



# Exceptional CARING

## The RMHF Gratitude Report

### Our Mission:

"Partnering with our donors and the community to support exceptional care."

### Our Vision:

Inspired donors advancing care close to home.

## Summer 2023

### What's Inside:

\* A new fleet of advanced IV pumps helps the Ross Team give the safest care

\* RMH receives exceptional support from businesses and community clubs

\* A message of thanks from the Board Chair and Foundation CEO

\* Find out what Lindsay school is the first to earn a place on the RMH Donor Wall

Medical Radiation Technologists Julie and Amy celebrate the arrival of the community's new MRI on May 29.



## It's here! Our community's new MRI has arrived!

The new MRI features **cutting-edge technology** that provides the sharpest image resolution faster than ever before. Thanks to advances in imaging science, the MRI can adjust to each patient, which means they are in position sooner and spend less time in the MRI. High tech sensors in the table monitor patients' breathing and adjust for patients who have difficulty holding their breath for certain tests, such as liver and abdomen imaging. The new MRI is state-of-the-art ... **and it is being funded 100% by donors!**

"The more detailed the MRI image, the better and faster our team can diagnose and treat our patients' concerns," said Dr. Bharat Chawla, Medical Chief of Staff. "The new MRI also connects to the Hospital's clinical information system, which means every image is automatically attached to the patient's digital medical record and available to all care providers, including specialists in other regions."

"This diagnostic advancement wouldn't be possible without our donors. With you, ensuring Ross Memorial can keep pace and meet the evolving needs of a rapidly growing population," said Erin Coons, RMH Foundation CEO.

For more details, visit [www.rmh.org/foundation](http://www.rmh.org/foundation)

## Kawartha ATV Association Members are Patrons of Care at RMH



Jesse Wright, Erin Coons, Carolyn Richards and Carolyn LaPorte celebrate KATVA's giving at RMH

The members and friends of KATVA love to tour the trails on their four-wheelers and side-by-sides, and they love knowing that the Ross Memorial is there to provide care when it's needed. For five years, KATVA has turned its annual Poker Run event into a fundraiser for the RMH Foundation, supporting medical equipment and technology needs throughout the Hospital. On June 3, the Poker Run attracted more than 200 riders and 25 volunteers with a ride, silent auction, draws and dinner. On July 4, KATVA representatives Carolyn Richards, Jesse Wright and Carolyn LaPorte visited the Ross to present a cheque for \$10,000 to help fund the Hospital's new fleet of IV pumps and priority needs in the Operating Room. This gift brings KATVA's cumulative giving total to \$50,500.

"It's wonderful to see KATVA's passion for trail activities, and it's very clear that they are equally passionate supporters of patient care at the Ross," said Erin Coons. "Thanks to their enthusiasm, their fundraising efforts have reached a new level of giving on our Donor Recognition Wall. We're thrilled to feature the KATVA plaque among our Patron donors where they will inspire others to support causes they care about."

## BirdHouse Realty: Community Ambassadors and RMH Champions

The team at BirdHouse Realty celebrated the new brokerage's first anniversary on April 18, marking a year of connecting people with places throughout the Kawartha Lakes and supporting the community they call home through the BirdHouse Legacy Fund. With every completed transaction, selling agents contribute \$50 to the Fund and it's matched by BirdHouse Realty. At the end of the year, the agents select four charitable causes to support with a donation from the Fund.

"As ambassadors of the Kawartha Lakes lifestyle, we know that a vibrant community includes an exceptional hospital," said Brad Bird, Broker of Record. "Our team selected the RMH Foundation because we all know someone who has needed care at the Ross, and we know that the Foundation supports the purchase of medical equipment that isn't otherwise covered through government funding. The donations stay in our community and the impact can be seen right here at our hospital."

"We're honoured to be part of the BirdHouse anniversary celebration and to be selected among the community causes they're supporting through the BirdHouse Legacy Fund," said Erin Coons, RMH Foundation CEO. "Their gift of \$3,700 will impact care by funding transformational technology, medical equipment and capital projects."



