



# Exceptional CARING

## The RMHF Gratitude Report

### Our Mission:

"Inspire donor support for Ross Memorial Hospital and ensure gifts are used effectively and responsibly to improve local healthcare."

### Our Vision:

Exceptional support for exceptional care.

Spring 2015

### What's Inside:

- RMH welcomes the new Chief of Medical Staff
- Opportunities for education help the team — and patients
- Holiday Appeal 'casts a light' on your generosity



## Meet the Ross Memorial's new President & CEO, Dr. Bert Lauwers



*"It's my goal to make Ross Memorial Hospital the best community hospital in Ontario."*

*~ Dr. Bert Lauwers  
President & CEO*

The office may be new, but Dr. Bert Lauwers is well versed in the inner workings of the Ross Memorial Hospital. He's been part of the team since 1983 and has helped to care for an entire generation of patients.

Dr. Lauwers returned to the Ross in June of 2013 after seven years at the Office of the Coroner of Ontario. In his role as Deputy Chief Coroner, he conducted death investigations and inquests and made recommendations to help improve public safety and prevent deaths.

Happy to be 'back home' at the Ross, Dr. Lauwers is committed to evolving the team's performance with a keen focus on four pillars: quality patient care, patient engagement and family-centred care, integration with community based healthcare providers, and fully engaged physicians.

Dr. Lauwers' vast experience includes philanthropic initiatives as well. He has long been a supporter of the RMH Foundation, and assisted with the 2005 holiday appeal when he was Clinical Director for the Critical Care program. As President and CEO, Dr. Lauwers sits on the Foundation's Board of Directors, and helps to ensure the responsible and effective use of donors' gifts.

Thanks to our generous donors ...

## The Holiday Appeal is a record-setting success!



*“Thank you for casting a caring light on our patients,” said Dr. Knox. “It means so much to have the support of the community behind us.”*

In November, Dr. Andy Knox partnered with the Foundation to ask local donors to ‘cast your light’ and support the holiday appeal. The resulting ray of generosity was nothing short of astounding ...

**More than \$203,000 was raised as of March 12th — \$49,000 over the original goal of \$154,000!**

The holiday appeal is helping the hospital to replace a microscope and urinalysis analyzer in the laboratory, and purchase new drills, a scope, sterilization equipment and videoconferencing technology that improves patients’ access to specialists in other parts of the province.

Thanks to donors’ outpouring of support for these equipment needs, even more items on the hospital’s urgent needs list can be purchased. With these important tools at the ready, the hospital team can better diagnose, treat and monitor your care.

## RMH one of five hospitals in Ontario to win Green Award

RMH is proud to be one of five Ontario hospitals to be recognized for its commitment to be environmentally-friendly by Booth Centennial Healthcare Linen Services.

In June, the RMH Surgical Program transitioned from using disposable wrappers on instrument trays to reusable textile wrappers. The change was initiated by employees in the hospital’s Medical Device Reprocessing Department (MDRD), where surgical equipment and medical devices are disassembled, cleaned, inspected, reassembled, tested, placed in instrument containers or packaged individually, sterilized, stored and distributed for patient care.



“Every day, our team prepares 70 instrument trays for use in the operating rooms, ambulatory care unit, and emergency department at the Ross Memorial and at the Haliburton Highlands Health Services, so this was a significant waste diversion initiative. It also means a cost savings of approximately \$5000 a year,” said Shirley Wilcox, MDRD Manager. “We’re thrilled this initiative is such a success, and we’re proud to be recognized by Booth Centennial.”

## Shoppers' Tree of Life sprouts support for RMH



For several years, Shoppers Drug Mart has promoted the Tree of Life fundraiser in support of breast health care at Ross Memorial Hospital. The Tree of Life program encourages customers to buy a leaf (\$1), a butterfly (\$5), an acorn (\$10) or a cardinal (\$50). The decorations are signed by the donor and posted in the store, and 100% of the proceeds are donated to benefit women's health.

