

(l-r) Jim Yuel, daughters Taya and Neli, with Tango the dog and Lisa Yuel.

FALL / WINTER 2020

THE VOICE OF ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

# Spirit

## A FAMILY'S GIFT

### THE YUEL FAMILY

**GIFT INVITES PEOPLE OF ALL NATIONS  
TO FEEL WELCOME AT HOSPICE**

DAKOTA DUNES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**FROM CURBSIDE TO COMMUNITY**

LORAAS

**THE PROFOUND EXPERIENCE  
THAT HOSPICE CAN BRING**

MAXINE MACSYMETZ



St. Paul's Hospital



ST. PAUL'S  
HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION INC.



# Message From SPH Foundation

In May of 2020, we found ourselves in a rather unusual but truly wonderful situation. We were celebrating the wholly remarkable support of our community in bringing the \$20 million Close to Home Campaign to a conclusion, yet the social distancing restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic meant that our celebrations were shared virtually where they could be viewed from the comforts of our homes.

And while we yearned to mark that wonderful occasion by gathering to share celebratory hugs and heartfelt handshakes, we understood and honoured the necessity to “stay safe by staying home.” Home is a place that offers safety, security and

solace—the very qualities that now, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our community, will form the core of the spirit in the Hospice at Glengarda, our province’s first freestanding residential hospice.

Today, as we conclude the Close to Home Campaign, we look forward to opening the doors of Saskatoon’s Hospice at Glengarda in the coming months.

In this issue of the Spirit, we celebrate the profound generosity of those who not only helped us meet our \$20 million goal, but remarkably to exceed it – and by nearly \$1 million! Because a publication chronicling each and every gift

given to the Close to Home Campaign is something too great to contemplate, we extend our sincere assurance that if you have supported this campaign in any way, we are full of gratitude to you.

Your gifts speak loudly of both strong enthusiasm and intense appreciation for the mission that has fueled creation of a hospice Close to Home, vastly enhancing end of life care in our community. We will forever remember your generosity

Lecina Hicke,  
St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation CEO

## SPH Foundation Volunteer Board of Directors 2019 – 2020

*Standing centre (l-r) Dr. Bruce Berscheid, St. Paul’s Hospital Local Council; Neil Weber, Board Chair.*

*Back row (l-r) Lecina Hicke, SPH Foundation CEO; Nicholle Povhe, Treasurer; Ron Hyggen; Shari Watson, Secretary; Leah Schatz; Arlene Jorgenson; Chris Boychuk, Past Chair; Steeg Holmes.*

*Seated (l-r) Gwen Dueck; Dr. Vivian Walker, Vice-Chair; Kevin Sharfe; Doreen Howlett; Karen Barber, St. Paul’s Hospital Executive Director to March 30, 2020.*

*Missing: Larry Long; Tracy Muggli, St. Paul’s Hospital Executive Director from April 1, 2020.*



# Spirit



Feature

## A FAMILY'S GIFT

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# THANK YOU SASKATCHEWAN!



Close To Home Campaign  
Exceeds \$20M Target

It's a wrap! The \$20 million Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-Life Care is now officially closed.

"I am quite simply astounded. I am awed by the remarkable generosity of our community, and by its collective appreciation for our mission. Thanks to each and every individual, family, community and organization that has supported the Close to Home Campaign, our province is just months away from a new chapter in the delivery of accessible, holistic and compassionate end-of-life care" says St. Paul's Hospital Foundation CEO Lecina Hicke.

"As we prepare to 'tie the proverbial bow' on this gift to our community, we are taking a moment both to reflect upon and also to express our deep gratitude for the passionate individuals who not only shared their generous gifts, but also are willing to share their stories with us to help our community understand the needs of individuals and their loved ones facing end of life," adds Hicke.

One such is Mary Engel. Speaking of her father the late Gordon Engel, who passed away on March 26, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer, Mary says: "My dad was very passionate about the Close to Home Campaign. When he agreed to share his story, he did so with the hope and intention of helping families just like ours--families facing the reality of having to say goodbye to a loved one. Our experience

with dad in the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul's Hospital inspired our family to carry on the legacy of advocacy my dad had created with the Close to Home Campaign," she continues.

It was Gordon Engel's moving story that originally helped launch the Close to Home Campaign, and it was his story



The Engel Family.

that inspired an astonishing \$6 million anonymous donation. This unprecedented gift was the spark that ignited construction on the Hospice nearly two years ahead of schedule, and that in no small way served to inspire an entire community to join the Campaign.

Just 18 months following the launch of our Close to Home Campaign, we are in the remarkable position of simultaneously thanking our community for reaching that goal while also announcing that the \$20 million original goal had been exceeded by nearly \$1 million! Not only has this generous

support enabled us to build our new Hospice; it further has ensured that the care offered is in keeping with the holistic and compassionate mission of our Hospital.

Yet further benefits include establishment of the Leslie and Irene Dubé Holistic Care Endowment to advance

holistic care within the Hospice; completion of renovations to the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul's Hospital; and development of an important educational fund to support end-of-life caregivers.

The Foundation would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all donors who contributed to the campaign, with a special Thank-You! to our passionate volunteers, advocates and ambassadors who helped to fulfill the vision of the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.

We echo the words of Mary and the entire Engel family in saying, "Thank you, Saskatchewan!"



# A FAMILY'S GIFT OF CARE

Jim and Lisa Yuel And Daughters Neli and Taya

*Hospice is about treating all people with respect. – Lisa Yuel*

(l-r) Lisa Yuel with Tango the dog, daughters Neli and Taya, and Jim Yuel.  
Photo courtesy of Tamara Michelle Photography.

Lisa Yuel has always been the kind of person who, upon seeing someone in distress, will stop what she is doing to help them out and offer them a kind word or warm hug.