Karen Bird, Erin Coons, Evan Connolly, Brad Bird, Patrick Lynch, Sherry Hansen, Keith McDonald, Marg Hildenbrand, Marie Hansen, and Kari Kelsey at BirdHouse Realty in Lindsay



## Provincial Grand Black Chapter of Eastern Ontario supports Dialysis Care



Members of the Provincial Grand Black Chapter of Eastern Ontario present their Dimes for Dialysis donation to the RMH Foundation

Since 1877, the Protestant fraternal organization called the Provincial Grand Black Chapter of Eastern Ontario has been promoting Christian teachings, community charity and fellowship. On April 28, the Provincial Grand Black Chapter gathered with the Provincial Grand Orange Lodge of Ontario East and the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Lodge of Ontario of the Ladies Orange Benevolent Association. Representatives of the RMH Foundation were honoured to be invited to the meeting at the Otonabee Inn for the presentation of the Provincial Grand Black Chapter's annual Dimes for Dialysis donation.

Members presented the donation of \$2,000 to RMH Foundation Communications Specialist Kim Coulter. The funds will support medical equipment and technology needs in the Dialysis Unit.

"We're very grateful to be selected to receive this generous gift from the Provincial Grand Black Chapter," said Kim Coulter. "Our community of donors rallied to help fund the new Dialysis Unit through the On The Horizon campaign 15 years ago. Today, it's still the generosity of donors like you who make the difference to patients at the Ross."

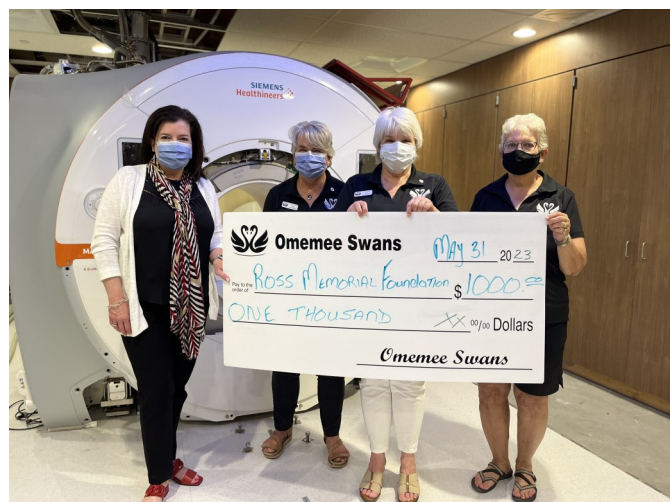
## Omeme Swans support community health with MRI donation

The Omeme Swans know that there are many ways to support your community. That's why funds raised through their events support charities, organizations and causes that benefit those living in and around Omeme — and those that help everyone in the Kawartha Lakes. During their 'Season of Giving Back' the Swans have been making donations to support children and education projects, food security efforts, women's safety, and community gardens.

On May 31, Jill Cockerell, Kathy Woodbeck and Joyce VandenBroek of the Omeme Swans visited RMH to present a \$1,000 gift to help fund the community's new, leading edge MRI that arrived at the Hospital on Monday. This advanced technology replaces the 12-year-old MRI that was also 100% donor-funded.

"The Omeme Swans came together only two short years ago, and already they're having a visible impact on their community and beyond," said Erin Coons. "It is only with the generosity of kind people like the members of the Omeme Swans that we can equip our Hospital with the best medical equipment and lifesaving technology. We're incredibly grateful."

More than 500 MRI exams are scanned at the Ross every month.



Erin Coons, Joyce VandenBroek, Jill Cockerell and Kathy Woodbeck stand in Ross Memorial's MRI room days after the delivery of the community's new MRI.



Patients, families, care team and staff, students,  
volunteers, donors and the community.  
Together, WE ARE THE ROSS.

