

GIVING MATTERS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CHINOOK REGIONAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION • FEBRUARY 2011

2011 Care From the Heart Day

2010 was a year of many changes for the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation and one of the biggest and most successful was a change in format for *Care From the Heart Day*. For the past 17 years, *Care From the Heart Day* offered donors a chance to give a gift to their hospital through a telethon. Last year, with the help of Honorary Chair, Clint Dunford, the format was changed to a Radio-a-thon.

The 2010 Care From the Heart Day Radio-a-thon was a tremendous success. More than \$210,000 was raised for the Chinook Regional Hospital with the support of six local radio stations: Country 95, B 93, 107.7 The River, Rock 106, CKVN 98.1 and 94.1 CJOC.

Working together for the first time, each radio station broadcast live from the hospital's atrium and informed listeners of the outstanding care and compassion that can be found at the Chinook Regional Hospital. While interviewing past patients, medical staff, volunteers and donors, they highlighted the importance of supporting local healthcare and encouraged listeners to call in, log on, or visit the hospital to make a gift.

"Once again," says Executive Director Debra Ramage, "We are astounded by the support of the community. All money that is raised by the Foundation stays right here in Lethbridge and all those who gave during the Radio-a-thon can be assured that their donation is working to ensure the best of care for everyone in our community."

Please join with others in the community in making a gift to your hospital this *Care From the Heart Day*.



Debra Ramage, Executive Director of the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation poses with media representatives during the 2010 Care From the Heart Day Radioathon. Six local radio stations worked together to raise much needed funds for the Foundation.

Your gift will be used in part to fund special projects like the creation of the Short Stay Guest House and the continuation of hospital beautification. Once complete, the Short Stay Guest House will offer affordable accommodation to patients and their caregivers who are receiving outpatient treatment at the Chinook Regional Hospital and the Jack Ady Cancer Centre.

Please tune in to your favourite local radio station on Thursday, February 24th between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and come down to the hospital's atrium to make your gift. You can also log onto www.crhfoundation.ca to make a gift and track the day's progress, or call 403-320-6800 to offer your support. For more information, contact the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation Office at 403-388-6001.

Remember, when you support healthcare, we all win!



A Home Away From Home

With the opening of the new Jack Ady Cancer Centre and the continued increase of patients utilizing the services offered at the Chinook Regional Hospital, the need for affordable accommodation for patients and their caregivers has become more prevalent than ever before.

In July of 2010, the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation, in partnership with the Green Acres Foundation, opened the first six rooms of the new Short Stay Guest House. The Guest House at the Alberta Rose Lodge, located just 2 kilometres from the Chinook Regional Hospital is open for business and has already served many Southern Albertans.

A large contribution by local real estate firm MaxWell Realty has supported the refurbishment and maintenance of the initial six rooms. The goal is to open 20 rooms to minimize strain on patients that are often undergoing difficult treatments.

Each room includes comfortable beds, full bathroom, reclining chairs and flat screen television. Linens are changed and laundered daily and guests have the option of dining on site for a small fee. Guests can also enjoy restaurants, shopping and entertainment within walking distance.



Affordable accommodation is available for a nominal fee for those undergoing outpatient treatments at the Chinook Regional Hospital and the Jack Ady Cancer Centre.

Partial proceeds from this year's *Care From the Heart Day* will be used to open and maintain additional rooms. Clint Dunford, Honorary Chair of *Care From the Heart Day*, knows first hand what it is like to be away from home during a difficult treatment. When Clint was diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2005, he received much of his treatment in Edmonton. Luckily, he and his wife Gwen had the option of staying with family during his treatments. "My heart goes out to people who don't have the same advantages as we had." Having a comfortable place to stay and recover made all the difference.

The Short Stay Guest House will ensure that those from outside of Lethbridge receiving treatment here will be able to recover without the usual stress or financial burden of being away from home.

Christmas Tree Festival Returns



Bob Balog, of Balog Auction Services, does what he does best as each of the 30 decorated trees, wreaths & garlands are sold to the highest bidder at the 2010 Christmas Tree Festival Gala.

Scrooge may have stolen the *Christmas Tree Festival* in 2009, in the form of the H1N1 Flu outbreak, but nothing could stop it in 2010!

To remove the potential for cancellation, accommodate larger crowds and relieve parking pressures, the 2010 *Christmas Tree Festival* was held at the D.A. Electric Barn on the Lethbridge College Campus.

The Barn was transformed into a winter wonderland with over 30 trees, wreaths and garlands on display.

Over the course of the Festival, hundreds of people strolled through the trees, were treated to a visit with Santa and enjoyed tea served by the Auxiliary to the Chinook Regional Hospital. All items were sold during a live auction at the Gala with proceeds supporting state-of-the-art healthcare equipment, vital programs and special projects, like the Short Stay Guest House and hospital beautification.



The Christmas Tree Festival returned in 2010 after being forced into cancellation by the H1N1 Flu outbreak in 2009. Over 30 trees were on display at the D.A. Electric Barn on the Lethbridge College Campus.

Phase One of Hospital Beautification

With the current increased demands on time of medical staff, the completion of phase one of the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation's Hospital Beautification Project could not have been more timely.

