



PCH
FOUNDATION

Caring Connections

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRINCE COUNTY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



Report to our Community

2023 Edition Included

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Issue 1, 2024



A Message of Gratitude from the President

The past year has been nothing short of challenging. For our foundation, our hospital, its staff, and the community. Among the trials the year held for us all, we gathered strength in each other, and we rallied around our hospital.

I write to you now from a place of hope. Your concerns and ours have been brought to the forefront and we can all cautiously move forward together toward a renewed hospital. As you will see in the message from PCH Administration on the next page, there is room for hope. This won't happen overnight, but we are confident that there are better days ahead.

You will also find within these pages many reasons to celebrate. In 2024, we will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the “new” Prince County Hospital. We celebrate all we have accomplished together over the past twenty years and the many things we've made possible. Stories like Danielle MacKinnon's on page 10 are the reason we do what we do. That is what makes it all worthwhile. We thank you for making those “good news stories” possible with your gifts.

Your gifts in 2023 have ensured everything on the Vital Signs greatest needs list could be purchased. Those needs, of course, do not cease with the turning of a calendar page. So, we hope you will join us again in 2024 as we seek to fulfill the medical equipment needed for everyday patient care at PCH. Information on the 2024 Vital Signs appeal is featured on pages 12 and 13.

Your support in words, actions and gifts helps to keep your hospital vibrant today and viable in the future. Thank you for being a friend of Prince County Hospital.

Sincerely,



Gordon MacFarlane
President,
Prince County Hospital Foundation

#PCHProud



PRINCE COUNTY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

*VOLUNTEER BOARD of DIRECTORS
2024*

Gordon MacFarlane, *President*
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Carson Trainor, RN,
Staff Representative
Betty Robertson,
PCH Auxiliary President
Deidre Studer,
Youth Who Care President

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Heather Matheson



Carson Trainor

This year, our volunteer board of directors welcomed Carson Trainor to its ranks in the role of PCH staff representative. Originally from Ellerslie, PEI, Carson has been an RN at PCH since graduating from the nursing program at UPEI in 2015. Since that time, he and partner Hannah Gallant have added two sons, Benny and Teddy, to their family alongside a beloved cat, Franny. A recent recipient of the Kay Lewis Award for Nursing (2021) Carson is currently the clinical informatics lead at PCH.

In the fall, the Foundation hired Kensington native Ben Grady as a Community Navigator for Healthcare. The majority of Ben's role with the Foundation is to help new and prospective staff members acclimate to the hospital and the area. As his portfolio develops, he will also contribute to staff morale and wellness programs at PCH. Since arriving, Ben has also been assisting with housing and various needs of locums and travel nurses who have been accessing the PCH Foundation's new rental units. Ben can be contacted through the PCH Foundation office at (902) 432-2547 or by email pbgrady@ihis.org.



Ben Grady

A Way Forward - PCH Administration

In an interview with the PCH Foundation for this publication, Acting Administrator and Director of Nursing Rebecca Kewley discussed the staff challenges of the past year and the outlook going forward.



The administrative team at Health PEI has implemented several measures to address ongoing challenges. This includes raising the hourly wage and offering recruitment incentives for respiratory therapists (RTs), as well as establishing a talent recruitment team to focus on specific specialties, leading to the successful recruitment of several registered nurses (RNs) and RTs for critical care areas in the last 5-6 weeks. New positions have been added to the critical care team, with plans to post two nurse practitioner positions. Daily meetings aim to standardize procedures across HPEI to help it run more smoothly.

In addition to adding resources to the PCH team, staff support also includes leadership coaching, continuing education, and programs addressing burnout and resilience. Progress has been made in restoring full critical care services, with aggressive recruitment ongoing. The goal is to return to full capacity with adequate internal medicine physicians, RTs (requiring 10.3 FTE), and RNs (requiring a minimum of 21 FTE). Despite human resource challenges, PCH staff demonstrate dedication and cohesion, exemplified during a recent multiple-patient trauma incident where staff from various departments worked seamlessly together. When it matters most, our team always comes through to support each other. That is what we do exceptionally well as a facility.

The support we have been shown by our donors and our community this year has been so greatly appreciated by all of PCH. The staff have seen you fight for and advocate for our critical care services. The staff feel heard and supported as we have been fighting this battle for some time. We wouldn't have been able to make the changes that we have made and continue to make without the voices of our supporters.



Auxilians gather at their holiday party in 2023.

A Message from the PCH Auxiliary

The Prince County Hospital Auxiliary now has 27 members. We gather monthly at the Oval for our lunchtime meeting. The Auxiliary continues to support the PCH with our various fundraising efforts. The PCH Auxiliary will soon reach its million-dollar mark in donations to PCH.

