

Spirit

INSPIRED BY GORD ENGEL

A SPECIAL EDITION IN MEMORY OF OUR
COURAGEOUS FRIEND AND ADVOCATE

GIVING THE GIFT OF DIGNITY

ROBERT STEANE WANTS TO HELP PEOPLE DURING THEIR LAST DAYS

WE CAN DO MORE

CLOSE TO HOME CAMPAIGN HONORARY CO-CHAIRS
GENE AND ADELE DUPUIS ARE CHAMPIONS OF HOSPICE CARE

Our courageous friend and advocate Gord Engel passed away in March 2019. In keeping with his wishes and those of his family, his story will continue to play a significant role in the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.





Message From SPH Foundation

On January 30 this year, SPH Foundation launched our \$20-million Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care. This is the most ambitious fund raising campaign in our 37- year history.

Gord Engel's image appears on the cover of this Spirit issue for an important reason. Gord was a dear friend of SPH Foundation who died far too early. This remarkable man opened his heart and offered his personal story to our Close to Home Campaign. Please take the time to read Gord's story and other passionate Close to Home donor stories in this issue.

SPH Foundation held our Annual General Meeting on April 25. The Board expressed its thanks to Outgoing Chair Chris Boychuk, and appointed Neil Weber as its new Chair. Our Board also said farewell

to Board Member Alan Koop and welcomed Steeg Holmes onboard. Steeg is an Investment Advisor and Vice-President with CIBC Wood Gundy.

I've had the good fortune to be SPH Foundation's Chief Executive Officer for the past nine years. It is now time for someone else to lead the Foundation into the future. I have chosen to retire effective August 2, 2019. (I have always thought that if I could I would retire by 60, and I turn 60 on August 9!) I'm comfortable leaving now because I'm confident that SPH Foundation is in good hands with our current Board and excellent staff. Watch for an introduction to our new CEO sometime this summer.

I encourage you to make a donation to the Close to Home Campaign and help us advance

end-of-life care for everyone in Saskatoon. And finally, thank you for all the support you have provided me during my time as SPH Foundation CEO.

Farewell

Bruce Acton

Bruce Acton
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, SPH Foundation Chair
Back row (l-r): Bruce Acton, SPH Foundation CEO; Nicholle Povhe, Treasurer; Ron Hyggen; Shari Watson, Secretary; Arlene Jorgenson; Chris Boychuk, Past Chair; Steeg Holmes
Seated (l-r): Gwen Dueck; John Agioritis; Dr. Vivian Walker, Vice-Chair; Kevin Sharfe; Doreen Howlett; Karen Barber, St. Paul's Hospital Executive Director



Spirit

Cover

INSPIRED BY GORD ENGEL

Our friend and advocate Gord Engel agreed to be the face of the Close to Home Campaign. To our great sadness, he passed away on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in St. Paul's Hospital's Palliative Care Unit. Here, Close to Home Campaign Director Lecina Hicke gives Gord a warm hug at the campaign launch. She shares Gord's story

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INSPIRED BY GORD ENGEL: A FAMILY MAN

By Lecina Hicke, Close to Home Campaign Director

This special edition of the Spirit Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of our courageous friend and advocate Gord Engel, who passed away in March of this year. Gord's story is an inspiration to our community. In keeping with his wishes and those of his family, his story will continue to play a significant role in the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.





(l-r) The Engel family: Paige, Mary, Raeleen, Gord, Layne and Jonah Engel.

To this day, I can vividly recall the day I met Gord Engel. It was almost two years ago when he stopped by our Foundation office. He had learned we were working on a hospice project, and wanted to know how he could help.

I was pleased to speak about the crucial role a hospice would play to advance end-of-life care. I remember referencing a lot of numbers: our city's first hospice would have fifteen patient bedrooms, three patios, two dining rooms, two kitchens, one multi-faith space, one

commercial kitchen. From a community perspective, on an annual basis an estimated 400 people face end-of-life in their homes and another 750 in a

Gord's deep commitment to his family, his honesty and his selflessness changed everything for me.

hospital unit not designed to support those journeying toward end-of-life. I spoke to Gord about how our community of more than 300,000 people was underserved by the 12 beds available in the only palliative care unit in the city, a unit that consistently

operates at 99% occupancy.

