



**Langley
Memorial
HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION**



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GIVING MATTERS

SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER FROM LANGLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION





Langley's new MRI Suite impresses hospital patients

When Jessie Pears was born in a house on Vancouver's Keefer Street in the 1920s, there was still a 'car barn' for the city's street cars nearby on Main Street.

No one had heard of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines, or even imagined the medical and technological advances the next 10 decades would bring.

But, having visited Langley Memorial Hospital's new MRI Suite recently, Jessie—now 95 years young—was pleasantly surprised by the experience.

"I had been trying to get an MRI at Jim Pattison (another facility) for months and months, but then a call came in last week that I could get the MRI done in Langley instead," she says.

"I was so pleased. It's nice to be closer to home, especially because I don't drive anymore."

The new MRI Suite ramped up to full operations on Jan. 4, 2021, providing the community's residents with in-patient and out-patient diagnosis.

The machine, which was jointly funded by the Ministry of Health, Fraser Health and Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation, will be able to perform up to 7,500 MRI exams annually, operating 16 hours a day, seven days a week.

Designed with the patients in mind, a calm beach setting helps minimize the clinical setting and put patients at ease.

"We know it can be a little scary with a big machine or even claustrophobic for some patients, so we often ask patients 'Where do you go in your mind?' when they want to escape. A lot of people say 'the beach,' so that's represented with a ceiling of blue sky and palm trees," says Tammy Karoway, LMH site coordinator for medical imaging.

Jessie, who had her MRI scheduled for spine/back issues, thoroughly enjoyed the new suite.

"If I need an MRI again, I want it to be there."

MRI exams are completed for various reasons including detecting musculoskeletal issues, as well as characterization and detection of diseases and tumours, Tammy explains.

MRI machines can also diagnose abnormalities of the brain, cysts and soft-tissue injuries in other parts of the body, helping to facilitate early diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions, which helps improve patients' quality of life.

Tammy, who has more than 33 years' experience in health care, says it was extremely satisfying to see the new suite open and fully functioning.

"Taking a project from scribbles on a napkin to opening—over two and a half years—has been very exciting," she says.

"Seeing the impact on wait lists and also, knowing that it means less patient transfers, especially with COVID-19, really helps."

Generous donors stepped up and helped raise \$4 million towards the new MRI Suite through LMHF's *Emergency Response* fundraising campaign, which wrapped in 2019.

The second phase, a new and expanded LMH Emergency Department, will be opening in 2021.

"I'm excited to see what the next phase will bring," Tammy says.

"I just can't thank the Foundation and the community's generous donors enough! We're very fortunate."



Giving is Contagious:

Sandra Dayton's ongoing legacy



The sudden loss of a beloved mother and grandmother can push a family deep into shock and grief. As Leanne Laurin recollects the time her mother passed away, that grief comes back to her—coloured in shades of grace and gratitude.

In April of 2015, Leanne's mom Sandra Dayton, 69, seemed hardy and active, having just enjoyed a month-long European vacation.

Though she had been diagnosed before the trip with Pulmonary Fibrosis, a lung disease that thickens and scars lung tissue, her family doctor had given her the all-clear.

So, it was confusion mingled with shock that brought Sandra's family to her bedside at Langley Memorial Hospital. Sandra was in critical care, facing a dire prognosis.

"When the doctor mentioned mom had entered stage four of Pulmonary Fibrosis, the family was shocked," Leanne remembers.

"We said, 'what...?' We had no idea.

"The staff saw the look on our faces, and within five minutes we had a counsellor speaking to us; it happened so fast, it was a whirl.

"To have the hospital staff realize we didn't know how serious her condition was, and then just lead accordingly—it was amazing, and they were just wonderful. It was handled by the care staff so seamlessly...just the way they treated us made that horrible event much more bearable."

At that moment, the hospital care team's quick thinking and empathy cemented a relationship with the Laurin family that has endured and grown stronger over the last six years and counting.