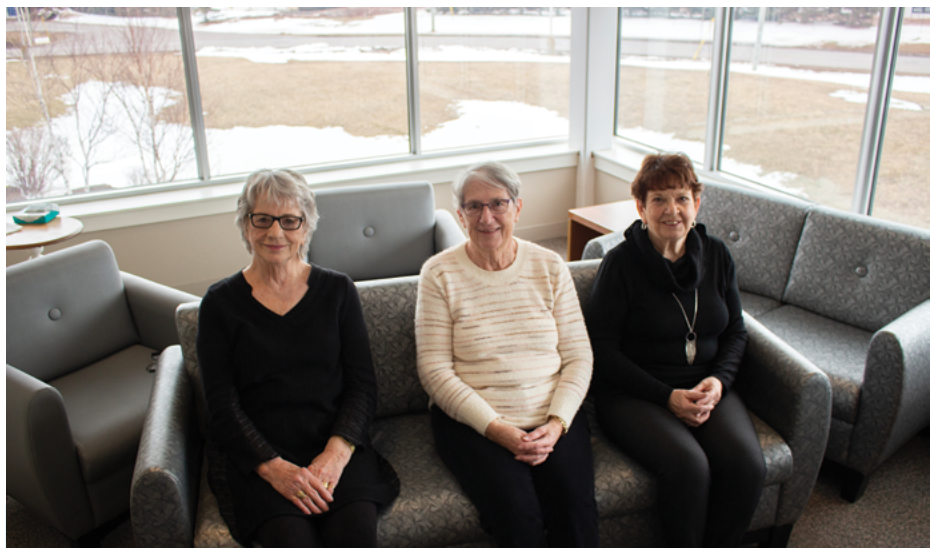
We had a very successful gently used clothing sale, Christmas basket ticket sales, and Christmas gift wrap. The Wishing Well Gift Shop, located in the front lobby of PCH, has been very successful and has had its best year yet. The gift shop is run entirely by volunteer staff who work very hard to make it a success. We continue to supply emergency packs for patients who must travel off-island for medical appointments. The packs contain a bridge pass, a \$100 gas card and a Tim's card.

The auxiliary increased the 3 bursaries that are awarded to a staff member at PCH for continuing education, and 2 nursing students at UPEI, to \$1,000 each.

Through the generosity of volunteers who donated items to the gift shop, we were able to buy a piece of equipment for the emergency department. Thank you to the auxiliary members for the wonderful work they do and for the PCH Foundation who are always there to support us.

Respectfully submitted

Betty Robertson, President



Pictured are Auxiliary members (from left) Marnie Noye , Gloria Arseneault, and Mary Frances Perry in the Surgery/Restorative lounge that benefited from the Auxiliary's generosity with the replacement of all furniture in 2023 from Wishing Well Gift Shop proceeds.

In Loving Memory

A number of our most loyal donors make their gifts in memory of family members and friends who have passed away. In many cases, we are their charity of choice and donors make their memorial gift knowing that their donation can do a bit of good during such a sad time. Families of loved ones lost are comforted in knowing this and they receive a card for each donation. For more information on how to make a memorial gift, see “Bringing Comfort in Times of Loss” on page six. The PCH Foundation received gifts in memory of the following people in 2023.

Queenie Adams	James S. Carruthers	Debbie Gunning	Joseph “Joey” MacPherson	Wai Yin Poon Lo
Eva Allain	Gene Carson	Thomas Hambley	James W. “Jimmy” MacWilliams	John Bernard Postma
Ronald W. Allan	Donald Chapman	Lise Hamer	Barbara Ann Mallory	J. Arnold Power
Marion Allen	Kevin Church	Eric Hammill	Clarissa “Tessie” Alberta McCarville	Alton Ramsay
Albin Joseph “Chico” Arsenault	AJ Circirelli	Marion Hamzarie	Earle and Katherine McDonald	George Embree Read
Armand Arsenault	M. Eileen Clark	Agnes Elizabeth Hardy	Walter “Chuck” McEwen	John Read
Fidele Arsenault	Phyllis J. Clark	Loretta “Rhett” Erma Belle Hardy	Marilyn McGuire	Hon. Marion Reid
Keir Arsenault	Ronald Earle Clark	Robert Harvey	Charlotte McLeod	Maurice Jean-Paul Richard
Louis Joseph Arsenault	Paulette Compton	Eileen Heffel-Taylor	Jerome McNeill	Richard “Dick” Ripley
Marie Josette “Monique” Arsenault	Marlene Costain	Kevin Francis Hickox	Joan Melanson	John Robinson
Roger Arsenault	Sandra Coughlin	Fred Hodge	Clayton Mill	Rev. Keith Rogerson
Sylvia Aylward	Helen Coutts	Peggy Hollerup	Marion Millar	Helen Sadowski
William (Bill) Kenneth Bagnall	Margaret Ann Craig	Earl “Kenneth” Huestis	Muriel Millar	Frank Sark
Roger Baillie	James “Jim” Cramm	Joyce Hunter	Charles “Charlie” Milligan	Bill Schurman
Frank Banks	St. Clair Croken	Bernetta Hutchinson	Ms. Pauline Milligan	Elaine Schurman
Helen M. Barlow	Irma Curley	George Louis “Lou” Inman	Herbert Moore	Neil Selinger
Vivian Barrett	Dorothy Currie	Phyllis Mary Jones	Jill Elizabeth Moore	Beulah Sharpe
Jean Bearisto	Kenny Davis	Anita Muriel Judson	Judy Moore	Mr. Clive Sharpe
Viola Beer	Charles Dawson	Arnold Kaland	Brian Morrison	Joan Sheen
Thane Bell	June Dawson	Betty Kavanagh	D.R. Morrison	Judith Sigsworth
Freeman “Pat” Bendell	Michelle DesOrmeaux	Carol Kennedy	Joyce Morrison	Alton Silliker
Claire Bernard	Mary Eunice “Noonie” DesRoches	Eddie & Clara Keough	Anne Mowry	Eric Skerry
Dorothy Kane Bernard	Rinnie Hoekstra Devries	Ann Kilby	Joseph “Clare” Mulligan	J. Bruce Small
Joan Bernard	Donna Doucette	Margaret “Ruthie” Kinch	Diane Muttart	Brenton Smith
Mrs. Teresa Bernard	George David Dowdle	Linda Landry	Gen and Earl Muttart	Edythe L. Smith
Barry Bigger	Dorothy Marie “Dot” Doyle	Roma Larsen	Mary Lynn Muttart	Marion Smith
Barbara Margaret “Babs” Blacquiere	Mary Ellis	Fred Leard	Norma Muttart	Paul Smith
Donna Jean Bonnell	Budd Kenneth Enman	Virginia Ella Hall Lecky	Helen Edna Myers	Leslie Steeves
Kenny Bridges	Shirley Enman	Ignatius Lee	Carol Myers-Dawson	Kent Eldon Stordy
Garleffan William Alexander “Gary” Brown	W. Blair Evans	Robert Lewis	Robert Noonan	Joseph Sullivan
Mabel Brown	Margaret C. Ferguson	Eileen Lonergan	James “Edgar” Oatway	Geraldine Sweetapple
Robert Lee Bruce	Ethel Evelyn Ford	George Lyle	Kennedy Kara “Rae” O’Halloran	Charles Tanton
Wally and Betty Bryenton	Joseph Vernon Fraser	Bernadette MacArthur	Charles Parlee	Clair Thurber
Elizabeth “Betty” Buley	Bertha Ann Gallant	Francine MacArthur	Brian Patterson	Erma Turner
Michael Buley	Dianne Gallant	Fred MacAusland	Mr. Vernon Paugh	Barbara Vaillencourt
James Louis “Cal” Callaghan	Florence Gallant	Mark MacAusland	Ivan Paynter	Eleanor Pearl Vautour
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Keith Campbell	Miriam Gallant	Dale MacDonald	Joseph Alcide “Cid” Perry	Rev. Barbara Wagner
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Lloyd Cann	Velma Gallant	Allan MacIsaac	Earlith Grace Peterson	Hazel Wall
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	Zita Marie Rose Gallant	Ray MacKean	Laura Phillips	Lisa Warren
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	Anne Marie Gauthier	Mokey MacKinnon		Katherine Wharry
	Rosemary Gavin	Donald Louis MacLeod		George Williams
	Rose George	Aaron MacMillan		Robin Williams
	David Gordon	Mr. Calvin MacMillan		Jean Ethel Yeo
	Dianne Graham			Mary “Linda” Yeo
				Louise Zito