While it was too early to make a donation to our planned hospice at that time, I promised to keep Gord informed of our progress. Just before he left, I asked him if there was anything in particular inspiring him to support this project.

Gord then hit me with his own numbers. He told me that he was 44 years old and had recently been diagnosed with stage four cancer. He and his wife, Raeleen, who had been married for 22 years, had four children, all under the age of 25. He shared that if he could do anything . . . anything at all . . . to ensure that their last days as a family were not spent in Emergency, well, he wanted to do it.

Gord's deep commitment to his family, his honesty and his selflessness changed everything for me. I had been thinking that



(l-r) Chris Boychuck, former SPH Foundation Chair; Bruce Acton, SPH Foundation CEO; Jean Morrison, President and CEO of Emmanuel Health Inc. / St. Paul's Hospital; Gord and Raeleen Engel.

others would see the value of this project because the need was so clearly evident on paper. But after my conversation with Gord, I realized that stories such as his would resonate much more deeply with our community – stories by and about the people in their lives who they love, have loved and will continue to love even with their passing.

Our Foundation officially began fund raising for the Close to Home Campaign in January of 2018. Gord's story so very clearly and poignantly described the circumstances and emotions faced by those with a diagnosis of a life-limiting illness that his story became the inspiration for conversations I began having with our community.

That unexpected early

conversation evolved to trigger the largest single donation our Foundation has ever received – an astounding \$6 million anonymous donation to the

*...an astounding
\$6 million
anonymous
donation to the
Close to Home
Campaign.*

Close to Home Campaign. The magnitude of this donation changed the trajectory of the project, advancing our planning for the construction of the

hospice and expediting our timelines toward the date of its opening.

Although as requested the giver's identity was kept strictly anonymous, we were directed to "Please share the news of this gift with Gord and expressly tell him that someone cared enough to do everything they feasibly could to help him and his family."

Gord was moved to tears to learn that his story could inspire such generosity. And in typical Gord fashion, he graciously began advocating for our campaign. "You know, you don't really know what you need until you need it," he explained. "We've all got a story and we all have a journey. If my story helps make a difference, I'm happy to tell it."

And that's how Gord Engel

became the face of the Close to Home Campaign. He knew that his family was not the only family facing these issues, so he opened his heart and his home to us in the hopes of helping the many similar others who needed it: "Because hospice is not just for the person who's dying. It's also for the family . . . and everyone wants the best for their family."

To our great sadness, Gord passed away on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in St. Paul's Hospital's Palliative Care Unit. And while he never was able to see the hospice open, he was tremendously pleased with the progress of the Close to Home Campaign and grateful to have been a part of its early days.



(l-r) The Engels in the Healing Arts Studio at St. Paul's Hospital.

Gord, your story has resonated with us. We thank you for everything you have done for us. As well, we are forever grateful to your family – Raeleen, Layne, Paige, Mary and Jonah – all of whom have opened their hearts to us. We continue our promise to work hard and to inspire and help others by telling your story.

And one day, in the not-too-distant future, we will open the doors to The Hospice at Glengarda; on that day, we will look to the heavens and say "Gord, we did it!" and we know that you will be smiling down upon us.

We miss you. We remember you. And we will forever be inspired by you.

