



Dr. Sasha Smiljanic, Head of Oncology for Coastal Community of Care

Cancer is a disease that touches us all and the latest figures show that two in five Canadians are likely to receive a cancer diagnosis during their lifetime.*

New Horizons

for North Shore Cancer Care By Yolanda Brooks

INTEGRATED CANCER CARE

As well as the redevelopment of the Oncology Clinic, cancer patients will benefit from upgrades in Medical Imaging at LGH. Capacity for minimally invasive procedures will double with two new interventional radiology (IR) suites due to open at the end of this year. The IR team provides many oncology services including biopsies, tumour removal and the insertion of stents and infusion ports.

A second, donor-funded MRI suite is scheduled to be up and running in 2025. MRIs are particularly useful in diagnosing and monitoring brain and spinal tumours, soft tissue and bone tumours.

On the North Shore we are fortunate to have a medical and cancer outpatient clinic conveniently located at Lions Gate Hospital. The services provided by the clinic, go well beyond chemotherapy treatments. A multi-disciplinary team provides blood transfusions, immunotherapy, diagnostic procedures, symptom management support, a specialist pharmacy, counselling and a well-stocked resource library for patients.

“Our current clinic was fantastic when it was renovated 20 years ago but we’ve outgrown it at this point. For the space we’ve got, we’re trying to fit in too many staff and too many patients,” explains Dr. Sasha Smiljanic, Head of Oncology for the Coastal Community of Care.

“Not only has the number of patients we care for each month increased, but the complexity of the treatments that we’re providing has multiplied as well.”

Donations from our oncology expansion project will be used to fund a new

purpose-built centre on the ground floor of the existing LGH building.

Help us change the way we deliver cancer care in our community

With your support, it will be easier to provide more sophisticated treatments, more individual private treatment spaces and help more people survive and thrive after a cancer diagnosis.

Bigger, Better Cancer Care

Receiving a cancer diagnosis is unquestionably frightening and life-altering, but with improved treatment options more people do survive and live well. Having a trusted team with the right resources, expertise and space can offer reassurance during a time when your life is on the line.

You can learn more about our oncology expansion project and make a donation at lghfoundation.com/cancer-care

* Canadian Cancer Statistics, 2022, Canadian Cancer Society, Statistics Canada, and the Public Health Agency of Canada



Giving While I'm Living

By Nancy DeHart

Jane Brown finds comfort and peace with a Legacy donation.

Jane Brown has never been a patient at Lions Gate Hospital but has spent plenty of time in the hospital accompanying both her parents and her brother. North Vancouver has been her family's home base since her parents settled in the Lynn Valley area over 30 years ago.

"Over the years, we have visited Lion's Gate Hospital many times, from emergency to palliative to North Shore Hospice," remarks Jane, a retired elementary school music teacher who lives in Downtown Vancouver. "The empathy we received from staff and the nursing care was memorable."



A patient enjoys the hospice garden in full bloom.

Jane's brother Bob lives in Lynn Valley. For the past year, Jane has been driving to the North Shore to take him to the Dr. Paul Klimo Oncology Clinic at LGH for doctor's appointments and immunotherapy to treat

malignant melanoma, which he has successfully completed.

Jane's father, Arthur Brown, was also treated at LGH for laryngeal cancer. Years later he spent several weeks on the LGH Palliative Care Unit before he succumbed to pancreatic cancer in 2010 at the age of 80.

Jane's mother, Helen, passed at the North Shore Hospice just over a decade later.

"Thank goodness there was hospice for my mother, for it gave me a lot of comfort knowing that she was receiving care that I could no longer provide at home. The hospice team and volunteers ensured that patients and their families felt comfortable at a difficult time."

Jane describes the care she and her family received at LGH and the Hospice as professional, efficient, and empathetic. "They not only cared about my parents, but also about me."

In 2022, Jane started giving annual donations to Lions Gate Hospital Foundation, as well as buying 50/50 tickets, and will continue to attend fundraising events. But she wanted to do more, so she decided to set up a legacy gift by making LGH Foundation a key beneficiary in her Will, as well as the Vancouver Music Teachers' Association.

"I thought to myself, I don't have children of my own, so who can I help out? And these are two things in my life that are very close to my heart: hospice and palliative care, and music programs in schools."

Jane knows that her donations will help Hospice and the LGH Palliative Care Unit continue to expand and enhance their services.

Jane finds it very rewarding to have the chance to see her donations at work improving the hospital and hospice services, and she encourages others to consider a Legacy donation.

"It definitely feels great to be giving while I'm still living."



Gratitude in Action

This year marked a joyous return to in-person activities, with our monthly donors and Legacy Society members warmly welcomed to a series of engaging events. As a valued monthly or legacy donor, you will receive exclusive invitations to these special events, our heartfelt way of expressing gratitude and honoring your commitment to LGHF.

If you have included a gift in your will to LGHF, we encourage you to share this information with us and become a Legacy Society Member. Your generosity significantly shapes healthcare in our community, and we want to express our heartfelt gratitude. Additionally, this provides a chance for you to discuss the allocation and recognition preferences for your gift. Explore more about our Legacy Society at lghfoundation.com/legacy-giving.

