

THE BULLETIN

HGH FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER- FALL 2018



**“I TOLD HIM
I WASN'T READY
TO LET HIM GO”**

**How Your Gifts Helped
Save Richard's Life**

WHEN RICHARD CLÉMENT WOKE UP ON JUNE 9TH, it was a Saturday morning like any other. “I woke up feeling fine. In fact, I washed both our vehicles and it wasn't until I went to take something down to the basement that I suddenly felt a stabbing, tearing pain in my chest.” The pain was so intense that Richard fell to the ground and had to crawl upstairs on his hands and knees, where he told his wife of 58 years, Marie-Claire, to call an ambulance. “I suspected it was a heart attack,” she admits, “and I told him I wasn't ready to let him go.”

The ambulance arrived quickly, transporting Richard to the Hawkesbury and District General Hospital (HGH) where he was immediately seen by cardiologist, Dr. Claude Maranda, who sent him for an emergency CT angiogram in the hospital's Diagnostic Imaging Department. “Richard was very lucky. The CT detected a dissection of his aorta, which meant that he needed surgery immediately. He was instantly a medical emergency and was transported to Ottawa by ambulance,” explains Dr. Maranda.

Richard underwent an 8-hour surgery to repair his aorta. Looking back, Marie-Claire admits that she didn't realize just how critical the situation was. It was only several days later that one of the couple's three daughters was told by a physician in Ottawa that had the ambulance arrived there for surgery just 10 minutes later, her father wouldn't have survived.

THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF DONORS LIKE YOU, HGH has a CT angiogram on site that was able to pinpoint Richard's condition within minutes. “Without that specialized equipment, this particular condition would have been very difficult to diagnose; he wouldn't be alive without it,” says Dr. Claude Maranda.

Richard woke up four days after the surgery. His family had no idea if there would be any long term damage as a result of his

condition. “That time was very difficult for our whole family,” remembers Marie-Claire. But although Richard awoke in a lot of pain, she was relieved when he quickly recognized her and their daughter and told them how much he loved them.

RICHARD'S FAMILY SUPPORTED HIM through three weeks of acute care at the hospital in Ottawa, followed by a transfer to HGH for the remaining week of recovery. Marie-Claire was relieved when Richard was transferred back to HGH, as the travel to Ottawa had been difficult for her. She spent every day with him at the hospital until he was released.

Long time donors themselves, Richard and Marie-Claire say they give to the HGH Foundation knowing community support is vital to having a hospital with the most modern equipment and trained specialists. They just never expected it would make such a significant difference in their lives.

“We are so appreciative that our community contributed to the CT angiogram which saved Richard's life. It's really thanks to them that he was diagnosed and received surgery so quickly.” – Marie-Claire

Richard has returned home and is undergoing a slow recovery process, which includes cardiac rehabilitation at HGH. He is surrounded by the support of his wife, three daughters, their partners and six grandchildren who are beyond grateful that he is on the road to recovery.

NEW DEPARTMENTS OPEN AT HGH, THANKS TO YOU!

The Redevelopment Project at HGH Would Not Have Been Possible Without Your Generous Donations.



Two new Operating Rooms have the most up-to-date equipment in the province and space for two additional ORs has been constructed for the future



The Ambulatory Care Waiting Room is a bright, comfortable place to wait for outpatient medical appointments.



The Emergency Department's main corridor is central to this spacious new department which contains private, closed examination rooms.



Medical Day Unit staff provide chemotherapy treatment in one section of the unit, while the remaining space is used for minor medical procedures and out-patient care.



The OR preparation area can be found in what was HGH's courtyard space. A beautiful skylight was installed to bring light into the department and each preparation room is private the best patient care and comfort in advance of a procedure.

AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE PREPARATION FOR THE NEW MRI MACHINE AND CT SCANNER

How HGH is getting ready for new diagnostic imaging technology

As the community rallies to raise funds for HGH's new MRI machine and CT scanner, senior managers at the hospital are busy planning their upcoming installation.

"It's a very exciting process because we know what an impact having this equipment at HGH will have on the region," says Sylvain Grenier, Director of Medical Imaging at HGH. "Patients who currently have to travel to Montreal, Ottawa or Cornwall for an MRI will soon receive this service in Hawkesbury. Similarly, specialized CT procedures and exams, which aren't available with our current CT, will soon be performed on HGH's new 128-slice CT scanner," adds Mr. Grenier.

The process leading up to the installation of the equipment is a complicated one, which began with an application to the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care. The Ministry's rigorous process ensures that strict, standardized guidelines are followed to protect both patients and healthcare providers.

The science behind the MRI and CT is very different, so the preparation must be as well.