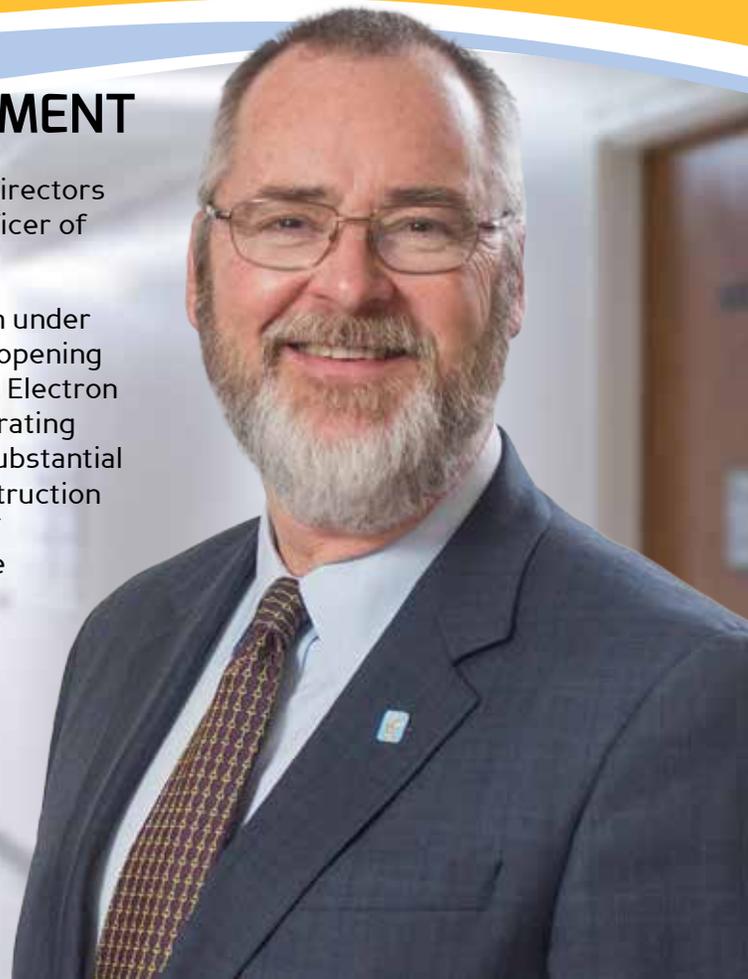
ANNOUNCEMENT OF CEO RETIREMENT

It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that the Board of Directors announces Bruce Acton's retirement as Chief Executive Officer of St. Paul's Hospital Foundation, effective August 2, 2019.

Since 2010, the Foundation has raised more than \$50 million under Bruce's guidance. Significant accomplishments include the opening of the Mosaic Laboratory, home of the Kinsmen Foundation Electron Microscope; state-of-the-art advancements to all eight operating theatres at St. Paul's; a SPECT-CT for Diagnostic Imaging, substantial renovations to the hospital auditorium Pylypchuk Hall, construction and opening of the Leslie and Irene Dubé Urology Centre of Health and Rawlco Radio Surgery 4B, and most recently, the establishment and launch of the \$20 million Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.

The Board of Directors is in the process of ensuring a smooth transition. We are grateful to Bruce for his contributions and commitment to our organization.

Join us in wishing a heartfelt thank you and congratulations to Bruce as he enters a new chapter in life.





A Comprehensive Vision for End-of-life Care in Saskatoon

(l-r) Todd Rosenberg, donor and Close to Home Campaign Cabinet Co- Chair; Dr. Vivian Walker, donor and Close to Home Campaign Cabinet Co- Chair; Adele and Gene Dupuis, donors and Campaign Honorary Co-Chairs.

Honorary Co-Chairs
Gene and Adele
Dupuis alongside
Campaign Co-Chairs
Todd Rosenberg and
Dr. Vivian Walker are
pleased to present
the Close to Home
Campaign for Hospice
and End-of-life Care.

This campaign supports the growth of the entire end-of-life care community and ensures your loved ones get the care they need, when they need it, now and into the future.

Today, Saskatoon is the only major centre in Western Canada without a dedicated, free-standing hospice.

The comprehensive \$20-million campaign will build Saskatoon's first hospice and dramatically improve end-of-life experiences for you and your loved ones by bringing the end-of-life journey closer to home.

