholders and design team provided the opportunity to take the design from paper to the actual space (3-D). This provided the clinical stakeholders with the ability to ‘walk’ the spaces and make necessary changes,” says Shelly Fleck, Chief Clinical Planning Officer, Major Redevelopment and Expansion Projects at LGH. “Staff who participated commented on how much more space is available, how much easier it will be to move around (both for patients and staff) and what a huge improvement these new rooms are compared to the existing wards.”

This groundbreaking facility will provide acute and virtual services, not only for people on the North Shore, but to the coastal communities of the Sunshine Coast, Sea-to-Sky region and the rural communities of Bella Bella and Bella Coola.

To learn more about the technology that will soon be enhancing clinical care and transforming the patient experience at LGH, read our story on page 8. ■

THE NEXT TECH

A look ahead to the technology that will soon revolutionize patient care at LGH

BY **YOLANDA BROOKS**



LEANNE MENZIES



DOLORES MAMARADLO



DR. MAGDA LIPOWSKA

LIONS GATE HOSPITAL is on the cusp of a great transformation. With the opening of the Paul Myers Tower just two years away, we're gearing up for a tech revolution that will elevate clinical care and improve the experience of all patients who come through our doors.

Patient-centred technology that will keep individuals safe, entertained and more comfortable will soon be introduced. As will clinical support systems and tech-enabled medical devices that connect staff, allow them to monitor

patients more efficiently, and track and trace equipment, medications and even patients on the move.

From initial intake to treatment, recovery and discharge, these carefully chosen upgrades mean that patients will receive optimal care in a quiet, restorative environment built to facilitate the latest clinical standards and accommodate the best high-tech medical equipment.

You can be a part of the Technology Transformation Campaign. LGH Foundation is raising funds for the purchase of 10 technologies that will help us support Lions Gate Hospital through its post-pandemic renewal into a new era of health care with the opening of the Paul

Myers Tower. A very loyal North Vancouver family has already donated \$1 million to the campaign.

Ahead, you can read more about some of the forthcoming tech innovations set to transform LGH.

VOCERA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Health care is all about teamwork, and being able to quickly contact colleagues anywhere on campus is vital. Leanne Menzies is a Clinical Resource Nurse in Surgical Services. There is no closed-loop communication system for the operating rooms at LGH and yet Leanne provides support for a lot of people and oversees a lot of moving parts. If extra equipment is needed, if an

operating room needs an extra pair of hands or she needs to get in touch with post-operative services, she can use her voice-activated Vocera Smartbadge to get precisely what is required during dynamic and sometimes critical situations.

Physicians, nurses and allied health staff across the campus will be equipped with their own Smartbadges, meaning there will be no more playing phone-tag, fewer hold-ups and more time for caring.

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT TRACKING

Dolores Mamaradlo works in the Medical Devices Reprocessing Department (MDRD). She is part of a team that sterilizes and delivers hundreds of instruments for dozens of surgeries every day. Right now, it takes several phone calls and an announcement on a PA system to request a piece of urgently needed equipment.

needed for patients.

This will enable anesthesiologists such as Dr. Magda Lipowska to access the secure AWS using her thumbprint. The AWS will be integrated with the patient's electronic records and once Dr. Lipowska has reviewed the patient's charts and chosen the drugs, she will sign them out and scan them with a barcode reader. All drugs that Dr. Lipowska administers during surgery will automatically be added to the patient record.

Marvin Zayac is a Pharmacy Tech and an Omicell System Administrator responsible for restocking,

Tech upgrades at LGH will keep patients safe and more comfortable.

monitor for every patient, the health care team can keep an eye on the status of their patients without physically needing to go to their rooms. Patients who are doing well can be left to rest, while nurses will be alerted to patients whose vital signs drop below a certain threshold. Continuous monitoring enables quicker medical intervention.

CAPACITY MANAGEMENT SUITE

A Capacity Management Suite connects everyone in the chain of care, from porters and surgical teams to unit clerks and patient care coordinators such as Julia Dickson.

Each person has access to information on where a patient is located, when they are on the move and where they are going. When different teams across different areas of the hospital are all connected and have access to information at a glance, wait times and logjams are reduced.



MARVIN ZAYAC



KRISTA MCPHAIL & MARIEL AMOLAR



JULIA DICKSON

In the near future, she will receive a request via Vocera to prep an instrument. She will then use an upgraded app called T-Doc, which will select the best surgical tools for the specific procedure. The same app will track and trace the instrument through sterilization, use and storage so the MDRD techs like Delores can always keep tabs on inventory.