Memories of her mother's treatment at Langley Memorial give Leanne inspiration that sustains her work as a key volunteer on gala committees and other fundraising initiatives, and fuels her family's consistent generosity to the hospital foundation.

After Sandra passed, Leanne and her husband Mike Laurin took stock of the relationships that Sandra and the entire family had made with her hospital care team.

"My husband and I thought, 'What can we do to help make this a hospital we are all proud of?'"

After reaching out to the Foundation, they had their answer.

Through both the Laurin Financial Group (part of CIBC Wood Gundy) and via their own family name, the family launched on a philanthropic journey.

During quarantine, Leanne worked as a volunteer for the Foundation's first ever online charity auction and raffle, *Dorothy's Shopping Basket*, which raised \$62,000 to help advance the quality of urgent care.

She also worked on the 2019 Old Hollywood gala where the Laurin Financial Group was a presenting

Dorothy's Shopping Basket, October 9-16, 2020

\$62,000 raised through Dorothy's Shopping Basket, the Foundation's first ever online charity auction and raffle. Proceeds support the immediate medical needs of Langley Memorial Hospital.

For details, visit lmhfoundation.com/Dorothy



sponsor, and shared in the completion that night of a \$17-million campaign to build a new Emergency Department and MRI Suite at the hospital.

As relative newcomers to the philanthropic scene, the Laurins were blown away by the spontaneous generosity of Langley donors, and how easy it was to encourage others in their social circle to contribute at fundraising events.

"Giving is contagious. The more you talk about your philanthropy, the more other people think, 'Maybe I should give more.' The more people give, the more it resonates with them."

If giving is contagious, so is Leanne's enthusiasm for the hospital.

She says she'll always remember when she realized how much her mother respected Langley Memorial's medical staff during her final days. As Sandra lay in bed in critical care, Leanne acted as her translator when she found it hard to speak. Leanne recalls one time when Sandra

became quite animated, struggling for Leanne to understand a particular need.

As it turns out, Sandra was trying to say 'cheese tray.' Sandra was adamant that her care team was comfortable and satisfied during their shifts.

"I said, 'seriously, mom? This is what you're thinking about right now?'"

Those tender moments linger in Leanne's memory, reminding her of the selflessness of her mother and the intense bond she shared with her hospital caregivers.

"They were so good to her, she wanted to make sure they knew how much she appreciated it.

"When we all finally left the hospital, there were two nurses in tears, which shows you how much passion they have for their jobs and their patients, and how invested they are in helping people."



Charity Golf Tournament August 12, 2021

Be one of 176 golfers to enjoy a fun-packed day of golf and fundraising activities, all while helping fund urgently needed equipment for your local hospital. Foursome and twosome spots still available! lmhfoundation.com/golf



There's No Place Like Home gala May 29, 2021

Click your heels three times and join us for a virtual—but still magical—evening of first-class dining and entertainment, with chances to win thousands of dollars in prizes! Your support means your local hospital will have funds to purchase urgently needed medical equipment. lmhfoundation.com/gala



Buy a Langley Memorial Hospital Face Mask!

Do your part to stop the spread of COVID-19 while helping your community access exceptional care. Three designs available! Visit one of our retail partners or have a mask delivered to your door. To purchase a face mask, visit lmhfoundation.com/masks

START YOUR OWN FUNDRAISER!
GET DETAILS AND SUPPORT AT
lmhfoundation.com/events



Giving Momentum:

How generosity builds over a lifetime

Ellen Peterson's connections to the hospital run deep—both personally and professionally.

As a long-time member and past chair of the Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation board, and as the Executive Director of the Langley Division of Family Practice, an organization that represents Langley physicians, Ellen is a passionate supporter of local health care.

Since moving to the community over a decade ago, she's donated her time and money to the hospital through annual fundraising drives, events, and capital projects like the *Emergency Response* campaign to build a new Emergency Department and MRI Suite at the hospital.