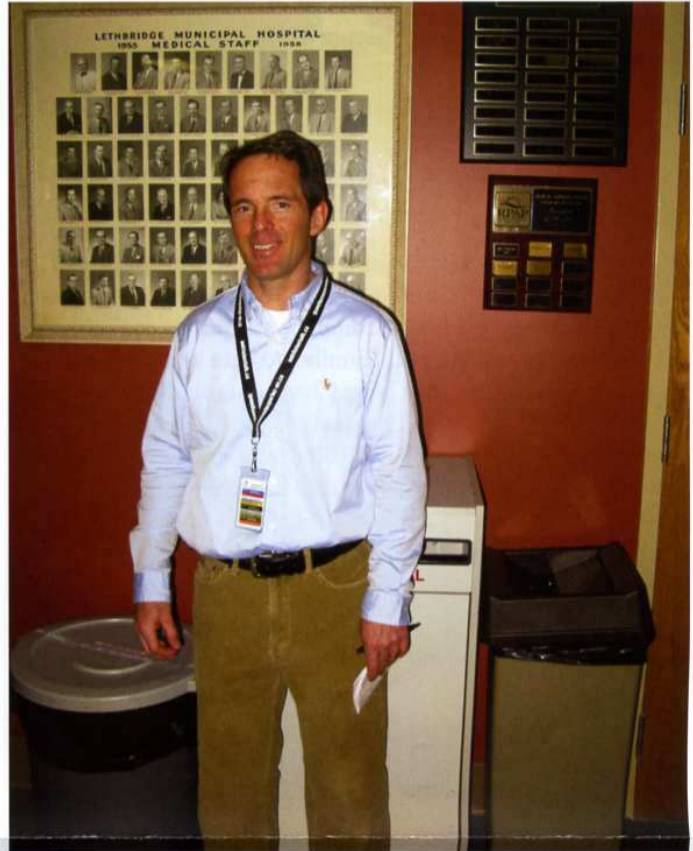
Physicians, nurses and other medical staff are now enjoying much needed refurbished common areas where they can comfortably rest between surgeries and while on call. During Phase One of the project, the Surgical Suite Lounge, the Physicians Lounge, Laboratory Staff Lounge, Labour and Delivery Suite Lounge and Physicians Sleep Rooms all received makeovers.

Each space was treated to a fresh coat of paint, new cabinets, appliances, comfortable seating and updated televisions and workspaces. Many of these rooms have not seen any updates since the hospital was built in 1989.

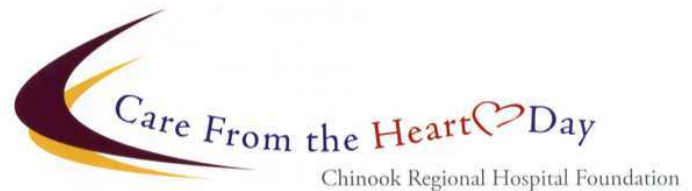
"Recent refurbishing of the physicians' lounge and call rooms are greatly appreciated," says Dr. Eric Mueller, Associate Medical Director – South Zone. "Both areas will be much more comfortable for those physicians whose work demands them to be in hospital for extended periods. The important role of the lounge as a social centre where docs can confer and catch up with their colleagues will be much enhanced as the room is so much more pleasant to be in."

Phase Two of the project is expected to begin in early 2011 and will include the refurbishment of family and patient visiting rooms and other common areas.

The Hospital Beautification project is another example of donor funds enhancing the healthcare of our community. Providing patients and medical staff comfortable and safe surroundings is essential to maintaining the current level of care enjoyed at the Chinook Regional Hospital.



Dr. Eric Mueller, Associate Medical Director – South Zone



Please make cheques payable to Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation

To make a secure online donation, please go to www.crhfoundation.ca

Phone 403.388.6001

Charitable Registration # 10762 3241 R0001



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Donation Amount _____ The most convenient way to contact me is by:

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Your privacy is important to us. We may contact you in the future regarding Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation programs, events and fundraising activities. If you do not want to receive such information, please tick here:

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About the Foundation

In 2009/10, the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation made funding commitments totaling more than \$300,000 to Chinook Regional Hospital and health programs in Alberta Health Services South Zone. Funding was provided for priority equipment needs, programs and special projects.

One of these special projects was the creation of two 'portable' palliative care rooms at the Chinook Regional Hospital.

Palliative care equipment supports and enhances the quality of care for patients with end of life needs. These patients often have complex, high care needs that cannot be adequately met with standard hospital equipment. "Family presence and support is vital during this life journey," says Cheryl Sarazin, Manager, Medicine 4B/4C, Chinook Regional Hospital, "To allow the family to remain at their loved one's bedside supports the best care of the patient." The portable aspect of this equipment allows it to be moved to where the patients' needs are and supports best access and use of resources.

Thanks to the generous support of CEP Automotive and the participants of the Dieter Abraham Memorial Golf Tournament.

This new equipment will help to ensure the comfort of patients and their loved ones while in the Chinook Regional Hospital. The other major contributor to the project was Mr. John Frouws. His donation is in memory of his daughter Diane who passed away in 2008.

The purpose of the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation is to raise, receive and distribute funds for equipment and programs that will enhance patient experience. The Foundation provides the vehicle for many wonderful contributors to make a difference in the community.

The Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation is governed by a volunteer board of directors, and ensures that all funds are managed prudently and dispersed in keeping with the wishes of our donors. During this time of transition in provincial health services, the Foundation continues to focus here in Southern Alberta – to raise and distribute funds for health care in our community.

Support the Best of Health for Everyone...

Care From the Heart Radio-A-Thon
February 24, 2011
Hospital Atrium

Val Matteotti Italian Golf Open
Wednesday, August 10, 2011
Lethbridge Country Club

50/50 Payday Lottery
Every two weeks
on or about the 10th
and 25th of each month

for a complete list visit
www.crhfoundation.ca



*Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation Board of Directors
Back Row (L); Everett Duerksen, Yvonne Sugimoto, Roelof Heinen, Debra Ramage, Gary Scott, Doug Campbell, Philip Byrne, K.B. Takeda. Front Row (L); Elaine Braithwaite, Judy Pounder (Chair), Igor Shaskin & Dr. Harold Prokopishyn Not shown: Tom Ackerman*



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