Close to Home Campaign Priorities

Priority One: Building the Hospice

The hospice environment will be as close as possible to that of home. St. Paul's Hospital already owns the location—a former Ursuline Sisters' residence on Hilliard Street—and will renovate and expand the facility to meet the

Close to Home

Campaign for Hospice & End-of-life Care

needs of the hospice. To be known as The Hospice at Glengarda, the hospice will be an inviting space providing 24-hour medical care for complex needs in a warm, comforting environment that will feel like home.

Priority Two: Holistic Care Endowments

Holistic care often involves services that are not funded through regular channels. With that in mind, St. Paul's Hospital Foundation is creating two Holistic Care Endowments to support programs including spiritual care, bereavement care and healing arts therapies for both patients and families in the hospice and also those facing end-of-life in the community. Holistic health care positively impacts the experiences of patients and their families and is a critical element in the end-of-life process.

Priority Three: Palliative Care Education Fund

Working with patients and families at their most vulnerable requires a level of learning and comfort with expectations often exclusive to this type of care. We want to support and empower health care providers, working throughout all areas of care, with the tools and understanding they need to provide the best possible service for those dealing with end-of-life.

Priority Four: Palliative Care Renovations

Renovations to the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul's Hospital will enable more efficiency and therefore more time for caregiving. Even with a new hospice, the demand for complex symptom management will remain high and we intend to meet those needs as best we can.

Learn more or donate online
closetohome.fund



Giving the Gift of Dignity

Robert Steane's Wish to Leave a Lasting Legacy of Hospice Care

When Robert Steane made his first big charitable donation several years ago, his financial advisor gave him a warning: "He told me, 'The one thing about this donation is you're going to find it makes you feel really good and you'll want to do it some more.'"

His financial advisor's warning came true, as Robert proceeded to make several generous donations to different causes over the years and now, an astounding \$1 million to St. Paul's Hospital Foundation's Close to Home Campaign in support of hospice and end-of-life care.

Robert had no previous connections to St. Paul's Hospital or the Foundation but was inspired to make a major gift when he learned that there was no stand-alone hospice in Saskatchewan.

"My knowledge was lacking," Robert said. "But when I did begin to understand, I was fortunate to be in a position where I could do

something to help."

A history of giving

Robert Steane says he gives because he can. He learned

*Over the years,
Robert has
developed a
portfolio of causes
he donates to*

about giving through his family: "My parents were generous in philanthropy, and so I learned from them. I've always felt that if you are able to and you are in

a fortunate position, you should give back to the community."

Over the years, Robert has developed a portfolio of causes he donates to including health care, social programming and the performing arts.

For inspiration, he looks to philanthropists like Bill Gates or Jim Pattison. "What's the purpose of wealth if not to enable you to do something?" he asks.

Inspired by progress

Robert particularly respects organizations that are focused on innovation and bringing about positive social change.

Prior to his retirement, Robert worked as Senior Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer at



Cameco Corporation—a position that took him to countries all around the world, including Kazakhstan, Australia, Japan, and many more.

At Cameco, he especially enjoyed working in a field that focused on progress and was pleased to be part of a team that was breaking new ground in their industry and inspiring global change.

A lasting legacy

Robert has decided to support the Close to Home Campaign because he wants to help people die comfortably and with dignity.

“I’ve started to think of these things more. We are all going to die, and if you could choose, where would you like to die? At home, of course,” he says. “But, if you can’t be at home, what are your options? Hospitals are for acute care and they are focused on sending you home.”

He says you would not want to replace the care a hospital can give but that hospice care is different: “In a hospice, they are focused on making you and those close to you as comfortable as they can at the end of your life. It’s not at home,

but it’s close to home.”

Robert felt it was important to support the construction of The Hospice at Glengarda. “I’m really excited to have the opportunity to be part of the first of something in Saskatchewan that’s really needed. Hopefully, this is a seed that generates other hospices. Maybe it will get something going.”