“There are homeless people in this city,” she says, “and while it’s easy to drop the change that is in your pocket and keep going, I have found that if you stop and acknowledge them; see them as people and ask them if it is ok to help them out; their whole face changes because they know that someone has taken into account that they are a human being and respected them enough to ask a question and wait for a response.”

Lisa says this respect for others was instilled in her by her grandparents: “I was raised that way. You look after your neighbour. You look out for the safety of others. If there is broken glass in the park, you clean it up – it doesn’t matter who did it.”

She says that also is how she raised daughters Neli Kolk and Taya Nagel-Bright. “What I wanted was for my children to be contributing adults who are kind, compassionate and giving. It was really important to me that they see the empathetic side of life. Both of them have grown into beautiful women who do exactly that, and as a parent I am so proud of them.”

Jim and Lisa Yuel and daughters Neli and Taya all believe deeply in giving back to their community. They have supported many charitable organizations both in Saskatchewan and internationally. Now they are giving a truly remarkable gift of \$1 million to the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-Life Care.

Jim says Lisa was the inspiration for their gift. “When the request came in from the Foundation, we kicked it around a bit and I was quite prepared to go forward with a gift. When I asked Lisa about it she said, ‘If it was up to me, I would give a million dollars because I understand what it is like to be in this position.’”

Lisa understands because her mother and brother both passed away in the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul’s Hospital. “As a family we have had occasion to spend time [in the unit] with other members of the family. The care is fantastic – the attention to the patients is unbelievable,” says Jim. “However, for those people who may require a longer period in the end of life, it would be wonderful to have a facility such as the Hospice at Glengarda.”

Daughter Taya says that she supports the campaign because she believes everyone deserves a peaceful and compassionate transition as their soul moves on. Her sister Neli believes comfort is essential also for those who are accompanying a loved one on that journey: “It is important to make sure that everyone who is having to face this trying time is afforded the most comfort they can possibly have so they can focus on their loved one and be there for them and cherish every moment they have together.”

Jim says: “We are very, very pleased to be able to help contribute toward the success of this campaign. A hospice is a facility that is long overdue for a city of this size.” Lisa adds: “It just makes sense. A hospice is about treating all people with respect.”

# Interesting Facts about the Hospice at Glengarda

We describe the Hospice at Glengarda as “freestanding” because the Hospice is not physically part of or attached to any other facility (health care or otherwise), and therefore can offer a heightened home-like environment to the broadest possible population. And as for our elegant name: The Ursuline Residence that previously occupied our new Hospice site was namesake to Lake Glengarda in northern Italy, home of Ursuline Order founder Angela Merici.



## Become One of Our Angels



“I support the Circle of Angels because I have felt surrounded and uplifted by others throughout my life and this is my way of giving back”

*-Pari Padmanabh*

Join our Circle of Angels today by making a monthly gift to help improve the lives of patients and families in your community.

For more information and to join, contact:  
St. Paul's Hospital Foundation: 306-655-5821  
[info@sphfoundation.org](mailto:info@sphfoundation.org)  
or sign up online at [sphfoundation.org](http://sphfoundation.org)

Pari Padmanabh  
*Circle of Angels Monthly Donor*



*We love our Angels! It's an easy way to give AND it reduces our annual mailing costs.*



ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

# Mistletoe

—2020—

Presented by **Nutrien**  
Feeding the Future

The dedicated Mistletoe Ball Committee has been working hard to find a way to continue to observe the tradition of supporting the health and well-being of our community this Christmas in light of COVID-19.

These enthusiastic volunteers have re-imagined this year's event by offering the purchase & delivery of beautiful Mistletoe Baskets in lieu of a Ball so you can enjoy the exceptional, quality delights synonymous with the Mistletoe Ball from the comfort of your own home!

Your generous support will provide the St. Paul's Hospital Laboratory with a state-of-the-art Nano-Sequencer and a Cell Imaging Analysis System to help ensure kidney transplant recipients go on to lead long, full and healthy lives!

Each Basket Purchase will include an invitation to join us in a virtual toast from the Committee Chair, Pam Prosofsky and the opportunity to hear a heartfelt personal story from Robin Andreas. Otherwise known as "Chef Robin," Robin is the creative mastermind responsible behind the infamous, delectable "Mistletoe Feast" that guests of the event have come to know and love. As a kidney transplant survivor, Chef Robin understands, firsthand, precisely what it means to have a new lease on life, and for that reason, is profoundly grateful for your support, this year.

To order your Mistletoe Basket for you or a friend, visit [sphfoundation.org/mistletoe](http://sphfoundation.org/mistletoe) or call Jesse Greenwood at 306-655-5821. Baskets will be delivered on November 21st 2020.



**Diamond Basket - \$500**  
**Emerald Basket - \$300**  
**Ruby Basket - \$100**

\*A partial charitable tax receipt will be issued for the Baskets (\$100/\$75/\$25 respectively)

\*You also have the option of topping up your basket purchase with an additional donation, in support of St. Paul's Hospital. A full charitable tax receipt will be provided for any additional donations.

Please note: Baskets may only be delivered to addresses that fall within Saskatoon City limits.  
Baskets may also be picked up from Blossoms Florals, 126 – 20 St West, Saskatoon, SK

## Thank you to the 2020 Mistletoe Volunteer Committee

Pam Prosofsky (Chair) | Barbara Berscheid | Janna Dutton  
Doreen Howlett | Carrie Jamieson | Jennifer Bow (SPH Foundation Executive Assistant)  
Jesse Greenwood (SPH Foundation Annual Giving Officer)  
Michelle Neufeld (SPH Foundation Manager of Annual Giving)



St. Paul's Hospital

# HOSPICE AT GLENGARDA



## A QUANTUM SHIFT IN PATIENT CARE

In his 35-year career as a radiologist in Saskatoon, Dr. Don McIntosh has served many patients both young and old, of whom many have recovered and some have not. By their nature and because of their training, physicians deeply want their patients to be cured and get well. But that can't always happen.