Memorial Giving Makes a Difference

Bringing Comfort in Times of Loss

When you make a memorial gift, we are able to notify family members that a gift has been made in memory of their loved one using the cards in the photo on the left (no gift amount is included). You need only provide an address for this free service while making your gift.

These thoughtful and generous gifts of remembrance raised over \$66,000 for medical equipment at PCH in 2023 alone; a great impact in patient care.

If you would like to pay tribute to a friend or loved one, please visit our office in the PCH lobby (Mon-Fri, 8 AM - 4 PM), call (902) 432-2547 or give securely online at pchcare.com

ANNUAL DONOR RECOGNITION

The Prince County Hospital Foundation is honoured to feature the following donors whose outstanding giving to the hospital foundation in 2023 has made them members of the President's Society.

The President's Society has four levels of recognition for gifts made between January 1 and December 31 of 2023.

The four levels of the President's Society are:

Platinum Society - Annual Giving of \$5,000 & above

Gold Society
Annual Giving of \$3,000 - \$4,999

Silver Society
Annual Giving of \$1,000 - \$2,999

Bronze Society
Annual Giving \$500 - \$999

Thank you, everyone.

Many more donors choose to remain anonymous, and we offer them our most heartfelt thanks, as well.

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Derek and Nancy Key
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Parkdale Sherwood Lions Club Inc.
In memory of Leigh & Ruth Paynter
PCHF Women's Golf Classic
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PEI Mutual Insurance Company
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Thomas and June Pick
Prince County Hospital Auxiliary
Provincial Credit Union, Évangéline Branch
Provincial Credit Union, Malpeque Bay Branch
Provincial Credit Union, Tignish Branch
Ken Ramsay
The Richard S. Hinton Memorial Trust
Marion Riehl
Rotary Club of Summerside

Royal Canadian Legion George
R. Pearkes V.C. Br. No. 5
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Pioneer and The Guardian)
Patricia Schurman
Shirley and Bev Simpson
Nigel and Leona Smart
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Spring Valley Building Centre
St. Dunstan's University
Board of Governors
StandardAero
Stewart McKelvey
Strait Crossing Bridge Limited
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Service
Summerside Butcher's Shop
Summerside Chrysler
Dodge Ltd.
Summerside Source for Sports
Bill and Margo Thompson
Kevin Taweel
Toonies for Youth -
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Town of Kensington
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Urbainville Farms Ltd.
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Thomas Waugh &
Jill Kelly-Waugh
W.D. Potato Limited
Wilkinson Memorial Hospital
Equipment Fund
Wilkinson Student Nurses
Bursary Fund
Workin'2 Win Employee
Cash Draw

GOLD SOCIETY

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Coach Atlantic
Transportation Group
Dalmack Holdings Ltd.
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Duane and Julia Gallant
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Gorrill Produce Ltd.
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Hatley Farms Inc.
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Edward MacKinnon
Greg and Sandra MacNeill
Honouring Marge McKenna
in her 102nd year
The McLure Family (Neil, Cindy,
Zak, Jayk & Damien)
MRSB Group

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P.E.I. Bag Co. Ltd.
Pleasant Valley
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Red Isle Plumbing &
Heating Ltd.
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Russell and Brenda Brown
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William Cairns
Catherine Callbeck
Errol and Dionne Callbeck
Dr. Scott and Susan Cameron
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Summerside
Cantrek Tire & Supply
Sandra Caseley
Cavendish Agri-Services Ltd.
Centennial CARSTAR Collision
Century 21 - Northumberland
Realty (1987) Ltd.
Charlottetown Airport
Authority Inc.
Les and Pat Chipperfield
Bradford Clark
Ewen and Lori Clark

Your Gifts at Work

PCH surgeon Dr. Simon MacDonald demonstrates an Endoscope on "patient" RN Sharon Schurman with assistance from LPN Marlene Mann. In 2023, you helped upgrade the entire fleet of scopes with lighter and easier to use models that provide an improved image quality leading to better detection.