He is particularly pleased to be able to help others in his community: “It makes me feel good to know it’s significant . . . it’s the first hospice. It’s my legacy.”



(l-r) Neil Weber, SPH Foundation Chair; Robert Steane; Todd Rosenberg, Close to Home Campaign Co-Chair.

Upcoming Events



• •
JUNE
20

SPH Foundation Draws

Annual event to benefit St. Paul's Hospital patients, families and employees by providing departments with minor equipment items or program costs that have no alternate funding.

• •
AUG
21

Fall Hospital Home Lottery Launch

The Hospital Home Lottery is held each Spring and Fall in support of all three Saskatoon Hospitals. Proceeds will support the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.

• •
SEPT
30

The Gormley Gathering

Presented by Orano, at Persephone Theatre, 5:30—7:30 p.m. Tickets \$150 at sphfoundation.org or call 306-655-5821.

• •
NOV
16

30th Anniversary Mistletoe Charity Ball

Presented by Nutrien, at the Sheraton Cavalier, 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$500 at sphfoundation.org or call 306-655-5821.

Join us online!

St. Paul's Hospital Foundation has active and informative social media channels and we'd love for you to join the community.

Facebook.com/stpaulshospitalfoundation
Instagram @stpaulshospitalfoundation

We look forward to connecting with you!



Kindred Spirit

SPH Foundation Donor Report

You are making a difference!
Thanks to you, St. Paul's Hospital
\$5.2 million in 2016 to support
advancements and education and

Thank you to the community group
volunteers who give generously

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miss the
latest
news!**

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can receive the latest issue
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**ST. PAUL'S
HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION INC.**

Close to Home Campaign Honorary Co-Chairs Adele and Gene Dupuis are dedicated to making the palliative care journey as comfortable as possible.



“We can do more”
Close to Home Honorary Co-Chairs
Gene and Adele Dupuis Are Champions
of Hospice Care

For Gene and Adele Dupuis, the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care is a matter of helping families give their loved ones the same love and attention at the end of their life as at its beginning.

“Everyone has their own story as to why they support the causes that they do,” Adele says. “Though the stories may differ, the motivator is the same. It is a strong emotion that runs so deep that it makes us want to stand up and say—we can do better. We can do more.”

Both Gene and Adele have personally experienced the daunting challenges that families face when a member is diagnosed with a life-limiting illness. Adele and her family took care of their dying father at home until a bed opened up in St. Paul’s Hospital’s Palliative Care Unit. Gene’s brother Raymond passed away after receiving excellent care at Casey’s House, a hospice in Toronto. By comparison, a second brother, Denis, had a very different and difficult experience because his only choice was to remain in acute care until the last 36 hours of his life.

“From our own experiences with end-of-life care, we’ve gained a clearer perspective of what is needed to support patients and their families during this emotional time,” says Gene.

“When the health of your loved one begins to decline and treatment options become

limited, it is critical that supportive palliative services are there,” Adele adds. “Sometimes that includes greater support for the families and the infirm in the home. Sometimes that includes a stay in a hospital’s palliative care ward or hospice.”

Gene and Adele are particularly pleased to be involved in a campaign that supports the full spectrum of end-of-life care.

“We are excited to be a part of this campaign because it seeks to increase the number of palliative care beds and supportive services for patients and families, [while it also] expands the palliative care educational opportunities for health care professionals,” Gene explains. “We want to see the appropriate treatment being delivered at the correct time by skilled and dedicated personnel.”

In addition to spending countless hours volunteering their time as the Close to Home Honorary Co-Chairs, Gene and Adele also made a significant donation of \$700,000 to the campaign.

The Dupuis explain that over the years they have been blessed with success in their business, Prairie Meats, and believe in giving back to the community.

“Gene and I are cognizant of the blessings we have had in this lifetime. This community and province are important to us,” says Adele.

“We feel good knowing that we are able to support other families going through this experience and to help make the palliative care journey for our loved ones as comfortable as possible.”