The owner of Lindsay's west end Shoppers Drug Mart, Mahvash Moorbakhsh, says she was encouraged to see so many people contributing to the Tree of Life. Members of her family had breast cancer and it's a cause she cares about deeply.

On Feb. 24th, Mahvash presented a cheque for \$1,819 to Erin Coons, RMHF Executive Director. "The Shoppers Drug Mart experience shows what caring businesses can accomplish when they involve their customers in philanthropic efforts," said Coons. "Together, their gifts will enhance the our breast screening program, and help local patients beat cancer."

## Central Ontario Women's Institute cares about health

In communities around the world, members of Women's Institutes focus on ways to improve the health and safety of their neighbourhoods. Over the years, local branches of the Women's Institute have been quick to support fundraising efforts that have enhanced patient care at RMH.

The Central Ontario WI convention was held on October 18th with 60 members. The Executive of the Central Area chose to donate the proceeds from the convention to RMH. On Dec. 9th, 2014, Kathleen Beall and Marilyn Graves, Public Relations Officer for the WI Central Ontario Area, presented a donation of \$100 to Erin Coons, Executive Director of the RMHF.

"The hospital is so important," said Kathleen Beall, second Vice President of the Women's Institute Central Ontario Area. "We feel strongly about supporting the hospital because it's the best way to support the health of the community."

"It's wonderful to see how committed the WI is to its communities," said Coons. "Over the years, these women have made a significant impact on patients at the Ross. Their work on behalf of the Hospital makes a difference, and we're so grateful to have them on our team."



Kathleen Beall, Erin Coons and Marilyn Graves



## Brotherhood of Knights supports urgent needs at RMH

For 46 years, members of the Knights of Columbus, the Odd Fellows, the Orange Lodge, the Moose Lodge, the Gothic Masonic Lodge and Faithful Brethren Masonic Lodge have come together in the spirit of fellowship and community service. This year, they gathered for the Brotherhood Banquet on February 23rd, and invited Paul McPherson, Chair of the RMH Foundation's Board of Directors, to receive a \$500 donation for the Ross Memorial Hospital.

"To me, this Brotherhood is a perfect example of what can be accomplished when people work together for a common goal," McPherson said. "That, in essence, is what the Ross Memorial Hospital Foundation does."

"When urgent needs are identified at the Hospital, the Foundation rallies the community to help fund the cost of the equipment or the capital project and then we ensure the dollars go where they will help the most. Individually, we couldn't afford such costs. But together, we make it happen. The Brotherhood Knights is helping the Foundation provide the most critically needed patient care tools and equipment."

*"Individually, we couldn't  
afford such costs.  
But together,  
we make it happen."*

*~ Paul McPherson,  
Board Chair*

## Meet the Foundation's Board of Directors

With input and oversight by the Foundation's volunteer Board of Directors, the Foundation represents the interests of donors and the hospital, encouraging gifts and ensuring they're used effectively, responsibly and in compliance with the wishes of the donor. The Foundation is

grateful for the dedication and support of its Board members.



Standing (from left to right):  
Rob Jardine, Gord Ferguson,  
Paul McPherson, Cari Tracey,  
Tim Shauf, Heather Richardson,  
Alex Itschenko, Brian Kelsey,  
Erin Coons, Ryan O'Neill

Seated (from left to right):  
Michael Locke, Patricia Clarke,  
Wayne Brumwell, Dr. Gargi  
Bhatia

Absent:  
Pat Angiers, Dr. Bert Lauwers

## Are you planning a fundraising event?

On behalf of the Foundation, the RMH team and all of the patients who benefit from the involvement of donors such as you, THANK YOU for your interest in hosting a fundraising event.

### Our Event Planning Guide can help!

It's important to submit your event proposal to the Foundation. Our new Event Planning Guide contains an event proposal form and important information for you to consider as you plan.

Each proposal is carefully reviewed to see if it is feasible and fits with our organization's goals and objectives. Once your event is approved, we'll discuss key details of your event, such as:

- the appropriate use the RMHF logo on your materials
- the eligibility of tax receipts you would like to offer
- appropriate sponsorship prospects
- the licensing of gaming events such as lotteries and raffles

For more information, or to get a copy of our Event Planning Guide, please call our Development Officer, Karen Scott at 705-324-6111 ext 6183 or email [foundation@rmh.org](mailto:foundation@rmh.org).