ANESTHESIA WORK STATION

Right now all the drugs needed for surgeries at LGH are stored in a single location in the surgical unit. Your donations will help fund Anesthesia Work Stations (AWS) for each OR. An AWS is a secure pharmaceutical-dispensing system that controls and monitors all the different medications

monitoring and managing the existing storage and dispensing systems. The enhanced storage and safety solution will streamline medication supply, allowing Marvin to more easily track and trace medication supply for the busy operating rooms.

VITAL SIGNS MONITORING

Krista McPhail, RN, is a Patient Care Coordinator, and Mariel Amolar is a Unit Clerk on the busy 4th Floor Sub-acute and Acute Medical Units, where patients have serious conditions that need regular monitoring. With all the other activities and tasks their teams have to perform, vital signs monitoring is a time-consuming yet important duty. With a vital signs

Read more about all 10 forthcoming technologies and help bring them to LGH by making a donation at lghfoundation.com/tech. ▣

Patient-friendly Tech

Beyond LGH staff, patients will also have leading-edge technology at their fingertips. Every bed will have an integrated bedside terminal, so they will be able to order meals, watch TV, make calls, go through their health care charts with their physicians, read up on their discharge instructions and even call for a taxi. Staff will also be able to access online translation services through the terminal.

What's more, every patient will have access to a nurse call button to contact staff through a bedside speaker. ▣

BRIDGING THE GAP

LGH's new High Acuity Unit provides a long-awaited, state-of-the-art healing space for seriously afflicted patients who require advanced care

BY **NANCY DEHART**



The right patient in the right bed cared for by the right staff.

That's how Lions Gate Hospital's new 12-bed Seaspun High Acuity Unit (HAU) is helping bridge a gap in care between the hospital's standard medical wards and its Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

"No more making do," says Dr. Rob Fingland, an Intensive Care Unit physician at LGH. Dr. Fingland describes the transformation that the high-tech HAU represents for the hospital as going from a 1960s motel that badly needed renovations to a brand-new, five-star boutique hotel.

Around 70 per cent of patients who come into the Emergency Department at LGH suffer a serious illness or injury that requires advanced care. "We're doing surgeries that weren't even invented 15 years ago. We're treating infections that were unknown to us five years ago," says Dr. Fingland.

The much-needed, ultra-modern HAU, which opened in May, will treat up to 1,400 highly vulnerable

patients per year – people with complex and potentially life-threatening health issues who don't need the one-on-one care of the ICU but who are too sick for a regular ward.

The light-filled single-patient rooms have more space for medical teams to bring in equipment, move around the bed and provide rehabilitation. Each family-friendly room contains an alcove with a sofa bed and a curtain for privacy – perfect for patient-physician meetings and for families to be comfortable while supporting their sick loved ones.

"We have moved to more patient-centred care, including space for family to be part of a patient's care, to know what is going on and to be comfortably by their side," Dr. Fingland explains.

One room is also designed for larger patients, with wider doorways and patient lifts.

Innovations abound. Hallways are extra-wide, faucets are hands-free motion-detected, rooms contain overbed and shower lifts, and the

alternating-pressure air mattresses are designed to relieve pressure on patients' bodies and are also self-driving, making them easier to move when time is of the essence.

Each room has a bedside monitor tracking vital signs and oxygen levels, plus a smaller, portable screen that can easily detach and go along with the patient for trips to X-ray or to the operating room.

Thanks to a \$320,000 donation from the Dawn and Axel Rehkatsch Foundation, all high-touch surfaces – door knobs, light switches, IV poles, overbed tables, railings – now have an anti-microbial copper coating and the individual bathrooms have ultraviolet C sanitation that disinfects the bathroom every time the door closes.

The rooms also have negative-pressure capability, so if a patient has a transmissible infectious disease, when sliding doors open to the hallway, microbes will stay inside the room instead of flowing out into the rest of the hospital. These innovations will help cut

DONORS & LEADERS

JEANNIE SENFT, fundraising co-chair for the Seaspan High Acuity Unit, got emotional when she laid eyes on the sparkling ward for the first time. She reflected that just four years ago, her husband and co-chair Rod Senft was critically ill with acute pneumonia at Lions Gate. “He desperately needed this high-tech unit, but it did not exist.”

Senft predicts that “people will get well very quickly here,” but joked that “they will not want to go home,” as the design of the light-filled unit is so very attractive and accommodating to patients and their families.

4,431 individuals and organizations contributed to raise \$10.3 million to create the HAU, which was entirely funded by donations to the Foundation. “If not for the generous support of the community who donated funds, this wonderful ward would not have been built,” Senft says.