Saskatoon Donors Terry and Denis Sirois Keep It Local

Terry and Denis Sirois saw first-hand what end-of-life care could be like in a hospice when Terry's aunt experienced a terminal illness while living in Vernon, British Columbia.

Terry and Denis Sirois both grew up on the west side of Saskatoon, just four blocks from each other. The couple connected as adults and they are both long-time supporters of community initiatives in the city.

"Saskatoon has been good to us and we don't want to be anywhere else," says Terry.

Their four adult children were all born at St. Paul's Hospital.

"Giving is something for our children—and grandchildren—to carry forward and we hope we can instill our family's culture of philanthropy by example," says Denis.

Both Denis and Terry are very active volunteers in their community. Over the years, Terry has served with so many local organizations that her family

and friends describe her as "a professional volunteer."

"It's especially gratifying working with [hospitals] because the personal satisfaction of knowing someone has access to the equipment and care they need is worth a lot," Terry says.

Denis worked for PotashCorp (now Nutrien) for 39 years and retired as the company's Vice President and Controller in 2017. He says the company's community investment program sets an example of how local support in Saskatchewan can have an impact: "The company supported a lot of charities locally, and it came naturally to support strongly led local causes with your own personal resources as well."

Terry and Denis Sirois have generously pledged a \$270,000 gift to the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care. The \$20-million campaign supports

SPH Foundation's goal of opening the city's first free-standing hospice to provide optimal end-of-life care.

The couple's own related experience took place when Terry's aunt experienced a terminal illness while living in Vernon, British Columbia, a city with a population of just over 40,000 people.

"My aunt's hospice care in Vernon gave her a lot of peace and dignity with the home-like environment, the large windows and dedicated care. Her experience really impacted us," says Terry.

"Saskatoon is six times larger than Vernon, but our city currently does not have a free-standing hospice. We can do better. We all have faced or will face experiences with end-of-life care and now that experience can be so much more positive for a family member or friend. We don't know what we need until we need it," adds Denis.



Working Together for Change

Marvin and Pat DeSchryver have been farming near Denzil since 1978. They raised their four children on a mixed farm that also included a greenhouse and more than 500 saskatoon berry bushes.

The DeSchryvers admit that they often choose to do things “the hard way,” including trimming the 500 saskatoon bushes by hand. They started the farm the hard way, too, applying for a loan from their local credit union and building it from the ground up without any other financial support. Many long hours were spent planting in the greenhouse, caring for the animals and the yard and, for the past 25 years, picking berries.

“Our children learned how to work and to appreciate what we get from the earth, so I think it was a good investment,” Marvin says. “It wasn’t money we gave them; it was their work ethic.”

Every year, family and friends come together during saskatoon berry-picking time.

“It’s therapy,” Marvin says. “We’ve had some of the best times out in the berry patch with our family and friends, picking berries and visiting.”

Marvin and Pat are strong believers that big tasks can be accomplished when a community comes together, and life in the community of Denzil is full proof of that. Marvin says that in the



Marvin and Pat DeSchryver bring the farming work ethic to philanthropy

When Pat and Marvin DeSchryver decided to donate to the Close to Home Campaign, they were thinking both of family who have passed on and also of the care they would like for themselves sometime in the future.

Denzil area, neighbours volunteer the hours needed to do all the maintenance on the church. The community curling and skating rink has also been kept up thanks to local volunteers.

So when the DeSchryvers came upon some unexpected wealth, they decided to give \$120,000 to another important community-centred cause: the Close to Home Campaign.

They strongly support the campaign’s goal of the creation of The Hospice at Glengarda, which will deliver compassionate care for people nearing the end of their life. As a Catholic facility owned by St. Paul’s Hospital, the hospice will have a Catholic

approach to holistic care—an approach that inherently appeals to the DeSchryvers.

“We have strong faith and believe in Catholic principles,” says Marvin, who has been involved with the Knights of Columbus since 1978.

While Marvin and Pat are thinking of family who are aging or have passed on, they also are looking to the care they would like for themselves sometime in the future.