“It takes a quantum shift to go from acute care medicine to palliative care medicine or hospice,” Dr. McIntosh says. “It’s something that a lot of physicians have difficulty with. We need to do a better job of training physicians about when to have conversations with patients.”

This belief is why Dr. McIntosh encouraged his partners at Associated Radiologists LLP to donate to the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care. Currently retired, Dr. McIntosh was a member of Associated Radiologists when they made their gift to the campaign. As a radiologist, he knows palliative care isn’t just for the old, and he knows not everyone has the resources at home to take care of people who are dying.

“This is one way of trying to change the culture,” he said. “It’s a different mindset. Instead of trying to cure the patient, you’re trying to be compassionate and relieve suffering.”

Associated Radiologists have pledged \$100,800 to the Close to Home Campaign, and we are deeply grateful. Currently 27 physicians comprise the Associated Radiologists group, formed in 1946, and this is not the first time they’ve supported St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation. Past gifts include a \$500,000 gift supporting acquisition of an MRI, a \$60,000 matching gift toward Diagnostic Imaging’s purchase of advanced imaging biopsy ultrasound technology, and an annual sponsorship for the Foundation’s Mistletoe Ball.

Dr. McIntosh’s association with St. Paul’s Hospital extends back to



Back row (l-r): Dr. Sundeep Nijjar, Dr. Chris White, Dr. Tyson Mack, Dr. Tom Waslen, Dr. Geoff Marshall, Dr. Carolyn Flegg. Middle row (l-r): Dr. Nicolette Sinclair, Kelly Prodanuk, Adele Dupuis (Close To Home Campaign Co-Chair), Lecina Hicke (St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation CEO), Dr. Abdulaziz Almgrahi, Dr. Jeff Bird, Dr. Heather Gordon. Front row (l-r): Dr. Andrew Scott, Dr. Todd Ross, Dr. Aatif Parvez. Missing: Dr. Maxine Beck, Dr. Don McIntosh, Dr. Anne Kenny, Dr. Tiffany Buglass, Dr. Chris Wall, Dr. Cory Tremeer, Dr. Cesar Chavarria, Dr. Ivan Norval, Dr. Meng Lim, Dr. Rajan Rakheja, Dr. Preman Jacob, Dr. David Horne.

1973, when he was a groundskeeper on the maintenance crew! After medical school at the University of Saskatchewan, part of his residency in medical imaging was spent at St. Paul’s, as well as 6 months of pathology. “I worked a lot at St. Paul’s doing acute care medicine and solving acute care problems, but there was always a lack of resources for end-of-life care,” he said. “The Hospice at Glengarda will change that.”

Palliative Care Ward. “Treating patients at that point in their life is very humbling,” Dr. Sinclair says. “It can make a huge difference to their quality of life, and people are so thankful.”

She says her giving is motivated by wanting to improve the care received by her patients and also to improve her workplace for herself and her colleagues: “We’re all very fortunate to have the jobs that we

**“End-of-life care is a different mindset. Instead of trying to cure the patient, you’re trying to be compassionate and relieve suffering.”**

**–Dr. Don McIntosh, Associated Radiologists**

Being on the front line of medical care has given Associated Radiologists a clear view of what is needed most. Dr. Nicolette Sinclair, also a partner at Associated Radiologists, says some of the most rewarding procedures she performs are referred from the

now hold, and we all worked hard to get here. To be in a position to give back to others feels so good. Saskatchewan has the opportunity to be one of the best places in Canada to get health care, and adequate financial support is a big part of that.”

# Dr. Hung Fook and Mrs. Theresa Ma

## Future Generations Will Be Rewarded

Dr. Hung Fook Ma and his wife Theresa are passionate about health care in Saskatoon. "I'm a doctor and my wife Theresa was a nurse" notes Dr. Ma. "Most of our medical careers have been in Saskatoon, so it makes sense to give back to the health care community here."

Both Hung Fook and Theresa come from big cities: he was born in Hong Kong and she trained as a nurse in both London and Scotland. They moved to Saskatoon in 1964 when Dr. Ma accepted a position in the city. Although initially they had planned develop their careers

journals in the comfort of my own home, while my friends in larger cities were reading them during long commutes."

From 1964 to 2007, Dr. Ma worked full-time as a doctor in Saskatoon. During those years, from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. he made daily rounds to all three hospitals, including weekends. "Back in those days we made house calls, too," he reminisces. And while he's now cut back his working hours, he continues to work at a minor emergency clinic. In recognition of this truly meritorious career, Dr. Ma recently received an award for

The concept of dedicated end-of-life care was quite new to the province at that time. "Working in palliative care was difficult" notes Theresa. "I spent two years in this area. You bond with the patients and then they pass."

Those experiences have made donating to the Hospice at Glengarda especially important to the couple. "We've had 56 years of marriage and hard work in Saskatoon," says Dr. Ma. "I went to all three hospitals – including St. Paul's – almost every day for 43 years. Our daughter Priscilla was born at St. Paul's."

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**"I'm a doctor and my wife was a nurse. Most of our medical careers have been in Saskatoon. It makes sense to give back to the health care community here."**

*- Dr. Hung Fook Ma*

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in larger centres, the couple soon realized that Saskatoon had its own charms, and that here would be a great place to raise their children Phillip and Priscilla.

"Saskatoon is like a sparrow; it's small but it has everything" says Theresa. "We just love this city." Hung Fook adds that within this city, most destinations are located within a 5- or 10-minute drive. He further muses, "For my entire career I was able to read medical

55 years of service. This honour is a rarity in any field, medicine included.