The largest single donation of \$1.5 million came from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation and Seaspan North Vancouver.

“We are proud that Seaspan has been able to help bring this unit to North Vancouver,” says Frank Butzelaar, COO of Washington Companies, who attended the unit’s opening in May. “This donation is integral to providing care to our community and we are honoured to give back.”



Fundraiser co-chairs Jeannie and Rod Senft.



The new, large and bright HAU rooms provide more calm and privacy for patients. Left: Critical care physician Dr. Rob Fingland celebrates the opening of the new HAU.

down on the spread of infectious diseases and reduce hospital-acquired infections, says Dr. Josh Douglas, Director of Critical Care Medicine and the HAU’s Clinical Director. “The space for treating patients and the isolation and infection-prevention mechanisms in the design are cutting-edge and will allow us to treat the patients to the best of our abilities,” he explains.

Research shows that high acuity units decrease the length of hospital stays and reduce the mortality rate.

“The idea is that patients will come to the HAU earlier, instead of when they are so ill that they need to be admitted to the ICU,” says Douglas.

The HAU will treat patients with cardiac issues, organ failure, seizures, sepsis, significant blood loss and those in respiratory distress. These patients require close monitoring of vital signs and blood oxygen levels, skilled nursing and a lot of attention, says Amy Quelch, RN and the unit’s Clinical Nurse Educator.

HAU nurses have had over

100 hours of specialty training to identify the problems and needs of complex patients and also have experience in neurology, cardiac, critical and palliative care. The nursing ratio is two or three to one, so there are fewer patients per nurse and more time to spend with them.

“Our nurses must anticipate what they think might happen and be proactive, not reactive, in patient care,” explains Quelch.

The unit will also offer expanded opportunities for LGH nurses and medical staff to train and grow their careers within the hospital, instead of having to go off the North Shore for additional critical care skills. Quelch herself was recruited from another Lower Mainland hospital to LGH’s new HAU for an opportunity to practice family-centred care where she knew she could have a long career.

The HAU will serve as the prototype for LGH’s new Paul Myers Tower, set to open in 2024.

THE BUSINESS OF GIVING BACK

A retired executive redeploys his corporate expertise to fundraising BY **NANCY DEHART**



Ken Rekrutiak and his wife Judy are working harder than ever in retirement, lending their time and talent to LGHF.

When Ken Rekrutiak first helped fundraise for Lions Gate Hospital Foundation 18 years ago, he didn't realize it would kick-start what he jokingly calls "the fourth career of my life."

In 2004, the retired West Vancouver business executive decided to use some of his newfound spare time to chair the campaign to revamp the Emergency Department. Later, he became chair of the Foundation's board and under his leadership, the Foundation raised funds to build the North Shore's first free-standing hospice, a new Angiography suite and began planning for the HOpe Centre and a new Medical & Surgical Centre.

Since 2004, Ken has been involved with every major fundraising campaign at LGH, in both leadership and support roles. His wife Judy has been part of the

Women's Giving Circle since 2014. The couple also participate in many of the Foundation's galas and events, and are members of the Chair's Circle. But Ken's biggest contribution has been his ongoing time, effort and skills. In 2014, he was recognized as an Honorary Director and this year he's chairing our Technology Transformation Campaign.

Ken and Judy believe that fundraising to build a strong community hospital helps their friends, colleagues, neighbours and family.

"By taking a proactive role, and by raising funds, we can influence the timing and the quality of the equipment and facilities that are available to our community," Ken explains. On that front, he points to the Emergency Department, the HOpe Centre, the new Seaspun High Acuity Unit and the Paul Myers Tower (which is currently under construction) as prime examples.

All his life, Ken has enjoyed being a coach and a mentor. He does not like to sit on the sidelines, and encourages others to become active in the hospital. "If you really want to see change happen, you have to roll up your sleeves and try to contribute in any way you can," he says.

Ken is proud that he's been able to get friends involved with the Foundation and says Foundation staff make it very easy for people to volunteer their time and experience. He has become an unofficial ambassador, championing projects and encouraging others to contribute time and money to grow and improve Lions Gate Hospital to better serve the North Shore. "Many of those people are now carrying the Foundation's vision forward and growing it to even higher standards with higher results for our community. It is very rewarding to see what we have been able to accomplish." ■

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

A monthly donation is one of the most convenient ways you can give to Lions Gate Hospital Foundation. Over time, even modest donations of \$10 to \$20 have a big impact.