“Is the care going to be there when we need it?” Marvin asks. “If it would have been there when Pat’s father passed away, I’m sure he would have used it.”

A Nurse's Perspective

Neil and Laura Weber saw the need for a hospice through Laura's work as a nurse

Laura Weber's experience as a nurse inspired her and her husband Neil Weber to donate to the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.

Throughout Laura Weber's 22 years as a ward nurse at St. Paul's Hospital, she sometimes saw people at the end of their life who were not able to get a bed in the Palliative Care Unit.

"Your family members might be crowded into a wee little room; you have no coffee, no comforts," Laura said. "You're dealing with acute care in the ward and here you have someone that needs quality of care."

There are only 12 beds in Palliative Care at St. Paul's Hospital and no dedicated hospice in Saskatoon.

At a time of profound and critical need, getting one of those beds could seem like winning the lottery.

"I saw lots of families in difficult situations and felt that it would be great for them to be in a hospice setting, where a calm and quiet atmosphere away from the hospital's noise and bustle would allow them to make that journey in peace," Laura reflects.

Laura's understanding of patient needs inspired her and her husband Neil Weber to donate to the Close to Home Campaign for Hospice and End-of-life Care.

"It was something that resonated with us from the perspective

of Laura being in the nursing profession for 30-plus years," says Neil. "You hear a lot of stories of patients and families going through trying times and this whole hospice concept seemed like something that was urgently needed to put those people in a more comfortable environment."

Neil Weber is the new Chair of the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation Board of Directors and he says being married to a nurse offers him broader and enhanced understanding: "The concept of the hospice was one of the driving factors for me to join the Board."

Neil has been on the Board for several years, during which time there have been changes to both the Saskatchewan Health Authority and Emmanuel Health, but in his opinion the board has remained steady through these changes because it has a strong vision and mission.

"Having a major campaign to focus on during this time period has actually been beneficial," he says.

Neil is looking forward to working with the new Board on a big campaign like Close to Home: "They're excited; it's a new adventure for them. We've got a strong team to take this campaign to fruition and implement the project."

(l-r) Urologist Dr. Kanal Jana with donors Shirley and Orme Asher and SPH Foundation CEO Bruce Acton.

Orme and Shirley Asher support St Paul's Hospital with personal gift



St. Paul's Hospital has long been a thread running through the lives of Shirley and Orme Asher.

Born and raised in Saskatoon, they were both born at St. Paul's Hospital. As a young woman, Shirley volunteered at the Hospital at a time when the teenage helpers wore the classic "Candy Striper" uniforms.

Some of their family members have spent their last days in the Hospital's Palliative Care Unit and, more recently, Orme has been in and out of the Hospital with his own health issues.

"Everyone at St. Paul's who I've had the unfortunate privilege to work with health-wise, they have all been good," Orme says. He has expressed appreciation and gratitude particularly for Dr. Spelay (vascular surgery) and Dr. Jana (Urology).

In gratitude to Orme's doctors, the Ashers have given a \$100,000 gift to St. Paul's Hospital Foundation—\$50,000 in support

of a CT Scanner for the Medical Imaging Department, and \$50,000 to bring holmium laser treatment to St. Paul's Hospital for urology patients in the Leslie and Irene Dubé Urology Centre of Health.

"If you have a little left over and you don't need it, then it's important to support organizations like St. Paul's Hospital Foundation," Orme said. "If a person can afford to, they should give, at whatever scale they can."

Thank you, Ashers, for your contribution to health care at St Paul's Hospital!

Top (l-r) Bill Gulka, Lawrence Worobetz, Adrian Olenick;
centre (l-r) Megan Worobetz, Martin Hryniuk;
front (l-r) Norbert Wasylenko, Terri Miley.

Serving the Community

Foundation trustees uphold the ideals of Stephen and Michelene Worobetz

Throughout their lives, Stephen and Michelene Worobetz were dedicated to serving their community. Today, the Stephen and Michelene Worobetz Foundation continues their mission in support of religion, education, culture and health.