L. Wayne and Paula Clark
Walter Clark
David Cole
Corcoran Farm Supply Ltd.
Blair Corkum & Sharlene
Clark-Corkum
Windsor Corney
Cox & Palmer
Mr. Kevin Crozier and Dr.
Elizabeth Barbrick-Crozier
Cudmore Ross Wealth
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Associates Inc.
David Davidson
Patrick Davis
Davison Funeral Home &
Chapel Ltd.
Deloitte
Elmer and Doris DesRoches
Discover Kia
Dr. Monica McNeill
Professional Corporation
Dr. Tara Thompson
Dentistry Inc.
Echoway Farms Inc.
Irwin and Carole Ellis

Nita Ellis
Enterprise Venture Group Inc.
Estate of Kerri Wynne MacLeod
Farmboys Inc.
Ferguson Funeral Home Ltd.
Fitzgerald and Snow (2010) Ltd.
Maurice Gallant & David J. Weeks
Robert et Marguerite Gallant
Barbara Gaudet-Bernard
Gaudette's Transit Mix Ltd.
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Grant Thornton LLP
Sonny and Cathy Grant
Green Diamond Equipment Ltd.
GSSJ McMillan Holdings Limited
Ross and Sheila Harrington
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Helping Hands Bands
Ted Henderson
HMS Office Solutions - Hamster
Holland College
James Cooke Howatt
Eleanor Huestis
Hunter River Lions Club
Faye Hutchinson
Island Petroleum
Nathan Campbell &
Dr. Jennifer Tang Campbell

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 Keezer Industries Corp.
 Ira and Betty Kember
 Kensington Agricultural Services Ltd.
 Kiwanis Club of Charlottetown
 Bryan and Jo-Anne Knysh
 Dr. April MacPhee & Dan Kutcher
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 MA3 Rentals
 MacAusland Construction
 Dr. Kristian Macdonald
 Ken and Audrey MacEachern
 Lawson and Wanda MacEachern
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 MDS Coating Technologies Corporation
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 Lynn Montgomery
 Dr. Rebecca Schaefer & Dr. John Morash
 Morrells Auto Sales
 Morrison's Truck Salvage Ltd.
 Hon. Michele M. Murphy
 National Bank of Canada
 Michael and Lynn Nicholson
 North American Auto Wreckers Ltd.
 Nortons Jewellers Ltd.
 Oceanview Farms
 OFP Inc.
 O'Leary Community Health Foundation Inc.
 O'Leary Legion Poppy Fund
 O'Leary Produce Co. Ltd.
 Palmer Automotive & Truck Centre
 Chris and Kyla Palmer

Peava Professional Services Corporation
 PEI Department of Health & Wellness
 PEI Fishermen's Association Ltd.
 PEI Liquor Control Commission
 William and Alana Penton
 Karen Perry
 Peter M. Baglole, CPA, CA
 PFI Group
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 Alice Poon
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 Prince County Fisherman's Association
 Prince Edward Aqua Farms Inc.
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 Provincial Auto Parts (1978) Ltd.
 Dr. Mona Reck
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 Youth Who Care

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 Arthur Cousins & Sons Inc.
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 Blake Craig
 Mary Curran
 Ron and Brenda Cutcliffe
 Paul and Bethany Dawson
 Gerrit de Ronde
 Garth and Lisa Doiron

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 Joan Embree
 Greg Farrell
 Trent and Lori Ferrish
 Normand and Susan Franks
 Fulton Hamill Ltd.
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 Henri et Gloria Gallant
 Judy Gallant
 Pierre Gallant and Stephanie Turner
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 Dr. Alan and Lori Gandy
 Andrew and Faye Goode
 Greenvale Women's Institute
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 Kevin and Diane Griffin
 Gulf Shore Fisheries Inc.
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 Huestis Insurance Group
 David Johnson
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 Kool Breeze Farms Ltd.
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 Wilber Lamont
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 Staff of Consolidated
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 Brian and Joanna Stewart
 Emanuela Storey
 Clair and Ruth Sudsbury
 Ron Sullivan
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 Bridge Club
 Summerside Firefighters
 Auxiliary
 Tang Campbell &
 Gutierrez Dentistry
 Francis Tang
 Ron and Sheila Taweel
 TD Auto Finance
 The Estate of Leo McNeill
 The Local
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 UPEI Presents for
 Pediatrics Club
 Joan Waite
 Terry and Judith Waite
 Edwin and Kay Wall
 Western Truss
 Mona Willis
 Thomas and Pam Wright



Youth Who Care Report

The Youth Who Care Board is a group of 17 Gr. 10-12 students from Prince County that volunteer our time to aid the hospital. We have spearheaded a wide range of events and activities that support the needs of PCH. In September, we started the year by assisting with the Grass Roots & Cowboy Boots event. This was followed by a bake sale that was very successful and ended up selling out. Leading up to the Christmas season, our board members volunteered with the Activity Director and participated in patient activities. As a group we also made Christmas cards and delivered them to different units. In addition, we were able to help the PCH Auxiliary with their Christmas wrap at the County Fair Mall. After Christmas, we sold tickets on a St. Patrick's Day themed gift card basket. Around this time, our board members volunteered with the Rotary pancake breakfast at the Silver Fox.

