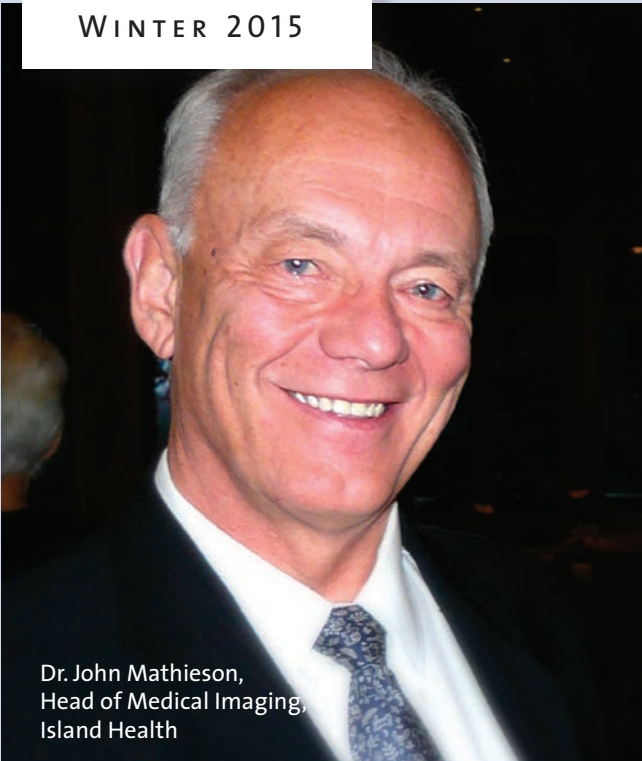




WINTER 2015

PARTNERS

OF THE SAANICH PENINSULA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION



Dr. John Mathieson,
Head of Medical Imaging,
Island Health

Buying a CT Scanner: You can't just go to Costco!

A number of donors have (quite rightly) asked us what's happening with the CT Scanner. We're sorry to say that there have been delays; however, any donations you made for this project are reserved for the happy day when the purchase order is signed. We would never spend those funds for anything else.

Partners interviewed Dr. John Mathieson, Head of Medial Imaging, Island Health and provides this update on the project.

Q. Why is a new CT Scanner at SPH so important now? What difference will this new piece of technology make?

A. CT has evolved tremendously over the past 20 years – the new scanners can now break down body detail to one eighth of a cubic millimeter, and freeze the beating heart. We are very excited about being able to do Coronary Angiograms non-invasively with CT – and also we are starting a programme to use imaging to remove blood clots from the brain in patients undergoing a stroke – which can reverse the entire stroke if caught in time. The new scanner at SPH will be unparalleled in this kind of imaging.

Q. We announced that all the funds were raised at the Foundation's Fall Gala last year. Why is it taking so long to get it in place?

A. The first challenge has been the Provincial Purchasing Authority. Here's a little explanation of what it is and what's happened:

The Provincial purchasing programme was created to help purchase equipment more effectively and at better prices for taxpayers. It's an admirable goal, but

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Wishing you health and happiness this holiday season!





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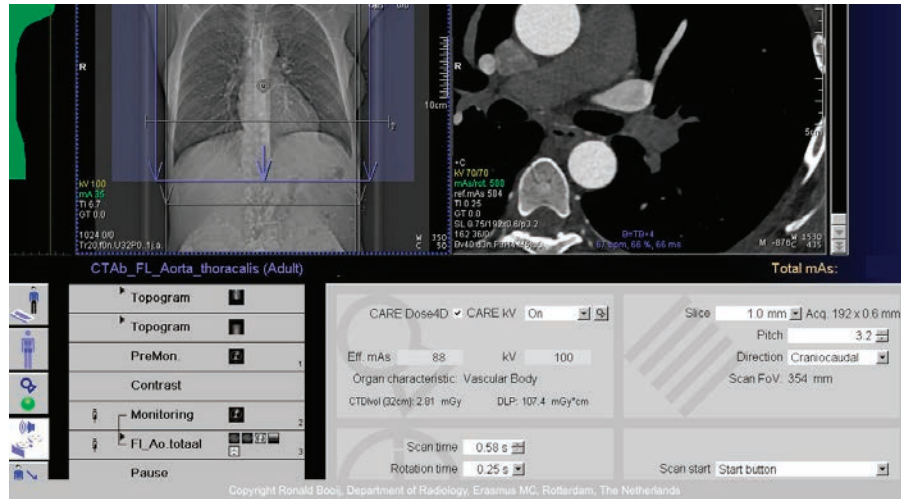
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Full coverage image of the entire chest on the new SOMATOM Force

unfortunately there have been some problems with implementation. The red tape in this process has bogged us down considerably.