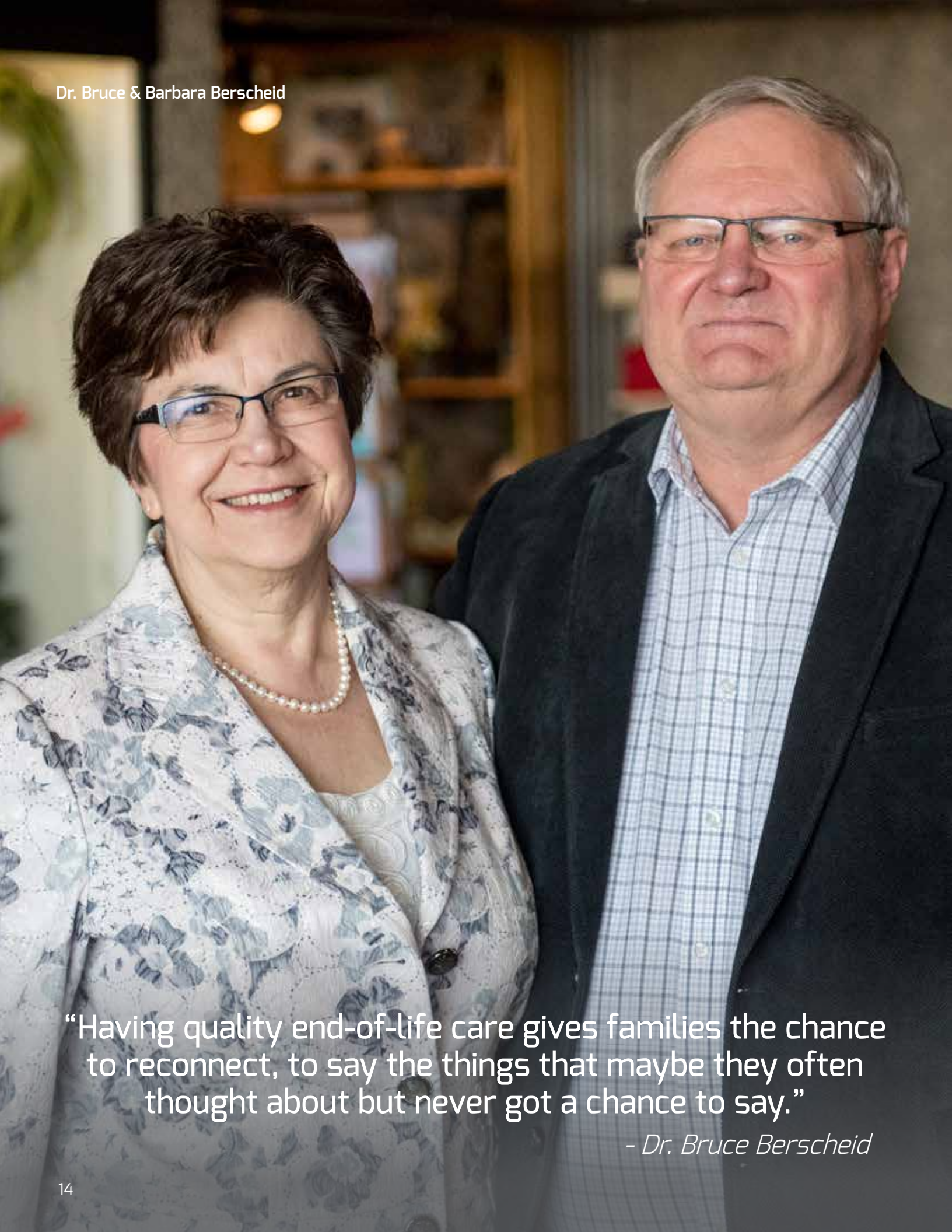
In 1986, when Theresa was working as a nurse in Saskatoon, she and a colleague took a two- week course in palliative care at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg. They brought that knowledge back to Saskatchewan, and together with a team of health care professionals they began delivering palliative care as part of a pilot project in our city.

"There's a Chinese saying that if you do something good for society it will not necessarily benefit you, but future generations will be rewarded," Dr. Ma continues. "We have been blessed with good fortune and now are able to give back to St. Paul's, the Hospice and the community."

The Mas' generous \$100,000 contribution to the Close To Home Campaign, coupled with their tradition of giving back to many other of Saskatoon's non-profit organizations, has resulted in the creation of a legacy that indeed will benefit many future generations.



*Dr. Hung Fook and Mrs. Theresa Ma*



“Having quality end-of-life care gives families the chance to reconnect, to say the things that maybe they often thought about but never got a chance to say.”

- *Dr. Bruce Berscheid*

# Dr. Bruce & Barbara Berscheid

## A Lifetime of Service In Catholic Health Care

Barbara and Bruce Berscheid met at the University of Saskatchewan's St. Thomas More College when they were both students many years ago. Since that day, much has happened: they eventually married and had three children. Bruce became a doctor and began working at St. Paul's Hospital, where he remained for more than 30 years.

"While in medical school and particularly during my Family Medicine Residency, I was exposed to ultrasound, Computed Tomography (CT), and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). I realized that those technologies were the future of medicine, and I wanted in!" states Dr. Berscheid, who went on to become an experienced Interventional Radiologist.

While currently retired from practice, Dr. Berscheid continues to help shape Catholic health care in Saskatchewan as a member of St. Paul's Hospital Local Council and the Emmanuel Health Board of Directors.

"At home, Bruce always talked about how strongly impressed he was with the compassion of St. Paul's staff, and with the whole atmosphere at the Hospital," recalls Barb. Influenced by her husband's enthusiasm, she

responded to a call for volunteers to help at the Hospital's Palliative Care Unit.

For Barb, that was the beginning of a lifetime of volunteering in support of the Hospital. Today, she celebrates more than 20 years of service in the Hospital's Palliative Care Unit and 11 years of service on St. Paul's Hospital Foundation's Board of Directors. She further offers active support as a member of St. Paul's Hospital Foundation's Mistletoe Ball Committee and also sits on the St. Paul's Hospital Ethics Committee.