If you're considering the benefits of monthly giving, connect with Carolyn Anderson at 604.984.5857 or explore the possibilities at lghfoundation.com/donate-monthly.



Sharing & Caring on the Shore

By Kristina Yuen

During 13 years of giving, dedicated supporter Sandra Evans has seen some exciting changes at LGH.

Sandra's connection to the North Shore runs deep, having settled here four decades ago when she met her husband who she describes as a loyal North Vancouverite. Over the years, Sandra's love for the area grew as she raised her children, both of whom were born at Lions Gate Hospital, creating cherished family memories on the slopes and embracing the vibrant community life.

Having worked at Vancouver Coastal Health for many years, Sandra fostered a deep appreciation for local health-

"I think that everyone realizes that the North Shore is one of the best places to live, so giving back to our local hospital is a no brainer."

care. She recalls the Foundation's past fundraising campaigns for the North Shore Hospice and the HOpe Centre, expressing the excitement of contributing to these campaigns that later materialized into essential facilities benefiting our community.

During her tenure at VCH, Sandra allocated funds from her salary to support the hospital. Her commitment to giving back didn't cease with retirement. Instead, it seamlessly transitioned to monthly contributions, made through her credit card. This offered a convenient way to continually support a cause she holds dear.



Reflecting on her experiences, Sandra remarks on how easy it is to make a difference through monthly giving. "It's just so effortless," she affirms. "The simplicity of automatic contributions, coupled with the significant impact you make over time is an amazing way to donate."

Last year, Sandra underwent hip replacement surgery at LGH, experiencing firsthand the exceptional care provided by our hospital staff. The promptness, warmth, and kindness of our medical teams left an indelible mark, reinforcing her belief in supporting the Foundation's fundraising initiatives.

As Sandra eloquently puts it, "monthly giving is my way of giving back to the community that has given so much to me. We have an incredible giving community and I think that everyone realizes that the North Shore is one of the best places to live, so giving back to our local hospital is a no brainer."

Our loyal donors come together to learn more about their impact at LGH.



In Grateful Remembrance:

Honoring Our Legacy Donors

We are truly thankful to the following generous individuals who have left a lasting legacy in 2023 through their thoughtful bequests.

- Johannes Bagge
- Walter Bodzian
- Kevin Bonar
- Gemma Broccardo
- Harvey Buhr
- Jeremy Collisbird
- Mary Currie
- Helen Dye
- William Garby
- Robert & Marguerite Gardner
- Dorothy Hamilton
- Roy & Norah Hamilton
- June Harris
- Yvonne Haswell
- Donald & Johanne Homer
- Noel & Phyllis Jenkins
- David Kennedy
- Bertha Kirby
- Frank & V. Anne Leavers
- Mary Little
- Godfrey Lynam
- William MacGillivray
- David Mallouk
- John & Wendy Morton
- Fred & Marilyn Myers
- Monica Nelson
- Robert Nesbitt
- Maureen Powers
- Shirley Redahl
- Clarence & Letitia Richardson
- John Ross
- Revill Gerald Sear
- Audrey Sojonky
- David Taplin
- Rex & Florence Wilson

These legacies are woven into every aspect of our work and we honour their contribution with deep gratitude.

The new Paul Myers Tower with eight new state-of-the-art operating rooms and 108 single-patient rooms is scheduled to be patient ready early in 2025. This once

in a generation development was made possible with the generous support of our donors, including significant contributions from monthly and legacy donors.



YOUR LEGACY, OUR CAUSE: LEGACY GIVING MADE EASY

Consider a simple update to your will by including a gift to Lions Gate Hospital Foundation through a straightforward process known as a 'codicil'. This document, despite its name, is uncomplicated. It references your existing will, affirms its validity, and introduces a new paragraph outlining your donation to LGHF. Together, your original will and the codicil work in harmony to fulfill your wishes upon your passing.

1 Seek Legal Guidance: Get advice from a lawyer or notary to ensure your codicil clearly expresses your intentions and is appropriately signed and witnessed.

2 Determine Your Contribution: Decide on the amount or percentage of your estate you wish to donate to Lions Gate Hospital Foundation.

3 Identify Lions Gate Hospital Foundation: Clearly state "Lions Gate Hospital Foundation" and include our charity number, 11902 0907 RR0001.

4 Specify Your Preferences: If you wish for your donation to support a specific program or address a particular area of need, we encourage you to connect with Carolyn before completing your codicil. This ensures that your gift will have the intended impact.

5 Let Us Know: We would like to welcome you to our Legacy Society, offering exclusive access to special events, seminars, behind-the-scenes opportunities, and the option to be recognized on our donor wall.



Carolyn Anderson
Director,
Planned Giving

604.984.5857
carolyn.anderson@vch.ca



Visit us at lghfoundation.com



231 East 15th Street North Vancouver
BC Canada V7L 2L7 604.984.5785

lghfoundation.com
info@lghfoundation.com