We are also determined to get the best scanner possible, and have waited until the latest top end model was approved by Health Canada. It will take a bit more time to work through all of the details of the purchasing process, and to undertake the room renovations needed to install the scanner, but we are determined to install a scanner that will be able to bring high end programs to SPH, and last for a long time. Just to summarize the process:

- The scanner is constructed after the purchase order goes in
- At that point renovations to the room (to accommodate the needs of a newer, more technologically-advanced machine) will begin
- At the same time, a rental machine will be brought to the Saanich Peninsula Hospital while the room is being renovated, so there is no loss of service.

There are many moving parts to this project. We know that donors have waited a long time, but you should know that the Foundation is holding the funds raised in reserve, and will actually be adding almost \$500,000 more to the project!

Q. This is the second CT Scanner for which the community has paid 100% of the cost. How does that make you and the other radiologists feel?

A. The radiologists are continually amazed at the work of the SPH Foundation, and at the generosity of the local community. In a time of austerity in healthcare spending it can be very difficult to stay up to date, but we have had such tremendous support at SPH that we have been able to operate at a very high standard, and look forward to doing even more. ■



Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation

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SAANICH PENINSULA
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

THE ANATOMY OF THE SAANICH PENINSULA HOSPITAL

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS: *An inside look at the SPH Emergency Department*

RN's Michelle Nichol
and Marian Abdi talk
with a paramedic

An inside look at the Emergency Department reveals a team of highly dedicated, compassionate and extremely well-trained personnel. The Department is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year with Emergency Physicians and Registered Nurses, both of whom have specialty training. As long-time Chief of SPH E.R., Dr. Brendon Irvine explained, “we are always open for business.” It is in the hands of this committed and multi-faceted staff to treat approximately 20,000 patients who come to SPH Emergency every year. Patients range from infants to centenarians, who present a wide variety of concerns, from needing basic, minimum treatment to requiring specialised care and admission. Regardless of who comes through their doors, the E.R. staff endeavours to provide each and every patient with excellent care for the duration of their stay at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital.

The always humble and ever efficient Barb Zolna-Daykin, Clinical Care Coordinator for the E.R., credits the excellent, dedicated E.R. staff and the many other individuals for their roles in ensuring the department runs smoothly. She points to the housekeepers, who are integral in keeping the department clean and orderly, a critical part of preventing the spread of infections. She praises the wonderful volunteers, some who spend time with patients and others who restock, people who raise the spirits of those in care but also lessen the department’s workload. Additionally, the E.R. department receives integral support from Liaison Nurses, Social Workers, Seniors’ Nurses, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, the First Nations’ Liaison Nurse, Dietitians and Speech Language Practitioners. Central Saanich, Sidney and Victoria B.C. Ambulance Services provide excellent coordinated care to the SPH

Emergency Department. As well, the Central Saanich Police and Sidney RCMP provide support as needed. It is a team effort, and clear that the high levels of cooperation allow the department to run as smoothly as it does.

When non-Ambulance patients arrive at the SPH E.R., they are greeted by a Nursing Unit Assistant who guides the patient through registration. The Triage Nurse then prioritizes patients by using the Canadian Triage Acuity Scale, which ensures that the most ill person is dealt with first whether they arrive by ambulance or by private means. When the Triage Nurse completes her assessment of the patient, the Nursing Unit Assistant completes the registration by ensuring all the patient's vital statistics including address, phone number, next of kin and family physician is accurately input into their health record. This process exemplifies the teamwork that goes on inside the department.

The Emergency Department also plays an important part of essential care delivery in the hospital by providing assistance with Code Blues (when a patient goes into cardiac or respiratory arrest). E.R. staff are prepared and trained in the event of a disaster, and are able to treat a patient who requires decontamination. The SPH E.R. also liaises with Victoria General Hospital, Royal Jubilee Hospital, Lady Minto Hospital and the Community Care facilities across the Peninsula. This widespread collaboration enables the SPH E.R. to provide the best care possible for patients who come from not only the Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands, but also from Victoria, Sooke, Metchosin, and beyond.

When we look at the breadth of people who benefit from the SPH E.R., it is harrowing to think that this large, modern facility might never have happened. Back in the day, the approval for the project to construct and equip a state-of-the-art E.R. room was given by the provincial government, but then an election happened. All capital spending was brought to a halt. So in 2003, a partnership was created between the CRD and SPHF, who together funded 100% of the construction cost. In addition, SPHF paid 100% of the new equipment costs, including new stretchers, heart monitoring equipment, and a progressive trauma room. The total construction cost was 2.2 million dollars, the SPHF's largest undertaking up to that point, with another million dollars needed for equipment. We expanded what was an outdated, 1400 square foot, inefficient emergency room to 10,000 square feet of leading-edge facilities to keep up with the times. Without the generosity of donors like you, it is unlikely that we would have the capacity or technology to support a team of

...continued on page 6



Patti Day, RN, takes a moment to smile for the camera

...continued from page 5

the size and calibre needed to best serve our community.

