

ISSUE
APRIL 2008

INVESTING IN excellence

It's Almost Here!



AFTER NEARLY FOUR YEARS, OUR NEW 100,000 SQUARE FOOT ADDITION IS ABOUT READY TO OCCUPY. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 9TH TO JOIN US FOR THE GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION!

Our new building is the culmination of years of hard work and millions invested by the provincial and regional government and of course you, our loyal and committed donors.

With this new space, we will consolidate our operating suites onto one floor, open brand new ambulatory clinic space and expand the service of our great hospital. For those of you who supported the One Voice One Vision campaign, this event marks the completion of the St. Mary's Regional Cardiac Care program and for others, your investment in our Surgical Suite Redevelopment is nearly complete.

The lower level will see new food service (yes, we'll finally have a cafeteria back) program along with a revamped equipment processing area.

The first floor will include a new main lobby, cardiac diagnostics, the revamped Robertson Clinic for Airway Health, and even a brand new Tim Hortons that will now be managed by our Volunteer Association. On the second floor you will find seven new operating rooms including two designed specifically for cardiac surgery and a new hybrid O.R. that will allow us to combine diagnostics with intervention. The other operating rooms will be used by our skilled specialists in Urology, Thoracics (chest), Orthopaedics, Ear, Nose & Throat, and General Surgery.

We are excited at the prospect of enhancing the services we provide to the community. This event will mark the end of only our second major renovation to our facility since 1924 and we hope you can join us. While it is made of bricks and mortar, it is the people who work here and the people who support us that make St. Mary's the gem of our community.



INSIDE...

OPHTHALMOLOGY



UROLOGY



RESPIROLOGY



CARDIOLOGY



Grand Opening!

FRIDAY, MAY 9TH, ST. MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL GRAND OPENING
WATCH FOR YOUR INVITATION IN THE MAIL!



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When Every Second Counts



GOLD STANDARD. THAT'S WHAT HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS STRIVE FOR IN ANY SETTING. WHEN IT COMES TO TREATING A HEART ATTACK, THERE'S A NEW GOLD STANDARD BEING SET NOT IN A LARGE ACADEMIC SETTING OR HUGE RESEARCH INSTITUTION, BUT RIGHT HERE AT ST. MARY'S .

Research suggests that the best treatment option for someone having an ST-Elevated Myocardial Infarction (an acute heart attack) is angioplasty (a procedure where a catheter is inserted into the heart with a small balloon to blast away the plaque that is causing the blockage of the artery). The key however, is that the angioplasty must be performed within 90 minutes of the patient arriving in the Emergency Department for it to be more effective than traditional "clot-busting" drugs.

Late last year, we began trialing a program that enables paramedics to electronically transmit the results of an ECG from their ambulance, directly to a BlackBerry carried by one of St. Mary's Interventional Cardiologists. If the patient is indeed a candidate for immediate angioplasty, the Cardiologist directs the paramedic to bring the patient directly to the cardiac catheterization lab at St. Mary's - by-passing the Emergency Department altogether.

Since launching the program officially, we have had tremendous results. In one case, a patient living in Ayr had his arteries opened via angioplasty 61 minutes after the ambulance arrived and another Kitchener patient had his angioplasty only 36 minutes after the paramedics arrived at his house. Patient care simply does not get any better. All it takes is a bit of ingenuity, a home-grown technology, and an unquenchable desire to innovate when others say it can't be done. Our patients and our community deserve nothing less.



WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS AT RESEARCH IN MOTION AND A LOT OF HELP FROM OUR REGIONAL EMS PARAMEDICS, OUR CARDIAC TEAM IS TURNING THAT 90-MINUTE FIGURE UPSIDE DOWN.

St. Mary's Hospital Identified as a High Performing Hospital

ST. MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL HAS ACHIEVED RECOGNITION FROM THE ONTARIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION (OHA) AS A 'HIGH PERFORMER'. IN THE 2007 ACUTE CARE REPORT AND THE REHABILITATION REPORT, ST. MARY'S ACHIEVED HIGH-PERFORMER STATUS IN CLINICAL UTILIZATION AND OUTCOMES (CUO) - AN INDICATOR THAT EXAMINES QUALITY OF CARE. THE OHA'S HOSPITAL REPORT SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS MEASURE THE PERFORMANCE OF ONTARIO HOSPITALS, PROVIDING AN INDEPENDENT, COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS IN A "BALANCED SCORECARD" FORMAT. PARTICIPATION IS VOLUNTARY. ST. MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL PARTICIPATES IN THE THREE REPORTS FOR WHICH IT IS ELIGIBLE: ACUTE CARE, EMERGENCY CARE AND REHABILITATION.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT SMGH.CA



At the Heart of a Woman

St. Mary's was proud to welcome Dr. Marla Shapiro, broadcaster and health expert, to share her heart healthy advice with over 900 guests last November. Although heart disease is the leading cause of death in North American women, they often suffer in silence or ignore symptoms until it is too late. Traditionally, it has taken women much longer to be diagnosed and the female mortality rate is increasing. "Because you live in a community of excellence, and because you have St. Mary's, that is changing" declared Dr. Shapiro, CTV medical expert and Globe and Mail columnist.