Through their hard work and dedication, Barbara and Bruce have had a significant influence on Catholic health care in our community. They have touched countless lives in the areas of Catholic Health Leadership, Interventional Radiology and Palliative Care, and have been generous donors, fundraisers and supporters for St. Paul's Hospital.

Bruce and Barb recently made a generous donation of \$100,000 to the Close to Home Campaign because they feel strongly about the importance of having access to good end-of-life care.

"I was on the Foundation Board when we first started talking about

hospice," says Barb. "I was already so impressed with the staff in acute palliative care and we had heard so much about how amazing palliative home care was. But there was this gap—we didn't have a freestanding hospice in Saskatoon, and we wanted to support it."

Bruce was on the Hospital Board of Directors at the time. The perspectives gained through the couple's roles in service of St. Paul's led to a clear understanding of the strong need for hospice in our community. The two committed themselves to advancement of a solution.

"A lot of people have not had access to good end-of-life care," says Bruce. "Regardless of people's faiths and beliefs, everyone in the family is going through this journey together. Having quality end-of-life care gives families the chance to reconnect and to say the things that maybe they often thought about but never got a chance to say," Bruce adds.

We are immeasurably grateful to the Berscheids for their deep caring for our community, and as well for their lifetime of dedication and service both to health care in our province and also to the countless it serves in our community.



*Shirley Greyeyes, Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation Director  
with Tribal Chief Mark Arcand (Director).*

# Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation: Gift Invites People of All Nations to Feel Welcome At Hospice



Shirley Greyeyes knows how important it is to have good end-of-life care. When her father's death began to draw near, he first was taken care of at home then was moved to the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul's Hospital.

Now, in her position as Director of the Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation (DDCDC), Shirley is once again involved in conversations about end-of-life care, this time in support of the Hospice at Glengarda.

"A lot of our community members have received end-of-life care at St. Paul's Hospital and we want to help create a place that's safe for the family and the individual to be together and one where they feel that they belong," Shirley said.

The DDCDC wants people of all nations and from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds to feel welcome at the Hospice. With its focus on that goal, the organization gave a \$100,000 gift to the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care in support of the Holistic Care Endowment. The Endowment ensures long-term support with particular emphasis on the areas of holistic care, spiritual care, bereavement care and art therapy for patients, their families and their community.

And while a room at the Hospice will be named in the organization's honour, Shirley points out that the most important aspects of the room designation are the recognition and acknowledgement that they are equal partners in a community working together to make a difference.

"We are changing our cultural and community language. We are showcasing that we all matter," Shirley says. She further adds that the DDCDC wants to help ensure that hospitals, the Palliative Care Unit and Hospice at Glengarda are places where everyone is welcome and is treated equally.

The DDCDC – long-time supporters of St. Paul's Hospital – supports many other community organizations as well, yearly processing more than grant 400 applications. "DDCDC provides financial support to our community as a whole," explains Shirley. "We are here to try to make our community a better place."

The Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation comprises the seven-member First Nations of the Saskatoon Tribal Council. The Corporation distributes 25% of the net profits generated by the Dakota Dunes Casino to both First Nation and

non-First Nation charitable organizations and groups.

Their work aims to connect with the entire broader community and to change perceptions, recognizing that the best way to bring about effective change is to work collaboratively. "That's why working with the Hospice and having a room there named after Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation is an important initiative for our Board as it was an opportunity to facilitate heightened awareness as it relates to Indigenous culture and the collaborative approach of the DDCDC", Shirley said.

"St. Paul's Hospital recognizes the importance of including our cultural background or beliefs and we felt the Close to Home Campaign would have a great impact. We want to work with the health care system to improve the services provided to our community.



(l-r) Jamie Yuzicappi, DDCDC Community Engagement Coordinator; Gene Dupuis, Close to Home Campaign Honourary Co-Chair; Shirley Greyeyes, DDCDC Director; Adele Dupuis, CTH Honourary Co-Chair; Lisa Fan, DDCDC Finance Manager; Verna Daniels, DDCDC Executive Assistant; Tribal Chief Mark Arcand (Director); Lecina Hicke, SPH Foundation CEO; Tara Kyle, DDCDC Community Investment Coordinator; Sandhya Padmanabh, SPH Foundation Director of Philanthropy; Lyndon Smith, SPH Foundation Manager of Communications & Stewardship

# Supporting the Cancer Journey from diagnosis to end-of-life care



(l-r)SPH Foundation CEO Lecina Hicke, CIBC Market Vice-President Craig Becker, and Close To Home Honourary Co-Chair Adele Dupuis.

Almost everyone knows and loves someone who either has been or is currently being affected by cancer. That's one of the reasons why CIBC supports cancer care.

The bank's Employee Giving and Volunteering program is called "One for Change," and CIBC Market Vice-President Craig Becker says the bank has "a genuinely caring culture."

Becker points out that "Our employees support causes that matter most to them, year-round." In 2019, CIBC employees donated more than \$11 million and 110,000 volunteer hours to 4,000 different charities across Canada.

CIBC has been supporting St. Paul's Hospital Foundation since 1986, and most recently

the bank supported the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care with a \$100,000 donation. Becker says the Close to Home Campaign attracted the bank's attention because it will make a difference in the lives of people affected by cancer.

"With this donation, our hope is to contribute towards providing comfort, dignity, and care that will improve end-of-life experiences in the Saskatoon community. Hospice residents, their loved ones, and their families will all benefit from the hospice," Becker says.

CIBC wants to contribute to providing first-class end-of-life care in Saskatoon. This aim fits perfectly with the Close to Home Campaign goals, which designate that construction of Saskatchewan's first freestanding hospice, a Palliative Care Education project and Palliative Care Unit renovations will do exactly that: advance the growth of the entire spectrum of end-of-life care. "We are very proud to support all steps along the cancer journey," Becker concludes.