Dr. Irvine, Emergency Room Site Chief, SPH, kindly took the time to provide a physician's perspective. He studied for five years

as an undergraduate at the University of British Columbia, followed by four years in medical school, finishing with an additional two-year residency. Even after eleven years of training, he added that he "is still actively training to be the best physician I can be with continuing education, and training medical students and nurse practitioners."

What keeps the Emergency Staff at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital? When asked, each of them noted the satisfaction they get from working with such a great team of colleagues. Angela Nestman, Nursing Unit Assistant, expressed, "I can tell you from my heart that I have extreme pride and respect for

my co-workers for their compassion and dedication to the department." Adding that they all put patients first, this was echoed by Oonagh Bolton, a Registered Nurse who explained, "as an E.R., we turn nobody away. All are welcome for care, and all are treated

with respect and equality." Another Registered Nurse, Kerris Richardson, remarked that with the amazing amount of support from the rest of the Hospital, they are able to take pride in the superb care they deliver to the community.



Dr. Brendon Irvine, Emergency Room Site Chief, SPH, and Angela Nestman, Nursing Unit Assistant.

No one wishes to end up in the Emergency Room, but the teamwork, training and dedication of the SPH E.R. staff makes such an experience much less daunting. As Zolna-Daykin put it, "our role is to provide excellent, competent care which includes treatment, teaching and discharge planning for our patients." It takes a highly specialized, caring group to deliver such care, and that is exactly what describes our team at SPH Emergency. ■

By: Barbara Harwood

Photo Credits: Sandy McElroy



Oonagh Bolton, RN, transports a patient through the department.



Dr. Larry Green and Mrs. Paula Green



Dr. Ambrose Marsh and Dr. Leah Norgrove

Photo Credit: Four Frames Photo Booth

Gala Wrap Up and Campaign Closer

Turning thirty never looked so good! Celebrating our Pearl Anniversary and three decades of supporting the best in health and care for residents of the Saanich Peninsula, the Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation's annual Gala Evening, presented by Peninsula Co-op, was a night to remember.

Held at the stunning Church and State Winery in Brentwood Bay, over 185 guests arrived on the crisp evening of Saturday October 24th. Serenaded by the smooth vocals of the Craig Henderson Trio, attendees sipped on sparkling wine and mingled with a truly varied crowd.

In order to utilize the breathtaking views of the winery and to accommodate the growing number of guests, patrons wandered the heated wraparound deck to find an extensive and impressive silent auction of items donated by the generous donors of Vancouver Island and featuring themed packages arranged by the various departments of the Saanich Peninsula Hospital.

Though they have been raising funds and collaborating on projects for thirty years (and with the unfaltering backing of the community, have raised over \$35 million for

the hospital!), the staff and supporters of the Foundation show no signs of slowing down - or losing their sense of humour! Guests lined up to enter the Four Frames Photo Booth, complete with medical themed props that produced photo strips that were displayed with pride.

Following a sumptuous three course meal paired with Church and State's award-winning wines, supporters were captivated by heartfelt speeches from Paul Hames of Peninsula Co-op, SPHF Board President Gordon Benn, and SPH's Chief of Staff, Dr. Ambrose Marsh. To close the evening's program, the SPHF's emcee Kevin Bell led an exciting live auction that featured everything from tropical getaways to sensational carvings by our island's First Nations communities.

This year's Gala Evening raised a record breaking \$100,506.33 to close the 2014/15 Sterilization Department Campaign. More than \$3 million was raised this year and the project to reconstruct this crucial piece of the Saanich Peninsula Hospital is ONLY going ahead because of our community's generosity. To guests, sponsors, volunteers and everyone involved with an evening that will be hard to top, the Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation thanks you! ■



NEW LIFE, NEW CAREER: *Fatima's Story*

Fatima Abdullahi is a Health Care Assistant at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital, and is also in her third year at Camosun College in Victoria studying for her Bachelor of Sciences in Nursing. She will attend the University of Victoria next year, and will have earned her degree by 2017.

Born in Nigeria, Fatima immigrated to Canada to join her husband. In 2009, she was hired by Crothal Housekeeping Company, which had been contracted by SPH. While working in that capacity, Fatima attended Camosun College for six months to become a Health Care Assistant. She qualified in 2011 and was hired by the Hospital in 2012.

Fatima is married and has two children (a very full life indeed!) and has decided to add a nursing degree to her qualifications. With the support of her husband and the understanding of her children, she charted her course. She

hopes one day to be employed at SPH in the medical/surgical side of the hospital, but that choice of work may change as her experience increases.