## A Message of Thanks from the RMH Foundation Board Chair & CEO

It's not as individuals but as a community, over generations, that we have built Ross Memorial Hospital into the exceptional community hospital it is today: a state-of-the-art facility equipped with the best tools for its talented team of care providers. Critical acquisitions including medical equipment and technology are not covered by government funding. **Together, we make it happen.**

The Foundation is embarking on the *largest capital campaign in our history* to support key investments at our Hospital that will improve patient care and outcomes, grow services and spaces, and transform the patient experience.

We're overjoyed to report exceptional support including an historic gift – \$3 million – from FLATO Developments. This is the **largest single donation in Ross Memorial's history**. In recognition of this incredible generosity, the Hospital announced special naming recognition: the FLATO Developments Ambulatory Care Centre.

We are also incredibly grateful to the family of the late Dr. Gargi Bhatia, who marked her 40-year legacy of caring at RMH with a leadership gift to the campaign. To show gratitude to the Bhatia Family and celebrate their support for our hospital, the Obstetrical Unit at Ross Memorial is now the Dr. Gargi Bhatia Family Birthing Centre. These gifts, including a \$1 million commitment from the City of Kawartha Lakes Council, and those from business leaders including The Commonwell Mutual Insurance, are ensuring the Ross is equipped to care for our rapidly growing community, now and for years to come.

Donors are supporting these projects underway at the Ross through their generous response to the Foundation's spring and holiday appeals. The 'Every Picture Tells A Story' spring appeal featuring breast cancer survivor Kate Winn and radiologist Dr. Mario Voros raised \$174,138.39 for the new MRI. With the 'Our Best To You' holiday appeal featuring Dr. Sara-Lynn Francis, \$252,957.73 was raised to help fund the Clinical Information System. Exceptional caring happens here!

We were pleased in December 2022 to celebrate the first anniversary of the implementation of the Clinical Information System. It was a recognition of the ongoing hard work of employees and physicians throughout the Hospital to raise the level of care for local patients – and it was a celebration of community giving that made it possible. From community partners in care such as the RMH Auxiliary, the Kawartha ATV Association, the Dragon Flies and the Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 239) to business leaders and caring individuals, we continue to work together, advancing care and growing services close to home.

**Thank you for your generous support.**

**Ryan O'Neill**, RMHF Board Chair

**Erin Coons**, Foundation CEO

Among the valued members of the Ross Team are our community volunteers on the RMHF Board of Directors. **Meet Mona Malcolm-Sharman**

“The Ross Memorial Hospital is the focal point of the community. I have lived locally most of my life and I understand the positive impact The Ross has on our community.”

Mona Malcolm Sharman joined the RMH Foundation Board of Directors in 2019 and has been a valued board member, member of the Finance Committee, member of the Executive Committee and currently, Vice Chair of the Board.

Mona appreciates the role of the Hospital in this community and the importance it has held in the lives of her family. “Both of my children were born there and the Ross helped my husband when he had a medical emergency. Our care was second to none.”

Four years into her volunteer role, Mona has learned a great deal about the work of the RMH Foundation and the impact of donors’ gifts on local patient care. “I did not realize that the provincial government does not cover the costs of equipment and infrastructure and that the local community is responsible to raise the funds to cover hospital needs.”



Mona Malcolm Sharman recently retired from RBC Royal Bank as a Financial Planner. She is a longtime Kawartha Lakes resident.

When asked what the phrase ‘WE ARE THE ROSS’ means to her, Mona said: “WE ARE THE ROSS means that everyone, including the staff, the volunteers, the patients and the community have a common goal to make sure the Ross is the best it can be. We are a family.”

*The Board is responsible for the overall governance of the Foundation. Its members set the Foundation's strategic priorities and ensure they're met; they monitor the success of fundraising and stewardship efforts, and ensure financial resources are managed appropriately. In addition to monthly board meetings, members serve on various committees of the Board. They are valued members of the RMH Foundation family.*

**Our best to you, Alex!**

Board members and Foundation staff wish the very best to Dr. Alex Istchenko who has left the Board of Directors after a decade of volunteer service. Alex joined the Foundation as a community representative on the Finance Committee in 2013. He then became a full board member and participated on the Foundation’s Investment Management Task Force.