“Wherever they were involved, they made time for people,” said Martin Hryniuk, a trustee of the Stephen and Michelene Worobetz Foundation. “They were respected, very spiritual people.”

The Worobetz family has close connections to St. Paul’s Hospital.

Dr. Stephen Worobetz was a general surgeon at St. Paul’s and active in teaching at the University of Saskatchewan College of Medicine. As well,



Worobetz Foundation trustee Martin Hryniuk says Stephen and Michelene (above) dedicated their lives to serving people and the community.

two of the Worobetz Foundation trustees currently work at

St. Paul’s: Megan Worobetz is a clinical nurse educator and Dr. Lawrence Worobetz is a gastroenterologist hepatologist and runs the liver transplant program at the Hospital.

Stephen was also the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan in the 1970s with Michelene alongside him as he served the province. A highlight for her was hosting dinner for the Queen and the Duke of Windsor in 1973 at the Hotel Saskatchewan in Regina. Michelene was also active in her church, and a member of the the Ukrainian Catholic Women’s League of Canada.

Jean Shirley believes in the generosity of people and says that if more people knew you could leave a gift to the Hospital in your Will, more people would do it.

A Generous Spirit

Long-Time Foundation Volunteer Jean Shirley Leaves Planned Gift

Wearing a smart red dress she bought for herself for her 90th birthday, Jean Shirley breezes into the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation office, greeting everyone by name and with a smile.

Well-known in the office for her bubbly personality, she brought her skills to the Foundation not long after first volunteering at St. Paul's Hospital 30 years ago.

"I made the fatal mistake of telling them one day that I'd started out my office career as a filing clerk," she says with a laugh. "I ended up doing all the filing here."

Jean started volunteering with the Hospital after she retired. She did office work for the 49 years of her career and she likes doing the same

familiar work at the Foundation.

Now, she has generously decided to leave the Hospital a legacy gift.

She made the decision shortly after her husband died. He spent his last days in the Palliative Care Unit at St. Paul's Hospital.

"When he was in Palliative Care," Jean recalls, "I thought, 'There isn't enough I can do for the Hospital to thank them for how well they are looking after him.'"

She believes in the generosity of

people and says if more people knew you could leave a gift to the Hospital in their Will, more people would do it.

"It's often not a fact that you can't afford it; you just don't think of it," she said.

St. Paul's Hospital Foundation is grateful for Jean's planned gift. If you would like to learn more about making a planned gift in your Will, please contact Major Gifts Officer Wendy Comeau Greenwood at 306-655-5829 or Wendy.Comeau@sphfoundation.org.

Thank-You Notes

Please send my heartfelt thanks to the staff on the 6th Floor. I was admitted to St. Paul's Hospital in very critical condition and was given the appropriate treatment immediately which literally saved my life. I received such loving care from all the 6th Floor staff while I was a patient. - C

It was heartbreaking to hear of Gord Engel's passing, after seeing him on the TV and Internet. His bravery was inspirational and he will be remembered - P. and D.

Words can't express our gratitude. Our mother passed away in Palliative Care. Our father passed away on 5th Floor Medicine. The care our parents received was amazing! We sincerely thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts - From the whole family

Thank you all for your dedication, respect, compassion, patience, love, understanding and doing those little things as well as your job to make such a difference to each and every one of your patients. What a gift you have to offer. Here's wishing you the best. You are the people who really make a difference. - Anonymous

I was a patient at SPSA for six days and in that time I interacted with physicians, nurses and many other staff. All of them were friendly, helpful and caring - not one grouch! That is so important to instill confidence and comfort. As a former nurse and graduate of SPSA School of Nursing, I can probably see things with a more critical eye. I must say, I was impressed and proud of all of you. - With gratitude, L.

St. Paul's Hospital Giftshop



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

Closed Sundays and holidays

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

Please return any undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

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