## RMH encourages organ donor registration



**The hospital launched its month-long organ donor registration drive on February 4th, with a display in the main lobby. By the end of the day, the goal for the month — 150 registrations — had been reached! The target was boosted to 300 and the link is still open so everyone can help save lives.**

Currently in the City of Kawartha Lakes, **there are 19 people waiting for an organ transplant.**

Many of us think that we are registered, since we signed a donor card that we carry in our wallets. However, a signed donor card is not recorded in the province's database and may not be available when it's needed. Having immediate access to a potential donor's registration is a key part of the process that can result in a successful transplant.

Evidence shows when families are presented with proof of a loved one's donor registration, they're more likely to consent to donation, but in the absence of registration, consent drops dramatically.

One organ donor can save eight lives. You can help give hope to someone on the transplant list. It only takes two minutes.

Visit <https://beadonor.ca/ross-memorial-hospital>

## Exceptional support for exceptional care

Thanks to the outstanding generosity of local donors, the Foundation has disbursed **\$857,249.98** to the hospital in the last fiscal year. Our donors' gifts are used to fund the purchase of medical equipment, capital projects and education.

Donors helped the hospital to buy a Med Select station for the Continuing Care program, which will automate the dispensing of patients' medication, enhance patient safety and save nurses time.



Donors also played a key role in the support of educational opportunities for the RMH team. In September, eight employees were able to attend the International Congress for Hospice Palliative Care in Montreal, learning about advances in end-of-life care. As well, a team of RMH physicians and management staff had the opportunity to hone its leadership and communication skills at an event in October. Response from the physicians and staff was excellent, with one ER doctor saying, "if only I could have taken this course 20 years ago."

## Dr. Bharat Chawla takes on Chief of Staff role at RMH

RMH is pleased to welcome Dr. Bharat Chawla into his new role as Chief of Staff. The Chief of Staff is a member of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) and is responsible for supervising the professional care provided by all members of the medical, dental, midwifery and extended nursing class staff in the Hospital.

Dr. Chawla has worked as a psychiatrist in the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District since 1997. He joined the RMH in 2005. As Chief of Psychiatry/Clinical Director, he helped RMH to obtain Schedule 1 status for the Department of Psychiatry.



Dr. Chawla is an active member of the Central East LHIN Chiefs of Psychiatry Group, which created and implemented the Emergency Department Common Assessment Tool and the mental health bed registry, which is used throughout the CE LHIN.

Dr. Chawla is committed to cultivating an environment of teamwork and collaboration, and working to enhance the quality of care provided to patients at RMH.

The Chief of Staff is appointed by the Board of Governors with the recommendation of a selection committee and holds the position for a three year term.



# The RMH Foundation is grateful for the generous donations made in memory of donors' loved ones.



When we lose someone dear to us, it can be comforting to share stories of happy times, and to remember the things that made our loved ones so special. Often we want to do something special in their memory. With the kind cooperation of local funeral homes, the RMH Foundation's memorial giving program allows family and friends to commemorate the lives that have touched them. The Foundation hopes that this program assists families, knowing that their kindness will help RMH continue to respond to local health care needs.