Alex felt strongly about his governance role because he believes we need a strong hospital to serve the community. He knows that donor support impacts the Hospital’s ability to acquire the best tools and technology, and also impacts the Hospital’s recruitment and retention of talented staff.

“At some point in our lifetime, we will all need care at the Hospital.”



Dr. Alex Istchenko is presented a gift for 10 years of volunteer service



## THANKS TO YOU: Our new fleet of bedside IV Pumps are state-of-the-art

Almost every admitted patient at RMH needs an IV pump to deliver medicine, fluids or nutrition. They're needed every minute of every day.

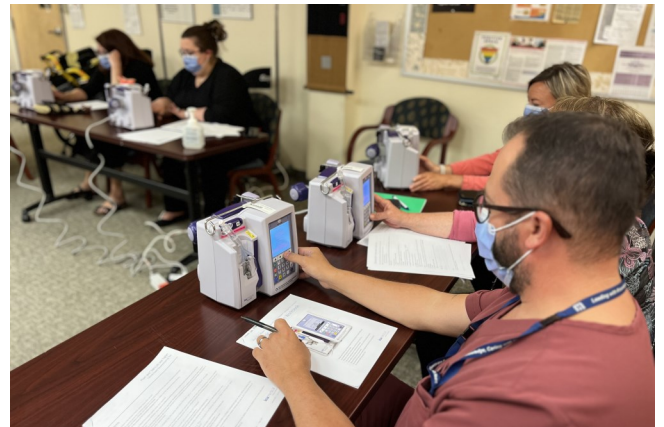
Among the priority equipment purchases at RMH are **IV pumps with advanced safety software**. IV pumps are one of the most critical tools in frontline care. Some patients requiring intensive care need up to six intravenous feeds simultaneously.

The new fleet of IV pumps connect with the Hospital's clinical information system (CIS), instantly recording the information in the patient's chart in real time, where safety software protects against adverse drug reactions, allergies or dose errors. Through the new system, drug dispensing and pharmacy connect to the pumps through a bar code system tracked through a patient's ID bracelet, ensuring that the right medicine in the right package goes to the right patient in the right dose at the right time. Caregivers are alerted instantly to any potential errors, adverse reactions, or allergies, and monitoring patients for potential early signs of infection.

The pumps cost, on average, \$5,000 each. With a fleet of 180 pumps, the cost to replace them is significant. The Hospital does not receive government funding to replace this life-saving equipment that is used throughout the Ross 24/7. Donors' support keeps this essential equipment at the patients' bedsides.

"Patient safety is key to delivering medications and the safety features in the new IV pumps are truly groundbreaking," said Susan Grant, Director of Quality & Professional Practice. **"It wouldn't be possible to replace the entire fleet of IV pumps without donors.** Every time a patient looks to their bedside and sees an IV pump, they can take heart knowing a community of caregivers are helping them to feel better."

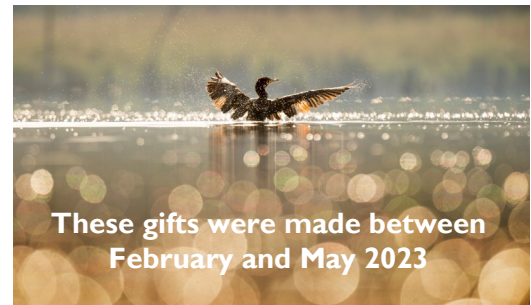
Pictured right: Care providers throughout the Hospital participated in training using the new advanced IV pump software. The new pumps were implemented in every department on June 20.



**Given with compassion. Accepted with thanks. Used with care.**

When we lose someone dear to us, it can be comforting to share stories of happy times, and to remember the things that made them so special. Often we want to do something special in their memory.