Our next task is to organize another bake sale for the hospital during the spring months. To finish our year off, we will be running bingo through the Miscouche Silver Maple Senior's Club.

Our board was delighted and very fortunate to be able to tour the Diagnostic Imaging and Ambulatory Care units (pictured above with Ambulatory Care Manager Daniel MacLeod) and witness in-person the great work that is being done at our hospital. It gave us a firsthand account of why it is necessary to volunteer to aid in the continued success of the PCH.

Our board has come together to take on many tasks. The efforts put in have resulted in many benefits for the hospital and community.

*Respectfully submitted by Deirdre Studer
 2023/2024 YWC Board President*

SAVE THE DATE

Grass Roots and Cowboy Boots will
 be returning to Credit Union Place in
 Summerside for the 16th year
 on September 7th!
 Tickets are on sale at
 Summerside Chrysler Dodge.
 Contact Warren Ellis at (902) 853-7160

New Year's Baby

A Life Hanging in the Balance

Courage, quick thinking, thorough training, and the unyielding dedication of our healthcare professionals prevented tragedy when every moment counted.

Danielle MacKinnon, a labouring mother, arrived at Prince County Hospital (PCH) on New Year's Eve with her husband, Alex. She was progressing as expected until a routine assessment uncovered a grave concern – the baby's heart rate was plummeting with each contraction. "My pregnancy with Lainey was healthy and uncomplicated until her birth," said Danielle in a January interview with the Foundation. "There was never really a time when I felt that something was wrong until it was time for Lainey to be born. Early labour started in the afternoon on New Year's Eve and we made the drive to PCH for an assessment. Initially, we thought that Lainey would be born before midnight, but she decided she wanted to wait until New Year's Day! I was just about fully dilated and ready to push when Dr. Barbrick-Crozier was examining me. She told me we had a prolapsed umbilical cord and not to push"

A prolapsed umbilical cord is a major labour emergency. With each contraction, the baby's lifeline was compromised, a dire situation. Explains Sandra Graham, RN Clinical Educator on Maternal Child Care Unit (MCCU), "The umbilical cord that goes from the baby to the mother gets trapped between the baby and the outside world. It's coming first, so with every contraction, the blood and oxygen supply to the baby is stopped. It's rare. To be frank, there's a high likelihood of death of the baby when this happens. It is about as serious as it gets for an emergency." Danielle knew exactly what this meant. She worked in the Maternal Child Care Unit from 2016 to 2022 when she went on her first maternity leave after giving birth to her son, Noah. "And the fact that she was a labour and delivery nurse, she knew that this was so high risk," Sandra explained.



Alex, Danielle and Lainey MacKinnon

Said Danielle, "Everyone jumped into action right away, there was no delay at all. I knew what had to happen and I knew I needed to stay calm. Next, I knew I had to keep my family calm. I explained to my husband what was going on and that I needed to go to the OR for a Cesarean birth and that he wouldn't be able to come with me. The contractions were about 1.5 to 2 minutes apart so breathing and focusing on not pushing was my biggest focus."

Sandra continued, "What happens at that moment happens quickly. The staff have trained for this." The labour and delivery team, armed with training and a sense of purpose, leaped into action. The team on hand included a paediatrician, an obstetrician, a respiratory therapist, an anaesthetist, two labour and delivery nurses, two OR nurses, and a surgical assistant. The team rushed to the Operating Room while a labour nurse held the baby internally to relieve pressure on the cord. Danielle remarked to the

nurse, “Is this your first cord prolapse?” And when she replied it was, Danielle responded, “Mine too.”

Sandra Graham emphasized the crucial role of simulation training in preparing the healthcare team for emergencies. She delved into the meticulous preparation undertaken by the hospital, describing how they had simulated scenarios involving the entire team only weeks before the actual event unfolded. The people at Danielle’s side had practiced scenarios mirroring her situation, honing their skills and building a reflexive response to emergencies. Little did they know that the simulated scenarios would soon manifest into a real-life challenge for the whole team who must move in a practiced, unified way. Sandra specifically underscored the indispensable role of respiratory therapists (RT) in critical situations. “Having the ability to consistently provide safe, effective and efficient care in an emergency situation like this is a critical component in care of birthing persons and their newborns.” She passionately advocates for the presence of RTs during higher-risk childbirth situations, stressing that their specialized skills, especially in managing airways, were pivotal in ensuring the best possible outcomes for Danielle and Lainey.

