

South Muskoka Hospital Foundation

Nominated for the Nightingale Award, coveted amongst Ontario nurses, is South Muskoka's very own Shari LeBlanc. Only 140 Ontario nurses were nominated, but it doesn't come of any surprise to LeBlanc's supervisor, Mary Boyer who says: "Shari is extremely patient and family focused – definitely a leader amongst her peers."

Two boys with hearts for giving



Darren Brownrigg, Registered Respiratory Therapist receives help from Connor Marling, who pretends to give Andrew Bunker a scan with the Echo Cardio Scanner.

Two grade five students from Bracebridge are racing to celebrate their birthdays – and raising funds for the hospital at the same time. Connor Marling and Andrew Bunker, both students at Macaulay Public School, have been friends since Grade 1 and both share a birthday in June. This June, they both turned 11 and instead of accepting birthday gifts, they asked friends and family to donate the amount they would have spent on their gifts to the South Muskoka Hospital Foundation through a fun event called The Amazing Birthday Race. Modeled after the reality TV series, The Amazing Race, participants had to solve clues and perform tasks at various locations across Bracebridge and to win, be the first to arrive at the final destination.

"It's better than getting a present that one week later you don't like," explains Connor. And there's other motivations for their efforts — both boys have family members that have used hospital services in the past. They held the same event two years ago for their birthdays and raised

more than \$1,300 for Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto, where their brothers had both received treatment. Connor received an Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year nomination for his efforts last time. This year, the funds raised will be directed to the Cardio-Respiratory Unit at South Muskoka Memorial Hospital Site in honour of Connor's father, a heart patient.

Connor's mother, Debbie Marling, along with the help of other volunteers, created the top secret clues for the race. Even Connor and Andrew didn't know the answers so that they could participate in the race. There's ten locations where a task is performed by the contestants, such as finding a key in gooey oatmeal or eating a hot radish or drinking unsweetened lemon juice. Parent "bodyguards" accompany each team, but aren't permitted to help the kids or else risk a five-minute penalty.

The total amount raised will be posted on the Foundation's blog at www.healthmuskoka.ca (then click on "News Blog").

Changes afoot for hospital funding across Ontario

The Ontario government is trying to slow the overall growth in health spending across the province and is transforming the way hospitals are funded through a new funding model called Health System Funding Reform. While this funding model is positioning the entire health care system to be more sustainable in the long term, it is also posing significant financial challenges for Ontario hospitals. It compels all hospitals to reconsider the costly duplication of services, and to find ways to reduce waste in the system and find efficiencies that lead to savings.

For the 2013-14 fiscal year, Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare (MAHC) has identified an anticipated funding gap of \$2.4 million, based on a reduction in provincial funding and inflationary pressures associated with labour and other costs. Over the past few months, MAHC has been consulting with staff, physicians, residents of the community and other partners about changes to the way the hospitals in Bracebridge and Huntsville can provide services.

The Board of Directors has endorsed a series of budget solutions that, on an annualized basis, will reduce operating costs by \$2.4 million. The approved solutions include a reduction of five acute care beds at each site and to single site Complex Continuing Care beds at the SMMH Site. The Board also endorsed the single siting of cataract surgery to one site once negotiations to bring in additional surgical services are finalized. Moving the Chemotherapy Day Clinic to the Huntsville site will be revisited by the Board in June, following further consultations with Cancer Care Ontario.

Interesting info tidbits about South Muskoka Memorial Hospital Site:

Did you know...?

Annual admissions are 2,458...

That's an average of 7 every day!

Renovation addresses new standards

Work is afoot to renovate the Central Supply Reprocessing (CSR) department at SMMH Site to align with evolving health care standards.

Operating behind the scenes, the CSR department ensures that reusable medical/surgical instruments are decontaminated, disinfected/sterilized, prepared and stored for future use.

The renovation project will take place this summer and has been made possible through a funding commitment from the Foundation.

“We are so grateful to the community for their support of the Foundation and this project,” explains Dawn Major, Manager of Quality and Patient Safety. “Once the renovation is complete, this department will meet all standards and regulations and accreditation requirements around reprocessing.