**The RMH Foundation is grateful for the generous donations made in memory of these special people:**



Marion Bailey  
 Stanley Bailey  
 Faith Bates  
 Muriel Bryant  
 Patrick Burns  
 Brian Camlin  
 Margaret Chessar  
 William Couvier  
 Wayne Daniels  
 Paul Davidson  
 Irene Deli  
 Marshall Dudman  
 Beryl Earl  
 Kathleen Ellis  
 Thelma Endicott  
 Clinton Endicott  
 Fiore Fattore

Allan Fell  
 William Fenton  
 Elizabeth Flora  
 Robert Graham  
 Warren Hartigan  
 John Hassall  
 Sheena Hunter  
 Norman Jackson  
 Judith Kishbaugh  
 Betty Lester  
 Sirene Livie  
 Pearl MacInnis-Akister  
 Gordon Mahaffy  
 Doris McLean  
 James McLean  
 William Alexander Meek  
 Jack Minard

Beverley Morgan  
 Sheldon Muter  
 Gregory Nisbett  
 Jan Oudenampsen  
 Doreen Panowyk  
 Marilyn Porter  
 Patricia Radiff  
 Tom Rawlings  
 Margaret Robinson  
 Bonnie Staples  
 David Stark  
 Eva Steinsky  
 Hattie Till  
 Andrew Traczuk  
 Richard West  
 Adrienne White  
 Paul Wooldridge

**Donations made in honour of someone special or in celebration of a milestone event have a ripple effect**



**The Foundation appreciates the donations made in honour of:**

Dr. Ronald Bruce Allin  
 Lawrence & Leona Crocker's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
 Dr. Brent MacMillan  
 Bob Shaw's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

To learn more about tribute gifts, contact the Foundation Office at 705-328-6146 or [foundation@rmh.org](mailto:foundation@rmh.org).



## 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 K9V4M8

T (705)328-6146

F (705)328-6147

foundation@rmh.org  
rmh.org/foundation

Charitable Registration  
11912 4121 RR001

Scan the QR Code  
and visit us online!



## Celebrating the Faces of Philanthropy

At Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School, learning extends beyond the classroom. STA students, teachers and administration value leadership, service and community. The school's annual Week of Wellness shines a light on those values with a series of activities promoting wellness and good mental health. The week's events are coordinated by the school's student council. Over the past decade, funds raised through the STA Week of Wellness have been donated to mental health related causes throughout the community, including Ross Memorial's

Mental Health Unit. We're honoured to recognize STA's longtime philanthropy with a Supporter plaque on the Donor Recognition Wall. St. Thomas Aquinas is the first school to achieve a plaque on the donor wall which highlights giving over \$5,000.

"St. Thomas Aquinas isn't the biggest secondary school in Kawartha Lakes, but there is no questioning the students' big hearts," said Erin Coons. "While these students are thinking about their classes and their grades, their sports and part-time jobs, they're also caring about vulnerable people of all ages. We're so grateful to the STA students for their leadership, their empathy, and their generosity."



(Front) Alison Welton, Elizabeth Twohey, Megan Rodd, Mary Kennedy, Emily Hatton, Abeille Zak, Katelyn Byrne (Back) Madison Spry, Ashley Maki, Rachel Goodhand, Olivia Winn, Hayden Kaldeway, Cameron Byrne and Matthew DeVuono



ROSS MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL  
Foundation

*"Yes, I want to make a difference and help patients get the best care possible!"*

Here is my donation of  \$25  \$50  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_ Sum23

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  Email my receipt

I would like to direct my gift to:  Highest Priority Needs (Current Appeal)

Patient Care Equipment  Other (specific department) \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like information about how to include RMH Foundation in my Will.

I'd like to make monthly gifts. Please have the Foundation contact me.

Prefer to give online? Please visit [www.rmh.org/foundation](http://www.rmh.org/foundation).

**Thank you!**