Danielle explained how the rest of her story unfolded, “Because of the nature of a prolapsed cord and the logistics behind keeping Lainey safe, I was taken to the operating room on the labour bed with my labour nurse, Rachael, riding along. Once we got there, I remember a lot of commotion, but everyone was keeping me informed every step of the way. Nurses Amanda and Jenn were keeping me calm, talk-

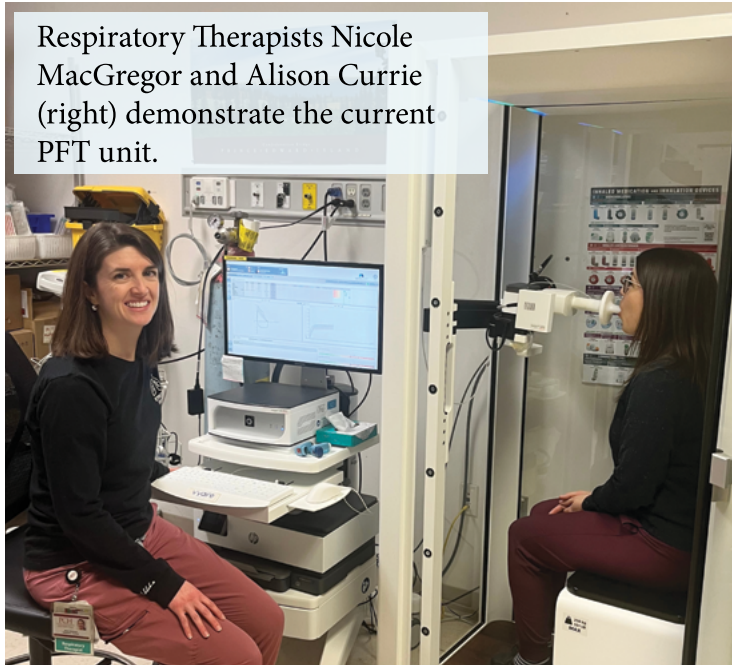
ing me through it all. Quickly, the OR team started to arrive. By this point, my belly was prepped, and the table was draped. Dr. Dan Albrechtsons, the MCCU nurses, and RT Abdul Rahman were there for Lainey and I knew she would be okay. The anaesthetist arrived and within minutes I was put to sleep. I remember waking up in the recovery room to the sound of Kelsey’s voice - a former MCCU co-worker and friend. The next voice I heard was Dr. Dan telling me Lainey was safe and healthy and perfect. I don’t remember much after I found out Lainey was safe - I think it was my body’s way of saying ‘Okay, you did it - you can relax now.’”

Danielle’s story ends with a healthy baby girl and thankful parents. “She is perfect and beautiful, and we are so in love,” Danielle professed. This outcome was possible because PCH had the right healthcare providers when time was of the essence and they had trained for this moment using essential equipment. Thanks to the PCH Foundation’s generous donors, this hospital has been able to invest in simulation technology which proved to be indispensable to Danielle and her family. Our donors have emerged as heroes in this tale alongside our PCH team.



Nurses from the Maternal Child Care Unit display the new Mother/Child Birth Simulator. From left are Staff RNs Jamie-Lee Brown, Kailee Casario, Jillian Marchbank, and Sandra Graham, RN Clinical Educator for the Maternal Child Care Unit.

Each year, your gifts to the PCH Foundation support the greatest needs for patient care at your hospital across nearly every department. From the complex pieces like the Chemistry Analyzer (next page) or the Pulmonary Function Testing Equipment below, to basic needs throughout PCH, each item is an essential piece of the puzzle at your hospital. For your convenience, we have included the entire list of greatest needs for 2024 on the right.



Respiratory Therapists Nicole MacGregor and Alison Currie (right) demonstrate the current PFT unit.

Pulmonary Function Testing

Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT) is a non-invasive diagnostic test used to diagnose and guide the treatment of various lung diseases such as COPD, asthma, and restrictive lung diseases. The PFT System performs tests to examine aspects such as a patient's lung volume and efficiency within a "body box" chamber (pictured above). Once inside the chamber, patients breathe into a sterile mouthpiece to analyze their breathing. Respiratory Therapists can measure a patient's breathing against the average of their demographic or their previous tests to examine progress. With this information, staff at the PCH can ensure patients have easy access to proper diagnosis and treatment and can refer them to community programs more quickly. The new PFT System on this year's Vital Signs appeal will allow our hospital to participate in phases two and three of the expansion project aiming to standardize Pulmonary Function Testing across Health PEI locations and ensure that staff have access to the required patient reports province-wide.

Greatest Needs at PCH 2024

Bladder Scanner	\$16,000
Pulmonary Function Test System	\$70,000
Bariatric Gyne Stretcher (2)	\$28,400
Wound Vac	\$60,000
Airvo 3 Respiratory Support Device (2)	\$20,000
Transport Chairs (6)	\$21,000
Cardiac Ultrasound (Echo) Equipment	\$150,000
Electric Bariatric Stretcher (6)	\$48,000
Gastrointestinal Scope Module	\$65,000
Bladder Scanner	\$16,000
Cardiac Transfer Chair	\$6,400
Cardiac Telemetry Packs (2)	\$11,500
Beds & Mattresses (4)	\$14,500
Patient Friendly Furniture	\$30,000
Stereomicroscope	\$4,800
Chemistry Analyzer	\$245,000
Fetal Monitor (2)	\$72,000
Infant Warmer (2)	\$88,000
Portable Ultrasound	\$67,000
Sleeper Chairs (6)	\$16,200
Portable Cardiac Monitor (2)	\$44,000
Fetal Fibronectin Testing System	\$5,000
Gyne Stretcher	\$9,000
Autoclave Steam Sanitizer (2)	\$260,000
Transfer Carriage (3) & Loading Cart (3)	\$45,000
Positioning Wheelchairs (2)	\$8,000
Automated Dispensing Cabinet, Tower & Fridge	\$176,000
Quickie IRIS Tilt-In-Space Wheelchairs	\$18,000
Bariatric Wheelchair (4)	\$20,000
Frenzel Diagnostic Goggles	\$3,500
Portable Ultrasound Machine	\$67,000
Utility Chairs	\$2,700
Vein Viewer	\$22,000
Piezoelectric Surgery Instrument	\$20,000
Yellow Fin Stirrups	\$17,000
Olympus Berkeley Suction	\$14,000
TPX Surgical Drill and Saw	\$23,000
Bariatric Wheelchair	\$4,700
Uterine Manipulator	\$15,000
Olympus Scope Guide	\$35,000
Zeiss Opmi Pico Microscope	\$55,000