The CT uses low levels of radiation to produce cross-sectional images of the body. To ensure proper shielding and protection from radiation are in place, HGH has hired a physicist to work with the project's architect. Together, the two consider the radiation emission of the machine, the size of the examination room, running time and other factors, in order to calculate the thickness of the protective lead layer which will be placed in the walls of the building.

The MRI, on the other hand, uses strong magnetic fields and radio waves to generate images of the organs in the body, so it's important that the machine be shielded from interfering radio waves. This is done through the installation of a Faraday Cage (see picture). Faraday cages come in all shapes and sizes, but all of them use a metal screen that conducts electricity, creating a shielding effect.

While construction takes place on the building, a task force has been formed between the supplier and the hospital's Project Management Office. There are many details for the task force to consider, including strength of the floor, interface to hospital information systems, how the machines will actually be brought into HGH, training of staff, testing of equipment, etc.

The "GO LIVE" date

Once a final "go live" date has been determined, the years of planning and preparation will finally come together. The supplier will provide ongoing technical support and quality control to ensure the machines are performing at their peak.

The CT will continue serving HGH's patients 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The new machine is expected to be 4-5 minutes



faster per patient than the current CT, saving time primarily in post processing, where it creates 3D images for the radiologist to review.

The MRI, new to HGH, will begin running on 8-hour shifts during the day. The volume of patients will dictate how the hospital adjusts in order to maximize its use and meet the needs of patients.

"Although technology is very important, it doesn't stand alone," says Mr. Grenier. "We have put just as much effort and time into optimizing the processes surrounding the CT and new MRI to ensure the shortest possible wait times and best service to our population. There will be continuous improvements, even after installation," he adds.

New Equipment – For and BECAUSE of YOU!

"On behalf of HGH, we would like to thank you for your generous gifts toward the purchase of our new MRI machine and CT scanner. Your support helps us continue building regional access to health programs and services with state-of-the-art equipment.

By giving to the HGH Foundation, you make it possible for HGH to continue to promote not only health, but also provide excellent, compassionate care to our patients and their family as they move through their health journey. Thank you!"

– Imrana Jeffrey, Vice-President, Ambulatory Care, Quality and Performance

– Sylvain Grenier, Director Medical Imaging, Ambulatory Care Clinics & Interim for Pharmacy

AN ENDURING LEGACY

Julia and Peter Kalapati lived in Hawkesbury for many years. They both received ongoing care and treatment over the years at HGH. When Julia passed away in 2009 and Peter in 2017, the couple left a very generous donation to the HGH Foundation, so their legacy would live on long after they were gone. We were touched to learn how important it was to them to acknowledge and thank those who had cared for them, in particular, Dr. Jean-Claude Landa, their physician. Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Kalapati, for this incredible gift. In keeping with their wishes, this donation will be used for the priority needs of the hospital. **For more information on leaving a legacy in your Will, please contact Pierre-Luc Byham at 613-632-1111 ext. 21100**



HOW YOU CAN HELP US CHANGE MORE LIVES

An Access 2018 Campaign Update

Thanks to you and other generous donors, we have now reached 85% of the Access 2018 campaign goal to purchase a new MRI machine and CT scanner for HGH. This incredible new diagnostic imaging technology will mean more detailed images resulting in better, faster diagnosis for those you care about. As you saw firsthand throughout Richard's story on page one ("I Told Him I Wasn't Ready to Let Him Go"), having access to state-of-the-art medical equipment at HGH really does save lives!

But, we still need to raise \$600,000 by the end of 2018 in order to reach our goal. Please consider making a gift today to ensure your family, friends and neighbours have quick access to the very best diagnostic tools. We hope you'll never be in a position where you need to use this new equipment, but what could be more important than having it available if someone you care about is going through a healthcare crisis. Having this equipment in Hawkesbury will save thousands of residents from our region from having to travel to Ottawa or Montreal at all hours of the day and night in order to receive this diagnostic imaging service.

Every single donation makes a difference in this last stage of the fundraising campaign. We need your help. Please consider making a donation to the Access 2018 campaign. Your support changes lives at HGH.

CAMPAIGN GOAL:
\$4 MILLION

RAISED TO DATE | **BALANCE TO RAISE**
\$3,400,000 | **\$600,000**



Please support the HGH Foundation by returning this form with your tax deductible gift in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Thank you for your support!



YES! I want to help bring an MRI machine and new CT scanner to HGH.

Here is my gift of \$ _____

You will find enclosed my cheque payable to HGH Foundation. **OR** Please charge to my account: VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS
_____ Expiration date ____ / ____

Name of donor : _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____ Email : _____

Signature : _____

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