“Our hope is to contribute towards providing comfort, dignity, and care that will improve end-of-life experiences in the Saskatoon community.”

*- Craig Becker, CIBC Market Vice-President*

Bruce Loraas established Loraas Disposal here in Saskatoon in 1965. Driven by his vision of a more mechanized disposal system fueled Bruce in growing his original humble one-man company into a cutting-edge organization at the forefront of waste management technology; a company that now can justifiably be called “a proud local company with global standards.”

While today Loraas is a recognized leader in areas of waste management that extend to include recycling and advanced organic recycling, but “the real founding principles of who we are is looking after people,” says Vice-President Aaron Loraas. “Whether that’s our employees or our customers, the idea is that if we look after both those groups to the best of our abilities and treat them fairly, that’s when things really start to happen.

“It’s an old-fashioned way of doing things, but this approach has given us strong relationships to help get us through both the good times and the hard times in Saskatchewan,” he adds.

Listening and being attentive to what their customers wanted helped guide Loraas’s foray into recycling in the 1990s, long before much of the population had become aware of its importance. “Saskatoon has grown and evolved. Over the past 60 years, Loraas has had to change and evolve not only with the needs of the customer but also that of technology as the world changes around us”, says Aaron.

Today, Loraas is home to one of the most advanced recycling and compost facilities in Canada. The company is deeply committed to

doing everything it can not only to keep as much waste as possible out of the landfill, but also to then put that waste to another use and repurpose it elsewhere in order to preserve our resources.

The principle of looking after the community is foundational to the company’s philanthropic approach. “We want to be invested in our community. We have grown with the community and the community has been good to us and supported us over the years, so it is incumbent upon us to complete that circle and give back.”

Aaron stresses that giving back was always a priority for his father Bruce, who continues to be actively engaged with the organization: “Essentially, we want to make sure that we all look after each other, whether that’s through supporting health care or just making sure everyone has food to eat.”

Health care has always been a philanthropic priority for Loraas: “We need good health care here and we need to support our people. A big part of that is having good hospitals and supporting medical care professionals by giving them the tools they need to do their job properly.”

Aaron concludes by pointing out that “Supporting the Close to Home Campaign with a gift of \$125,000 was an easy choice for us. When we see campaigns that help enable real change and move our community forward, we want to help support them. The new Hospice at Glengarda will provide better quality of life at the end of life in an environment that offers an honourable and dignified way to say goodbye. Loraas is really pleased to be a part of that.”



(l-r) Conor Troesch; Karen Jantz; Aaron Loraas, Vice-President; Lecina Hicke, SPH Foundation CEO; Todd Rosenberg, Close To Home Campaign Co-Chair; Iain MacFarlane; Jason Janzen; LeVawn Underwood; Dustin Babcock.  
Photo taken February, 2020

# Supporting People From Curbside to Community



“We have grown with the community and the community has been good to us and supported us over the years, so it is incumbent upon us to complete that circle and give back.”

- Aaron Loraas

In Honour Of Elizabeth “Betty” Porter:

A Saskatchewan  Nurse's Legacy

In July, 2019 SPH Foundation received a tremendously generous gift of \$374,000 in support of the Close to Home Campaign in honour and celebration of a truly remarkable woman, Elizabeth Porter.

Elizabeth “Betty” Porter (nee Puype) was born in 1943 in Dinsmore, Saskatchewan, and moved to Saskatoon in 1962 to attend the St. Paul’s Hospital School of Nursing, graduating two years later. The education and training she received here at St. Paul’s would remain a point of pride throughout her life, and her adventures as a student nurse were the stuff of many a story.

Shortly after graduating, Betty accepted a nursing job in Rosetown, and it was there that Betty would meet her future husband, William “Bill” Porter, a local farmer. The couple had two lovely children, Doug and Glenna, and Betty continued to work as a nurse in Rosetown for more than 35 years.

Life was busy for Betty: she juggled her career in nursing with the many demands of farm life and raising two children. Yet busy as she was, when someone needed to get something done they could always turn to Betty for help.

“She did it all,” recalls husband Bill. “Betty was on town council; she was named Citizen of the Year; she ran blood donor clinics and was a founding member of the Rosetown and District Health Foundation.” She served on that Foundation for more than 20 years, yet somehow also found time to spend time with family and to golf. In addition to those

many demanding responsibilities, Betty also served with the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses, the Catholic Women’s League and her local bowling league.

But ultimately her greatest passion stemmed from the volunteer work she invested in helping fundraise to build Rose Villa, a long-term care facility in

With the help of Betty’s sister Rose, Betty’s family was able to keep her at home – which was where she wanted to be – until December of that year.

While acting as caregivers during Betty’s end-of-life journey, her family experienced firsthand the time, effort and energy it takes to help someone journey through



Standing (l-r) Betty and Bill Porter. Seated (l-r) Glenna and Terry Sparks, Doug Porter.

Rosetown. This long-time dream was realized in 2014 when the facility opened to the public.

Betty’s daughter Glenna describes her mother as remarkably strong: “Mom was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999, then lung cancer in 2010,” says Glenna. “I believe she beat the 2010 lung cancer because she wanted to see the construction of the Rose Villa care facility become a reality!”

Sadly, Betty’s final diagnosis was in August 2018. The cancer had spread, and Glenna moved back home to help look after her mom.

the final stages of her life. This experience, coupled with Betty’s enduring roots at the St. Paul’s Hospital School of Nursing, made supporting the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-Life Care a fitting tribute to Betty.

Betty Porter passed away on January 22, 2019, after a life of service dedicated to her family, her community, and her work. With deep gratitude to the Porter family, we are honoured to accept this tribute gift in memory of a truly remarkable woman – Elizabeth “Betty” Porter.