Total Needs for 2024

\$2,023,700



As part of Vital Signs, we must replace the Cardiac Ultrasound (Echo) Equipment that is now ten years old. In many ways, echocardiography is like a specialized ultrasound of the heart. An echocardiogram uses ultrasound to take images of the heart, checking its structure, function, blood flow, and pressure. It is one of the most widely used diagnostic tests for heart disease and can reveal helpful information such as the size and shape of a person's heart, its pumping capacity, and the location and extent of any damage to its tissues. At Prince County Hospital, these tests are performed in Diagnostic Imaging by cardiac sonographers such as Michael MacFadyen, pictured. An "echo" can diagnose a range of conditions including valve disease, coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure, and pulmonary hypertension.

Cardiac Ultrasound Equipment



Chemistry Analyzer



A Chemistry Analyzer is a crucial instrument for the hospital used by Laboratory Services for rapid diagnostics. Technologists use it to test blood and plasma for various electrolytes, enzymes, and proteins, such as Troponin, used to diagnose patients experiencing chest pain. Because of the nature of these tests, they must be done accurately and promptly. With the use of this instrument, most patient results can be acquired within 60 minutes. This unit will be used as a backup to the main chemistry analyzer purchased in 2021. Having a high-quality backup is important to the day-to-day function of the Lab. Replacing this essential instrument will ensure that PCH Lab staff can provide immunochemistry testing when the main unit is down for daily maintenance or repairs, thereby continuing to offer the highest quality of care to patients.

Growing a Legacy

The Ochsner Family

Magnus and Hedy Ochsner were born in Switzerland in the 1920s and grew up during the Great Depression. Magnus was an excellent student, who worked on local farms as a labourer and served in the Swiss Army to put himself through agricultural college. Hedy worked in restaurants and had an avid interest in languages. She travelled to England to be an au pair to learn English before she returned to Switzerland to attend École hôtelière de Lausanne where she completed her studies in French. While working in resort areas in Switzerland, she learned Italian from hotel guests.

The cost of Swiss land inspired Magnus to immigrate to Canada in 1955 with ambitions of starting a farm. He bought his first small farm in Prince George, BC. In 1957, Magnus returned to Switzerland to attend his brother's wedding where he met the sister of the bride, Hedy. The two courted by letter for three years before they married, and she moved to be with him in Canada where they began their family and grew their dairy farm. They became pillars of the community while they raised their biological children John, Margrit and Frances and two sisters they fostered from the Indigenous Community.



Magnus and Hedy Ochsner

In the summer of 1972, they sold the farm in BC to move the family to Hope River, PEI, where they found a beautiful property on Simpson Mill Road. While their lifelong involvement in charitable causes started with the donation of a side of beef to a local fundraiser while in BC, they continued to be involved in community life on PEI, joining organizations such as the Knights of Columbus, Women's Institute and PEI-4H. Being devoted Catholics they were welcomed to the Parish

of St. Anne's and the children attended school at St. Anne's Elementary School, then on to Stella Maris in North Rustico, finishing at Bluefield High School.

While Magnus was busy farming in Hope River, Hedy pursued her passion and education in the restaurant business. She was approached by the parish priest of St. Anne's to manage the famous lobster suppers. After several years there, she was asked to manage the Bonnie Brae restaurant in Cornwall. She influenced the

growth and maturity of many young people who worked for her over the years. She was a well-known figure in the PEI Tourism Association and on the finance committee of the parish council.

When Magnus was 70 years of age and Hedy was 68, in 1996, they sold the farm in Hope River and purchased a smaller farm in Greenvale where they continued to farm until 2013, when Hedy had to be admitted to the Prince Edward Home. Her health had been failing due to dementia. Hedy passed away on Magnus' birthday, September 4, 2013.

In 2015, Magnus purchased a condo in North Rustico where he became known as, "the old man

who was always out walking." After 5 years, he moved to Andrews Parkhill Independent Living in Summerside so he could spend time with his peers. Magnus passed away on February 23, 2023, the birthday of his eldest daughter Margrit who died of cancer in 2018 at age 55.

Magnus lived to the ripe old age of ninety-seven and a half. He was of sound mind and body. He loved playing cards and continued walking a couple of hours each day, up and down the hallways of Parkhill until he passed.

John and Frances shared this message with the PCH Foundation, "Mom and Dad loved their children, grandchildren,

and great-grandchildren very much. They will be forever missed and always in our hearts."

In his will, Magnus made sure to take care of the island communities he grew to love. He left a gift of \$40,000 to the Prince County Hospital Foundation that Frances and John have directed to the Foundation's endowment fund. In an endowment fund, the principal gift remains untouched while the proceeds from its investment are used for the benefit of patients at Prince County Hospital. This means their initial gift will continue to grow and help patients at PCH for many years to come.

Leave a Legacy at Prince County Hospital

Making a legacy gift is simply considering people and causes that are important to you and making arrangements now to continue supporting them in the future. The Foundation has received legacy donations through gifts in wills, transfer of existing life insurance policies, and through stock gifts. When you leave a legacy to the PCH Foundation, your gift is endowed, meaning the principal amount will remain intact and will be prudently invested. Only the revenues generated by this gift are allocated to the purposes established by the Foundation Board of Directors, such as the annual equipment fund. These endowed gifts from 2023 are featured on our Legacy of Giving Donor Wall.