Cindy Smith is one of the CSR technicians who can't wait for the renovation to be complete.

“All of these standards exist to optimize our ability to facilitate the processes which ensure safe, quality care for our patients.”

The renovation will improve infection control processes within the department by upgrading the infrastructure with air handling improvements including negative air pressure, and adding non-porous ceilings, automated doors, stainless steel surfaces, new flooring and additional hand-washing sinks.

The renovation will also enhance the health and safety of staff through improved work flow and workspaces that will be outfitted with height adjustable sinks and worktables to help our staff avoid injury and work more comfortably.

As a two-sided organization, MAHC is fortunate to be able to rely on the other hospital site in Huntsville for operational support in meeting the reprocessing needs of the South Muskoka site during the transition/renovation period.



A little dose of safety...

The Pharmacy Team at South Muskoka Memorial Hospital Site gather around their new Unit Dose Packaging System, funded with donations made to the Foundation. The Unit, purchased earlier this year, has already made a significant impact on patient safety as well as by reducing wastage. By individually packaging and labeling medications specifically for each patient, the new system

not only helps to ensure the right medications are assigned to the

appropriate patient, but also helps to address issues with possible cross contamination and infection control. Previously, unused medications given in a bottle would have to be discarded for hygienic reasons. With this method, wastage is greatly reduced. All-in-all, the Unit Dose Packaging System is an important purchase for the purposes of patient safety and cost-effectiveness.



Did you know...?

Our hospital did more than 38,500 Diagnostic Imaging exams in one year...

That's an average of 105 every day.

Future needs drive adaptability

Colin Miller, Executive Director, South Muskoka Hospital Foundation

In the business of health-care, there's a never ending cycle of need – particularly with technological upgrades. Technology has a dramatic effect on patient safety and quality of care as it provides our staff with the tools to showcase their talents and skills in saving lives and offering the best quality of care possible. One of the hospital's priorities is to bring the patient records into today's electronic standards.



Electronic Patient Records (EPR) offer support with obtaining the most accurate diagnosis, the most effective treatment and the best outcomes for our patients. EPR removes the endless searching through mounds of paper records to find the one piece of critical and even life-saving information while at the same time allowing different practitioners to view the same patient record at the same time. EPR takes clarity of penmanship (or lack thereof) out of the equation and gives medical practitioners the ability to

“Change is here and we can choose how to adapt in order to flourish...”

order tests and document results as well as be flagged with warning protocols if there is something noteworthy. We'll be featuring more about this topic in coming months.

News about the changes in the way the province funds Ontario hospitals is at the forefront of everyone's mind here in South Muskoka. A very short while ago, we were speaking to donors about

doing so well with balancing our budget and rejoicing in how we had honed cost-effectiveness to a precise science. Yet these changes that the

province has made have produced an entirely new playing field. Change is difficult and unpopular, but the status quo is no longer an option. The proposed solutions are not about reducing or cutting services, but rather are intended to preserve these services in Muskoka, and to create the capacity to bring in new services. For example, by single siting services at each hospital, MAHC can build highly competent, efficient units that provide best practice care. Change is here and we can choose how to adapt in order to flourish under the new funding formulas - minimizing the impact on staff, patients and the greater community.

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South Muskoka Hospital Foundation

Special Fundraising Events



Earlier in June, the 27th annual Dave Ellis Pro-Am Golf Tournament was held once again this year. This event has provided more than \$500,000 to the Foundation over the past 27 years. Dave Ellis was the son of a Bracebridge physician and became an incredibly well-respected golf pro at the Muskoka Lakes Golf & Country Club. His passion for life, people and the game of golf was infectious and his friends are still involved in organizing the event every year. From left, Adam Wallace, Dr. Kent Phillips, David Bacon and Jen Stephen.