*Maunder McNeil*



# Maunder McNeil

# A Vision that Keeps On Giving

Maunder McNeil was born in Estevan, Saskatchewan in 1913. His family moved to Winnipeg when Maunder was in grade school, and he subsequently worked with his father in the coal and heating business. He eventually took over the business then further incorporated heating and air conditioning, eventually expanding to seven Western Canada locations, from Alberta through to Manitoba.

Maunder McNeil had great business acumen, and an even greater philanthropic spirit. He was determined to bring positive change to all the communities who had supported his business over the years.

To that end, in the early 1980s he established the Maunder McNeil Foundation. This philanthropic Foundation ultimately would grow to support various charities throughout Western Canada as well as other charities located as far away as India.

Maunder was very engaged in charitable causes and community development. He was the Past-President of the Calgary Cosmopolitan Club and Past-Governor of the Western Canadian Federation of Cosmopolitan International, and was designated

Cosmopolitan International "Citizen of the Year" award. Through his remarkable and extensive service for this organization, he worked tirelessly to advance communities and thereby learned of many projects he saw as worthwhile and in need of support.

Years after Maunder McNeil's passing in 1993, the Maunder McNeil Foundation and its trustees continue his legacy by advancing countless charitable causes that include international eyesight clinics, health care facilities, medical research, food banks, women's shelters and organizations supporting people with disabilities.

Today at Maunder McNeil Foundation, funds are expertly managed by a team of dedicated trustees and professional advisors in the hope that, over time, the funds will continue to grow and become available for initiatives that will give back to the community.

Current Trustees Lee Hergott and John MacInnes originally were appointed by Maunder McNeil himself, and initially served on the Board alongside Maunder's wife Beatrice and also trustee Viggo Larson. Today the Maunder McNeil Foundation continues to be represented by Hergott

and MacInnes, along with newer members Dr. Robert Hickie, Todd Rosenberg and Mike Stensrud.

John MacInnes describes Maunder McNeil as having had a large heart, keen vision and a generosity of spirit that continues now to benefit the world long after his passing.

"The Foundation decided to support the Close to Home Campaign in the spirit of continuing Maunder's legacy of supporting Western Canadian communities. The Foundation is a small organization that likes to provide frontline support and you can't get more frontline than supporting the Close to Home Campaign. We simply knew this project would have a significant impact on the Saskatoon community," he explains.

MacInnes concludes with a moving personal reflection: "Getting involved in the philanthropic work of the Maunder McNeil Foundation has been the single best thing that has arisen from my entire legal career. We all feel really blessed to be a part of this Foundation – it has been a real privilege for us to have played a role in advancing some truly life-changing projects like the Close to Home Campaign that will bring the first free-standing hospice to Saskatchewan."

# Maxine MacSymetz The Profound Experience that Hospice can Bring

Maxine MacSymetz (nee McConnell), born in Dodsland, Saskatchewan, knew from a young age that eventually she wanted to train to become a nurse. After completing high school, she had to wait until she was 17 and one-half years old— then the required age for entering the program at St. Paul's Hospital's School of Nursing in Saskatoon.

Maxine graduated in 1963 and still keeps in touch with her classmates, largely through her work with the St. Paul's School of Nursing Alumni Association. "I've always been thankful to St. Paul's Hospital for the training I received, and I continue to believe in its value," Maxine notes.

Her first nursing job was in the hospital in Kindersley, followed by stints in Wilkie and Dodsland. She then moved to Waldheim and married Gordon MacSymetz, a farmer in that area.

Together, Maxine and Gordon raised four beautiful children – three sons and a daughter – and Maxine continued to work as a nurse until she retired in 2000.

Some 23 years ago, a definitive experience in Maxine's life caused her to discover the great potential in hospice care. As she describes it, "My sister-in-law passed away at a hospice in Calgary. It was a profound experience – she was so calm and happy when she passed. The environment was so peaceful, and the staff were truly amazing."

Maxine will never forget that first experience at a hospice so many years ago and it is part of the reason behind Maxine's generous gift of \$100,000 to the Close to Home Campaign.

She says of her sister-in-law's experience at the hospice: "There were moments of clarity and beauty that were quite a profound experience. I hope that others can experience the same dignity and beauty at end of life."

Maxine has seen loved ones pass away in the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul's Hospital, and she applauds the Hospital's palliative care staff for their outstanding work. Yet she feels strongly that the new Hospice will serve the community even better: "The

Hospice at Glengarda will give families more private space, and will have comforting features such as showers for out-of-town family members," she notes. "It will be wonderful to have an end-of-life care facility with a more home-like environment."

Maxine also views her gift as an extension of the legacy of giving she learned from her parents as she was growing up. "My parents were quite generous people. They didn't have a lot to share, but they always did what they could," recalls Maxine.

Maxine is dedicating her gift in honour of her three sons who have predeceased her: Kevin, Blair and Mark MacSymetz. "I hope my gift will inspire others to give, and I hope similarly to inspire my grandchildren and great-grandchild to be generous."

We are deeply grateful to Maxine MacSymetz for her remarkable gift to the Close to Home Campaign. Unarguably, her generosity will have a deep and lasting impact on our community for generations to come.



**“There were moments of clarity and beauty in the hospice that was quite a profound experience. I hope that others can experience the same dignity and beauty at end-of-life.”**

*– Maxine MacSymetz*



# Kinsmen Foundation impressed by broad community support for Close to Home campaign

*Kinsmen Foundation Executive Director Richard Kies reviews Kinsmen history with Close to Home Campaign Honourary Co-Chairs Gene and Adele Dupuis and SPH Foundation CEO Lecina Hicke.*

In 1977, the Kinsmen Foundation of Saskatchewan was at a crossroads. The organization had formed only six years earlier with the goal of helping people improve their quality of life and independence, with a mandate to fund new and innovative types of medical equipment and access to services that were not readily available.

Unexpectedly, in those six short years the Foundation had received more demand for funding than it was capable of providing. Clearly there was need, and that need was strong.