Anonymous

Estate of Joyce Bell

In Loving Memory of Heather Croken,
Paul, Cody & Jasmine

Estate of Arthur & Amy Johnstone

Robert & Joan Linkletter

Peter & Karen MacDonald

Cindy MacKendrick, in loving memory of
Glendon, Elaine & Ruth MacKendrick

Deborah MacMurdo & Matthew Smith

In memory of my mother
Verna Daisy (Ross) Maxwell

Estate of Cecil Mosher

Magnus & Hedy Ochsner

Prince County Hospital Auxiliary,
Over a Century of Giving

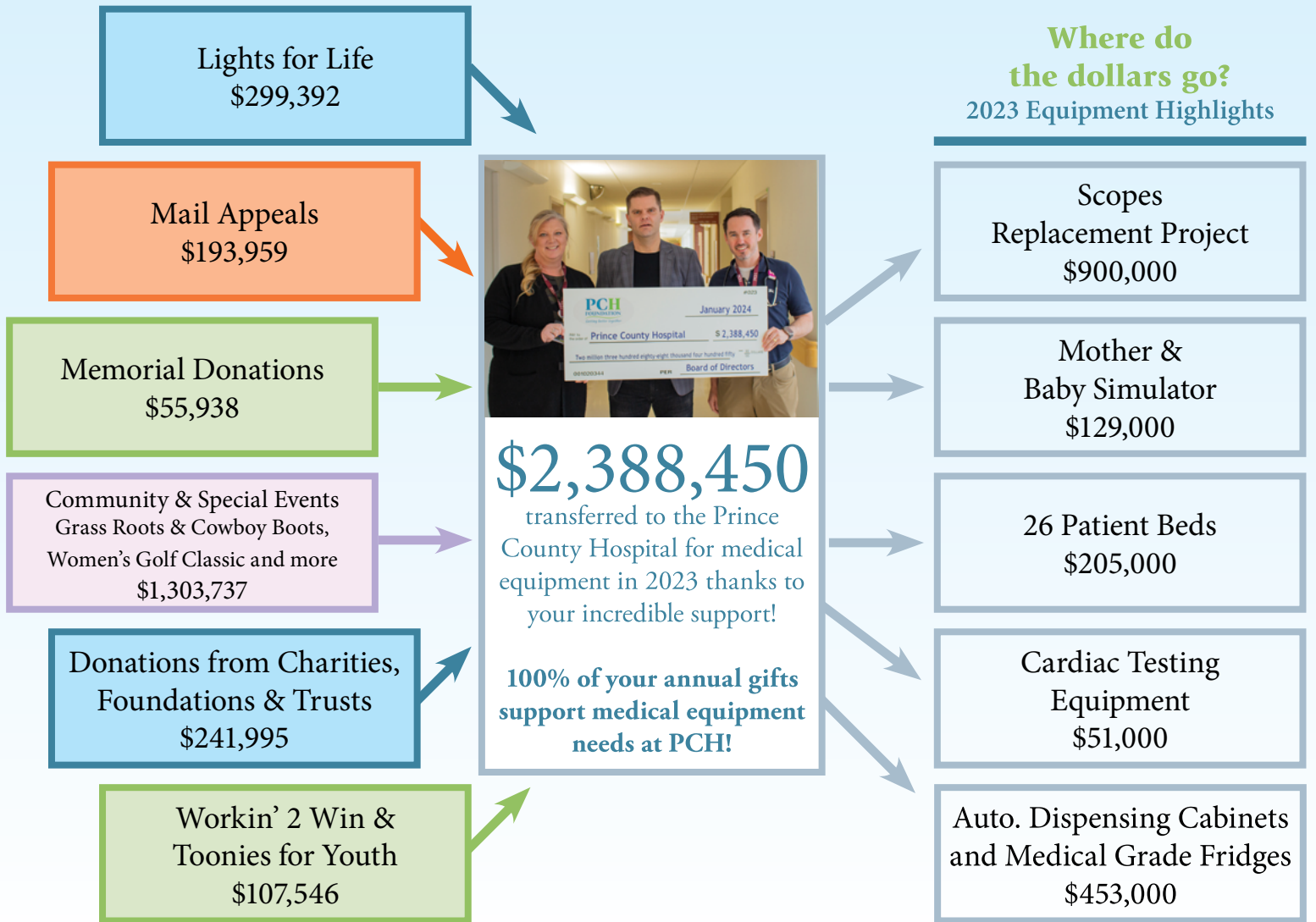
Beth Riley Rankin, in memory of
Margaret Ann Riley Craig

The Family of Alan & Julia Robinson

Maynard & Jo-Anne Schurman & Family

Your Gifts in Action

Selected Financial Information and Highlights of the PCH Foundation's fundraising efforts in 2023 and the impact at PCH.



To obtain a copy of our complete audited financial statements, please contact the Foundation office at (902) 432-2547.



YES, I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT PCH

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

I have enclosed a cheque payable to the PCH Foundation

I prefer to use Visa Mastercard

CARD # _____ Exp: ____/____

Signature _____

MONTHLY GIFT

I wish to make a monthly gift of: _____

(Please charge my credit card number on the left or use the void cheque enclosed to withdraw directly from my bank account)

ONE TIME GIFT

Or, I wish to make a one time gift of:

\$25.00 \$50.00 \$100.00
 \$250.00 \$500.00 \$1,000.00

Other \$ _____