Last year on December 5, 2012, Tangerine Productions of Muskoka was pleased to present Colin Miller of the Foundation with a one thousand dollar cheque for proceeds from their recent production of "Steel Magnolias" at the Gravenhurst Opera House. The donation will help support the Diabetes Clinic. Tangerine Productions would like to thank the community for their support. From left, Sherisse Stevens, Colin Miller, Jennifer Creasor and Jeanine Spring.

Ensuring our community's healthcare future

Spring 2013

South Muskoka Hospital Foundation

75 Ann Street, Bracebridge ON P1L 2E4

Name _____

Address _____

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All donations will be acknowledged and appropriately receipted.
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- \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250
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A Message from Natalie Bubela

Chief Executive Officer

Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare

"...your generous donations make a huge difference for our staff and how efficiently the hospital operates."

Donations support much more than patient care.

We all know the importance of having a hospital with state-of-the-art medical equipment. For some patients it can mean the difference between life and death. But it's important to understand how your generous donations make a huge difference for our staff and how efficiently the hospital operates.

Last summer, the Foundation, through you, its donors, funded two

new ultrasound machines that provide a higher quality diagnostic image. Not only have these machines helped us to reduce wait times and better meet the needs of our communities through extended ultrasound service on weeknights and weekends, they have also helped us successfully recruit new sonographers.

We also have a new unit dose packager in the Pharmacy thanks to your donations. This machine seals, packages and labels single dose tablets and capsules. Because of this investment we will reduce drug wastage as we build a safer medication system.

The Foundation has also agreed to fund the renovation of the Central Supply Reprocessing department. Without this commitment, Muskoka Algonquin Healthcare would not have met the conditions of our recent Accreditation Canada survey. More importantly, this renovation is key to ensure our ability to provide safe, quality care, improve work flow and infection control and prevention, and the health and safety of our staff.

Thank you for helping to provide the tools that assist our nurses, doctors, allied health care providers and support staff give outstanding care that is people focused.



Patient Satisfaction Survey Results

EMERGENCY CARE RESULTS

The latest results have shown that our hospital has beaten the Ontario Community Hospital Average (OCHA) on all dimensions of care for Emergency Care!

<u>RESULTS</u>	<u>MAHC</u>	<u>OCHA</u>
Overall Quality of Care	92.8	84.6

ACUTE CARE RESULTS

The latest results have shown that our hospital has beaten the Ontario Community Hospital Average (OCHA) on all dimensions of care for In-patient Care!

<u>RESULTS</u>	<u>MAHC</u>	<u>OCHA</u>
Overall Care Received	95.4	92.3

Did you know...?

117 babies were born at our hospital over a one-year period...

That's one baby every three days.



**MUSKOKA ALGONQUIN
HEALTHCARE**

We are members of



Working to ensure your donations are used wisely

- You Give to Charity •
- We Give You Accountability •

To read our Donor Bill of Rights
Visit: www.afptoronto.org

South Muskoka Hospital Foundation Mission Statement

To provide charitable financial support to South Muskoka Memorial Hospital Site for capital projects, equipment and new technology as well as staff education to enhance patient care.

To support the improvement of healthcare in South Muskoka for permanent and seasonal residents.

Check out our website at
www.healthmuskoka.ca

Our Privacy Statement

South Muskoka Hospital Foundation appreciates your generous financial support. We recognize your right to privacy and we pledge to protect it. The information you have provided to us will be used to process your donation(s) and to provide you with acknowledgement and an appropriate receipt.

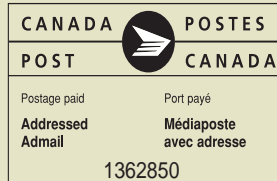
From time to time, we may use your contact information to keep you informed of other activities, events and/or fundraising opportunities in support of the Foundation.

We are also pleased to send you our biannual newsletter.

The South Muskoka Hospital Foundation does not trade or sell donor lists. If at anytime you do not wish to be listed in our recognition programs or to receive our newsletter, please contact us at (705) 645-4404 ext 3193 or smh.foundation@mahc.ca.

For more information about your privacy, please visit our website at www.healthmuskoka.ca and click on 'About Us' then 'Accountable To You.'


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www.healthmuskoka.ca