“They decided to do something which—at that time—was very innovative and seemed very risky: they started a telethon called Telemiracle,” says Kinsmen Foundation Executive Director Richard Kies.

Today, few in the province are unfamiliar with Telemiracle and its oft-repeated encouragement to viewers to “Ring those phones! We like to say it’s woven into the fabric of the province,” said Kies.

What began as an experiment evolved into a runaway success. After more than four decades, Telemiracle is still strongly and enthusiastically supported by the people of Saskatchewan. Telemiracle 2020 was the 44th event, and residents of the province

united in raising more than \$5.5 million. Since its inception the telethon has raised a staggering \$140 million, every penny of which has gone into supporting the community.

Kies says Telemiracle does so well because it’s always been a grassroots effort. Members of any local Kinsmen club can volunteer to run the show, and community members can volunteer to fundraise and audition to perform on the show. The fact that Telemiracle runs for 20 non-stop hours “all through the night” draws youth into the event.

However, community support for the Kinsmen Foundation

place is one of the reasons why the Kinsmen Foundation wanted to support the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-Life Care.

Kies said the campaign caught the Kinsmen Foundation’s attention because it was so unique. “With this campaign, we saw end-of-life care being an important part of overall health care and there being a bit of a gap,” Kies said. “Having good care at end of life is part of quality of life.”

Kies further adds that the Foundation was also impressed by the broad community support for the campaign. “This allows the Kinsmen Foundation to be part of the

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**“Having good care at end of life is part of quality of life.”**

*– Richard Kies*

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goes well beyond the beloved annual event. There are 1,100 people in the province who volunteer for the more than 80 Kinsmen, Kinette and Kin (mixed women/men) clubs in Saskatchewan, and Telemiracle itself requires the support of hundreds of volunteers.

Telemiracle is the Foundation’s flagship fundraiser but the organization also works year-round to make the province a better place to live by supporting Saskatchewan residents in need of mobility equipment or medical travel assistance. Their goal of making the province a better

first free-standing hospice in the province, to be part of that story – a community story. We hope the hospice will have a strong positive impact on the quality of health care for people in the province.”

Kinsmen Foundation’s gift of \$300,000 to the Close to Home Campaign is designated to support the purchase of therapeutic jet tubs and angel tub lifts for both the Hospice at Glengarda and the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul’s Hospital—a gift that will provide deep comfort to countless individuals facing end of life.



# Tim Hortons Making a Difference with Smiles & Cookies

Each year, Tim Hortons hosts "Smile Cookie Week" wherein specially decorated chocolate chunk cookies are sold for \$1 and 100% of the proceeds are dedicated to local charities.

This year, St. Paul's Hospital Foundation and STARS Air Ambulance were the recipients of the Smile Cookie proceeds generated in Saskatoon, Warman and Martensville. St. Paul's Hospital Foundation is directing these funds to the newly constructed Hospice at Glengarda.

Thank you to the many supporters who helped make this week such a success. We are so grateful for everyone who volunteered, joined us in promotions and especially those who purchased cookies during Smile Cookie Week, September 14-20.

**Your generosity raised \$117,051 for St. Paul's Hospital Foundation in support of the Hospice at Glengarda and STARS Air Ambulance in support of operations.**

We would like to acknowledge the extra work and passion that all of the Tim Hortons Restaurant owners and team members put into Smile Cookie Week and say a very sweet thank you to all of you!

In particular, Jason Kopytko for his communications support, and restaurant owner and philanthropist Janna Dutton, for being such a strong advocate for hospice care. Thank you also to

Kimberly Kroll-Goodwin and all our counterparts at STARS Air Ambulance who helped make the Smile Cookie Campaign such a tremendous success.

This was a fun and exciting week to be a part of and we are so very thankful for the collaborative support we received in making a positive difference in health care for our province.



# Thank-You Notes

We have nothing but praise for the exceptional care my husband received and the consideration given to his family. Although they were able to diagnose his disease, there was no treatment for it and he passed away after a few weeks. But we will always be grateful for your wonderful facility and staff, - Sincerely, K.J.S.

To each and every staff member: stay safe and thank you for all you do every day and now especially in these trying times. May God bless you and your families. - MG

To a [Hospital] staff member: Your kind and important work encourages all of us to be kind and helpful to people we meet and work with. May God bless you for the kindness you give to others, especially the most helpless ones. - B.M

Keep up the good work you do in these hard times. I hope your patients have a speedy recovery. Thank you for the care you gave me in the two months that I spent in hospital. - H.L.

## Foundation Appoints New Members to Board Of Directors

St. Paul's Hospital Foundation is pleased to appoint Leah Schatz and Larry Long to its Board of Directors. Both Leah and Larry are dedicated professionals deeply committed to the work of our Foundation, and we look forward to their service. Also this year, we say goodbye to retiring member John Agioritis. We thank him for his years of dedication and service since joining the Board in 2011.



### Leah Schatz

Leah, a partner at MLT Aikins, specializes in labour and employment law with a focus on the health and education sectors, as well as in the areas of Indigenous business and organizational development. Leah brings an inspiring background in community volunteer work and leadership in her profession to our Foundation Board.



### Larry Long

A graduate of the University of New Brunswick, Larry is the Senior Vice-President of Operations at Nutrien, Vice-Chair of the Saskatchewan Mining Association and a Director on the Advisory Board for the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan. Through personal experience with loved ones under hospice care elsewhere in Canada, Larry brings to our Board deep and personal appreciation for our Hospital's holistic approach to end-of-life care.

# St. Paul's Hospital Giftshop



**Gift and Flower Orders:  
306-655-5856**

Closed Sundays and holidays

All proceeds from Gift Shop support St. Paul's Hospital employee professional development and training.

**Please return any undeliverable Canadian addresses to:**

St. Paul's Hospital Foundation Inc., 1702-20th Street West, Saskatoon SK S7M 0Z9

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