Doreen Armstrong	James Edwards	Marilyn Kydd	Wilfed Scrivens
Denise Arnold	Austin Evans	P.J. Ann LeMasurier	Ron Sears
Noel Ashby	Doug Evans	Bill Little	Jackie Shier
Dorothy Ashton	Craig Fawcett	Wesley Lockwood	Donald Sleep
Norman Barker	Edward Ford	Joan Lynch	Darryl Smith
Gail Beemer	Vera Forson	Ken MacArthur	Evan Smith Romeril
Ellen Bird	Jackie Francis	Thomas MacFarlane	Shannon Staseff
Glen Blanchard	Cecil Garrett	Diane McFadden	Mary Steele
Sylvia Bowins	Bryan Goldby	Duncan McIntyre	Robert Stokes
Carol Bradburn	Berdine Graham	Vera McKay	Edythe Streich
Ruth Bray	Bryan Gray	Helen McPhee	Leila Sutherland
Jim Burnett	Niesje Groenendyk	Barbara Miller	Louisa Maude Bell Swain
John Burns	Olive Grummitt	James Mohr	Hank Tamblyn
Frank Caldarola	Ronald Gunter	George Morrison	Donald Tansley
Jeanette Campbell	Gordon Holliday	John Morrison	Barbara Thurston
Audrey Chapman	Carol Hay	Margaret Munro	John Van Gerven
Fred Cheron	John Henley	Caren Oldfield	Judith Wakelin
Jack Colquhoun	Erik Hockley-Larsen	Louis Pallen	Rhoda Walker
Phyllis Cook	John Hooker	Richard Peel	Robert Walmsley
Keith Coulter	Harold Hopkins	Don Perrin	Jo-Anne Wardlaw
Barry Craig	Ray Houghton	Arthur Pilcher	Margaret Warrilow
Alice Crandall	James Hunter	Barbara Potts	Vincent Warrilow
Hazel Curtis	Gerald Hurley	Harold Rice	Catherine West
Kathleen Dodwell	Jean Ingram	Ivan Rodd	Harold Williams
Gordon Downing	Marjorie Issacson	William Rothern	Leonard Williams
Mae Eakins	Jean Johnson	Bud Sanderson	
Alexander Ednie	Rodney Kaufman	Evelyn Scrivens	

## In honour of ...

Everett & Louise Barton      Dr. David Lane

**\* These gifts were  
donated between  
November 2014  
and February 2015.**

We respect your privacy

At the RMH Foundation, we are committed to protecting the privacy of our donors.

We value our donors' trust and recognize that maintaining this trust requires that we be open and accountable in our treatment of the information that you choose to share with us.

We protect your personal information and adhere to all legislative requirements with respect to protecting privacy.

The information you provide will be used to deliver services and to keep you informed and up to date on the activities of RMHF, through periodic contacts.

**How to contact us:**

**RMH Foundation**  
10 Angeline St. N.  
Lindsay, ON  
K9V 4M8

T (705) 328-6146  
F (705) 328-6147  
foundation@rmh.org

www.rmh.org/  
foundation

Charitable Registration  
Number

11912 4121 RR0001

# Happy Birthday, Ralph!

On March 2nd, the Foundation hosted a birthday party for volunteer Ralph Griffin, who turned 95.

Ralph has volunteered at the hospital since 1986 and still looks forward to his two shifts per week. Ralph enjoys visiting patients in the Continuing Care program. He's also a key helper in the Foundation's holiday appeals. Every Christmas, he collects the paper ornaments that are mailed to the Foundation with donors' gifts, and hangs them on the Christmas trees in the main lobby.

In years past, Ralph served on the Information Desk, wrote the volunteers' newsletter, and he helped begin the Auxiliary's Lottery Cart initiative.



**Among Ralph's well-wishers were Carole Follett and Ruth Hopkins from the Cardiac Rehab program. Ralph is a champion of the exercise program.**

He has received numerous awards for his efforts, including the Ontario Public Service Quarter Century Club, presented by the Lt. Governor of Ontario.

In 2005, Ralph donated the music system in the main lobby.

At his party, Erin Coons read the 'Top 10 things we can learn from Ralph'. Among them is a valuable lesson: **volunteering keeps you young.**

All the best, Ralph!



**ROSS MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL**  
Foundation

*"Yes, I would like to help RMH keep the best tools in the best hands."*

Here is my donation of  \$25  \$50  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed my cheque (payable to RMH Foundation)

I prefer to use my credit card. Please use my  VISA  Mastercard

Cardholder's name \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to direct my gift to:  Where it's most needed  Current Appeal

Equipment Fund  Education Fund  Specific Program \_\_\_\_\_