The Bursary Committee, which is comprised of SPHF Board Members, was very impressed by Fatima's drive and her ability to juggle everything in her life. She has received bursary support for three years, and has had additional funding support from Island Health and the Camosun College Foundation. Fatima is so very grateful for the financial assistance, and for the belief so many have expressed in her ability to be successful.

All students know that bursaries alone are not sufficient funding for the years needed to earn a degree. In between semesters, Fatima works every available hour at our hospital. She showed me her workload for August of this year and there was not a day when she did not

complete a full shift. She is very adaptable to the various departments in which she is offered work because she wants as much experience as possible. “I will take whatever I can,” she explained. In these days, when some people are more likely to choose a particular job, it is refreshing to hear of such flexibility and ambition. The combination of work and the success of her bursary applications has given Fatima the privilege of not having to apply for student loans.

Fatima was so grateful for all the financial help she had received that she began asking questions about how she could start to contribute. She did not want the money to go to a different fund, and eventually discovered that her payroll deduction could be designated to her own hospital Foundation. Thus, every

pay day sees a portion of her income go directly to the same source from which she receives financial support. As we were driving towards her home, Fatima explained her donations: “it matters not how little you can give because even the smallest amount adds up to be a help.”

Talking to Fatima was a great pleasure, and it is so easy to understand why she has achieved so much in such a short time in Canada. She reflected that “SPH is a wonderful place and whenever I come back to work I feel that I have come home.” As her birthplace is half a world away, that is a very telling statement from a young lady who got goose bumps when she sang the Canadian Anthem at her Citizenship Ceremony. ■ *By Barbara Harwood*
Photo Credits: Lynn Vantreight





Gordon Benn receiving cheque from GAIN-VI's Cindy Mui.

This year's Vancouver Island Motor Gathering, held on Sunday, August 16th, was a huge hit! An amazing array of classic, modern and unique cars and motorcycles were on display, with entertainment for the whole family. Once again, the Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation had our tent set up with a fun game that attracted kids and adults alike! Tremendous thanks goes to GAIN-VI for putting on this wonderful event and choosing our hospital to be one of the benefactors. We received a cheque for \$39,475, and could not be happier!



Some of the stock.



Pumpkins are a big part of life for the folks at Firbank farms. Autumn is a must-see time of year for this family farm, with all of their creative talents making mini pumpkin friends. Purchasing one of these art pieces this year brought proceeds to the Foundation in the amount of \$2,000. Thanks to the Jack Family for all the talent that goes into these beautiful autumn decorations.



This fall, we received the news that one of our long-time supporters and a favourite neighbourhood business will be closing their doors. Marigold Nurseries, a cornerstone in the community, has been with us from the

beginning. For nearly three decades, this much loved family-run business has supported the Saanich Peninsula Hospital Foundation in many ways, from sponsoring power carts at our annual Golf Tournament, to donating their resources and skills to provide flowers and hours of gardening joy to residents in our Extended Care Units.

This year, owner Ray Smith has taken on the role of Honourary Chair of our Annual Campaign to renovate our Surgical Daycare Unit. In Ray's own words, "it's our hospital. My family and I have been saying this for more than 30 years. It has been there for us when we have needed it, and we have supported it." While we're sad to be losing such close neighbours, we wish the Smiths the best in their well-deserved retirement and new business endeavours, and know that our well-rooted relationship will continue to flourish.



Volunteers Tim Maloney and Anne Casey with SPHF's Renn Bibeau and Karen Morgan at Victoria's Largest Little Airshow

For over 10 years, our Foundation has benefitted greatly from Victoria's Largest Little Airshow, and this year's event was no exception. Hosted by the Victoria Radio Control Modeller's Society, this fantastic family event raised a total of \$14,000 to be put

towards our hospital's 2014/15 Sterilization Department Campaign! Both days, August 8th and 9th at Michell's Airfield, were full of fun games, face-painting, and flying objects of all types (including a flying lawn mower... we really mean all types!). The Foundation's tent and crew were there with a fun game of Whack-a-germ (featuring this year's campaign mascots) and balloon animals galore. A huge thank you goes to the Victoria Radio Control Modeller's Society for sharing the proceeds with us, and to all the hard work that went into putting on this much-loved event.



At a recent meeting of the Peninsula Singers' executive, a donation of \$3,000 to the Foundation was granted from proceeds of their spring concert, "Centre Stage in Vegas". In addition, the Singers' treasurer, Lesley Shaw, applied to her employer, Investors Group, for a grant to support an organization she is passionate about and which they deem worthy, resulting in an additional \$1,200 for the Foundation, to benefit Music Therapy programs in Palliative Care. Both cheques were presented to Karen Morgan, Executive Director of the Foundation by Lesley Shaw, Louise Jovanovic and Peninsula Singers' Artistic Director, Glenda Korella.

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