Dr. Shapiro shared the following advice:

Know your risk factors

- Exercise at least 30 minutes most days of the week
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Limit salt, fat and alcohol intake

Tell your doctor your symptoms

- Stop Smoking
- Eat a diet high in fish, fibre and vegetables
- Take your prescribed medicine

Centres of Excellence...

ST. MARY'S HAS EVOLVED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY FOR OVER 80 YEARS. WE ARE DEVELOPING CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE TO ADDRESS KEY ISSUES SUCH AS WAIT TIME AND TRAVEL. FOCUSING ON CARDIAC, RESPIRATORY, OPHTHALMOLOGY, AND UROLOGY, WE OFFER COMPLETE SERVICES HERE AT HOME. WE STRIVE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF TODAY'S AND TOMORROW'S PATIENTS.

OPHTHALMOLOGY



Thank you for giving the gift of sight! Over \$125,000 was raised through our 2006 Spring Appeal to support the St. Mary's Centre of Excellence in Ophthalmology. This investment has addressed critical needs in this department including IVFA (Intravenous Fluorescein Angiography) which is an extremely valuable test that provides information about the circulatory system and the condition of the back of the eye. IVFA is useful for evaluating many eye diseases that affect the retina.

Eye surgery can radically change how you view your surroundings, improve your comfort level, and navigate public areas. It can also help you enjoy activities you once found joy in, such as reading or watching movies.

"We realize that the ability to see properly is life changing," says Dr. Dante Pocrnich, Eye Surgeon at St. Mary's, "and we are proud to be a part of these miracles every day."



UROLOGY

The St. Mary's surgical program recently received a \$350,000 investment from a local family who has a long history of investing in our hospital.

Foundation President Peter Sweeney was joined by Dr. Blair Egerdie, Medical Director of the St. Mary's Surgical Program in speaking with the family about making this investment. It was Dr. Egerdie's dedication to clinical excellence at St. Mary's that made a tremendous impression on the family and had a profound influence on their decision.

We would like to thank Dr. Egerdie for his ongoing support of the Foundation and for taking time out of his personal schedule to join us in discussions with our investors.

The funds invested will be used to purchase a new portable urologic x-ray system and operating table that will provide our urologists with flexible technology that will enhance diagnostic and operative procedures, including the treatment of prostate cancer, bladder cancer, and other debilitating urological conditions.

RESPIROLOGY



Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is an irreversible and disabling lung disease that is responsible for more than 9,000 deaths in Canada each year.

St. Mary's recently launched a new PRIISME® program to help COPD sufferers to achieve better disease management and an improved quality of life. An educator from the hospital will work with doctors' offices, long-term care facilities and other community-based services to identify and educate patients who are unknowingly at risk. A multi-disciplinary committee brings representatives and specialists like respirologists, family physicians, educators, and community pharmacists together. Through this planning

group, the local PRIISME® team collaborates to ensure that best practices are shared and coordinated around care for the patient.

One goal of the PRIISME® initiative is to create a partnership of multidisciplinary healthcare professionals to offer coordinated care for COPD sufferers in the community. The PRIISME® program, funded through a grant from GlaxoSmithKline Inc. (GSK) is providing the resources to support the initiative at SMGH. The COPD program is the second PRIISME® program at SMGH, complementing an asthma program launched in September 2005.



ST. MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

911 QUEEN'S BLVD.

KITCHENER, ON N2M 1B2

Investing in Excellence

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

GRAND OPENING RECEPTION,

FRIDAY, MAY 9TH .

MANULIFE BIKE AND HIKE FOR HEART

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST.

An Investment from the Heart

Born in Zlin, Czechoslovakia to a family of modest means, Jarka Novak never dreamed that she would one day be in a position to make philanthropic gifts to charities and causes that were dear to her heart. Jarka's father worked for the Bata Shoe Company in Zlin and in 1938 came to Canada with the family for a three year contract to establish the new Bata Shoe factory in Batawa, Ontario. Due to war in Europe, they were unable to return and decided to stay in Canada and all became Canadian citizens.

Jarka met Julien Hradecky in Batawa, Ontario in 1951. In 1953, she was a student at McMaster University and he was employed by Bata. Julien visited Jarka frequently in Hamilton and they were married at Christmas time in 1953. Julien started his own business, R&J Engineering, when they moved to Kitchener in 1967. They were blessed with two children; Julien Jr. who runs the family business that his father established, and Sara who is currently the Canadian Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

Why did Jarka choose to make a significant investment in St. Mary's Hospital?
"My husband had congestive heart failure and received treatment at St. Mary's from Dr. John Lackner. This gave us a few more quality years together. St. Mary's was there when we needed it and I wanted to give something back. The care is superb and the people are wonderful."

Jarka's investment has established The Hradecky Family Endowment Fund for Cardiac Research. This important investment will benefit generations to come by entrenching a permanent research presence and permitting us to conduct community-based research in perpetuity.