A regular donation from you will make a difference in many areas of care, boost our major campaigns and enable us to cover the cost of smaller purchases desperately needed by our frontline health care teams.

Monthly donations are quick and easy. You choose the amount you want to give and the Foundation will set up automatic payments directly from your bank account or credit card.

Contact the Foundation office at 604.984.5785 or register at lghfoundation.com/donate-monthly. ■

SURGICAL PRECISION

Two generous donors ensure that LGH neurosurgeons have the tools they need to make procedures more efficient and safer for patients

A significant donation by philanthropic couple Ian and Rosemary Mottershead has funded new state-of-the-art equipment for the Division of Neurosurgery at Lions Gate Hospital.

Thanks to their \$2 million contribution, the hospital's team of five neurosurgeons now has access to the very latest technology and advances in surgical tools.

The new equipment includes a Mizuho Trios Surgical Table System, a sophisticated surgical table used to position patients who have more complex requirements. This table optimizes spinal surgery for corrective or stabilizing spinal implants in patients, such as those with degenerative, traumatic or cancer illnesses. The table is radiolucent – invisible to X-rays, enabling the surgeons to more easily use imaging systems such as fluoroscopy during the procedures.

With funding from the Mottersheads, our neurosurgeons have also acquired two new Zeiss operating microscopes (see picture right) that replace older models. These microscopes offer superior optics with advanced capabilities that use injected dyes for blood vessel visualization and tumour fluorescence, taking advantage of the latest technologies in the field and allowing for safer surgery for our patients.

The remainder of the donation will be invested in an image-guided surgical system which allows 3-D image guidance in real-time, plus an intraoperative nerve monitoring system that provides real-time nerve monitoring and feedback to the surgeon when performing delicate procedures.

Some of the existing neurosurgical equipment at LGH was aging and in need of an upgrade. This was an op-



Donors Rosemary and Ian Mottershead with LGH neurologists Dr. Shahid Gul, Dr. Ramesh Sahjpaul, Dr. Abdul Mutat and Dr. Danny Mendelsohn.



portunity for the Mottersheads to help provide state-of-the-art technology. "We are supportive of all areas at LGH but when I learned of the need for neurosurgical equipment, it was an easy decision to help put the finest surgical equipment

into the hands of skilled neurosurgeons," explains Ian Mottershead.

The Division of Neurosurgery at LGH is one of only five neurosurgery centres in the province. The new equipment will support the care of more than 1,400 patients each year.

"The neurosurgeons at LGH feel privileged to be working in our hospital and for our community," says Dr. Ramesh Sahjpaul, LGH neurosurgeon and Co-Medical Director, Regional Surgical Executive Committee. "This generous donation from Ian and Rosemary gives us the leading-edge equipment and technology we absolutely need to continue to provide the very best in neurosurgical care for our community and the province." ▣

2022 CHAIR'S CIRCLE

LGH FOUNDATION pays tribute to the donors who have made significant contributions by welcoming them to our Chair's Circle. Members of the Circle have a notable impact to health care in our community by making cumulative gifts of \$100,000 or more.

VISIONARIES

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 Learn more at lghfoundation.com/chairs-circle.

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MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS MANAGEMENT



I'M MARGO SIMONI, A PSYCHIATRIC NURSE at the HOpe Centre, and I've worked at Lions Gate Hospital for six years. In that time, I've seen the incredible difference that donors make to patient care in our community.

With the opening of the new Psychiatric Emergency Assessment Unit*, my colleagues and I are thankful for the opportunity to provide specialized care to as many as 3,500 mental health and substance use patients at LGH each year.

This new unit will help us establish which patients entering the Emergency Department require assessment and further stabilization, while providing a safer space and improved environment – making our jobs more streamlined and us more effective. Up to eight patients at a time can be accommodated in the Psychiatric Emergency Assessment Unit, freeing up acute beds and making a huge difference when safely triaging other patients within the Emergency Department.

I want to thank each and every donor who supported LGH Foundation in making this important upgrade possible. I can't thank you enough for your generosity and commitment to our hospital.

Margo Simoni
 Psychiatric Nurse, HOpe Centre,
 Lions Gate Hospital

*The Psychiatric Emergency Assessment Unit opens in fall 2022.

The better the communication, the faster the fix.

Delivering professional services promptly means getting the right information fast – whether it's from our pinpoint-precise laser 3D frame measuring system or from the equally advanced new communication and alarm system coming soon to Lions Gate Hospital, partly funded by Craftsman Collision. As a longtime supporter with donations of over \$1.5 million, we are pleased to be helping LGH in its long-term campaign to upgrade patient care communications technology.