"I used to see my grandparents giving small cheques —\$10 or \$100—and they taught us to acknowledge how fortunate we are compared to so many people around the world."

This year, she found herself reflecting on the future for herself and her relationship with the hospital.

"Like most people, at first I thought, 'Oh, I'll just go to an event or give a one-time gift.'

"Then after a while you think to yourself, 'This is such an important organization; my family uses the hospital and it's part of my community, so I'll give a little more and then perhaps I'll volunteer...'"

Ultimately, she chose one more avenue for her generosity: a bequest in her Will, directed to Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation.

For some, the notion of leaving gifts in a Will might conjure an image of an elderly person dealing with their own mortality. But it's also part of a sound financial plan, and a natural step forward for donors who choose to build a momentum in their giving.

A legacy gift helps the hospital cover the costs of projects, programs or capital projects from the time the donor passes and well into the future.

For Ellen and her family, this stage of giving is personal as well. Last summer, she suffered the loss of her father.

Memories of his final days after a struggle

with cancer are tinged with gratitude for the compassion of Langley Memorial medical staff, who kept the rest of the family updated on his condition and comfort throughout his care.

"At the end of my father's life, it was so good to know he had great care and that I could go to speak with his doctor regularly. He didn't have to leave his community. This hospital is such a nice thing for Langley to have and I can't imagine life without that."

That gratitude and a strong belief in Langley Memorial's future fueled her own philanthropy and community work. But it also allowed her to model behaviour to her own kids as they grew (they're now young adults).

"My kids are both quite philanthropic, I encourage them to get involved, be aware, help where they can. I just want them to take some action toward improving the lives of others."

Your legacy is our community's future.

Leaving a gift to Langley Memorial Hospital through your Will doesn't restrict you from providing fully for loved ones. The size of gift you leave is completely your choice and any amount you choose will be greatly appreciated and well invested in the future of your community.

WAYS TO GIVE A LEGACY GIFT INCLUDE:

- Bequest
- Gifts of Securities
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable remainder trust
- Gifts of real estate
- RRSP/RRIF
- Life insurance

Join a **FREE** online seminar

March 31, 2021
10:30 am or 6:00 pm

Lilian Cazacu, a Langley Notary Public with over 20 years of experience in the legal profession, will provide tips and best practices on Will writing and estate planning, including:

- What should be included in your Will
- What information do you need to gather before you write your Will
- Your financial obligation to family

Email info@lmhfoundation.com or call **604 533 6422** for more information or to reserve your spot!

Thanks to
our
DONOR HEROES

We are proud of the generous donors who made a significant impact on local health care this past year, helping to purchase critical care items for the hospital and community in 2020:

NEW ARRIVALS:

- Infection control curtains for the ER
- iPads for family connection & medical consultations
- Ultraviolet Germicidal Irradiation Unit
- Portable Ultrasound for the Pain Clinic
- Surgical instruments
- Ventilators

We appreciate all the support donors gave us to make this happen.

LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP AT lmhfoundation.com

COMING SOON:

- MRI Ventilator
- Furniture and equipment for the mental health unit
- Cardio/respiratory monitor
- Medical carts
- Video cystoscopes
- Hysteroscope set
- Infant warmer
- Infant Optiflow System

The Need Continues:

As we look forward into the coming year, and the great strides we are making on vaccination in BC, the Foundation understands that the hospital will remain the frontline of the pandemic for some time yet.

We continue to need your support, to help provide important equipment to improve infection control at the hospital and to increase hospital capacity:

- Vital sign monitors at each bed will reduce the need for staff to quickly clean and move equipment from patient to patient.
- New patient care items: Germs harbour in worn out material, so replacing simple things like patient bed tables even helps improve safety.
- Surgical equipment: We want to see surgical wait lists, exacerbated by COVID-19, return to acceptable wait times. More surgical equipment means more surgeries can be performed each day.



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RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
PORT DE RETOUR GARANTI