

Between Friends

A NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE MONCTON HOSPITAL FOUNDATION INC.

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SPRING 2016

Revolutionary Bacteria Identification Technology at The Moncton Hospital is Transforming how Specimens are Processed and Expediting Treatment

Equipment can cut hospital's diagnostic wait times in half

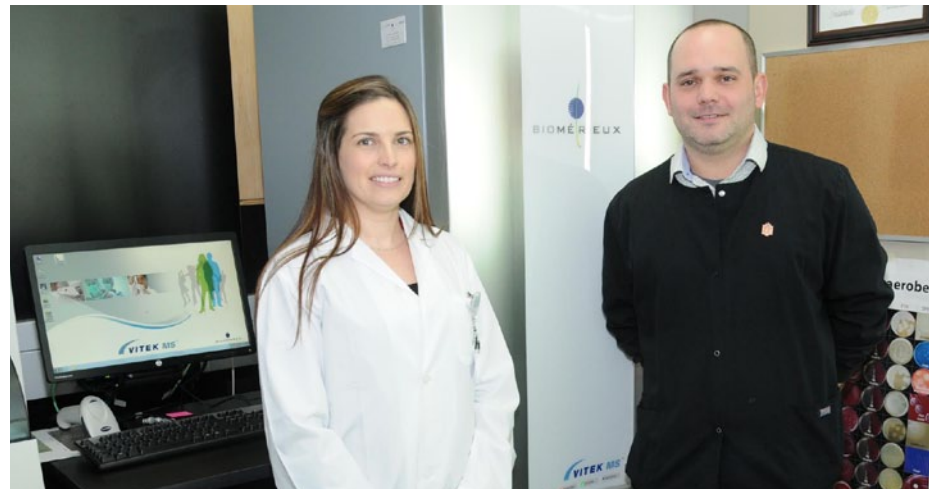
New innovative equipment for Lab Services at The Moncton Hospital (TMH) has completely changed the way results are provided for patients. The **Bacteria Identification Technology**, which cost \$200,000, is helping laboratory professionals provide a much more rapid diagnosis, leading to quicker treatment, appropriate antibiotic regimens, faster recovery, shorter stays in hospital, and lives saved.

The investment is large but the impact will be significant especially when you consider that close to 70% of all decisions regarding a patient's diagnosis and treatment, hospital admission and discharge are based on lab test results.

The acquisition of this system is enabling medical professionals at TMH to get answers much sooner. **In fact, this technology can cut diagnostic wait times in half.** Having a speedy diagnosis allows physicians to administer more appropriate antibiotics, making patients feel better quicker and allowing them to focus on their recovery.

“It's cheaper, it's faster, and it's more accurate.”

Traditionally, infection-causing bacteria are grown (cultured), mixed with several chemicals, left to incubate, and examined after the reactions are complete. This process takes a few days on average, explains Lab Technologist Justin Carhart. Some bacteria may take up to 72 hours before they can be



Dr. Chelsey Ellis, Microbiologist and Justin Carhart, Medical Laboratory Technologist, pose proudly in front of the new Bacteria Identification Technology.

identified. The new machine uses a sophisticated ultraviolet laser to identify the bacteria in minutes. “It's cheaper, it's faster, and it's more accurate,” Carhart says. This means infections like meningitis or sepsis can be accurately diagnosed more quickly, which can potentially save lives.

This technology has replaced traditional methods that staff had been using for decades. An additional benefit to this technology is being able to identify bacteria that would normally have to be sent away for costly DNA analysis.

This equipment is used for common infections like strep throat and urinary tract infections as well as life threatening infections such as meningitis, septicemia (blood infection), food poisoning, flesh eating disease and joint infections, just to name a few. The hospital's most vulnerable populations are premature babies and cancer patients under-

going chemotherapy.

Foundation Chair, Steve Fowler, is pleased to see that donated funds from the 2014-2015 Campaign are making such an impact.

“Imagine being a cancer patient, exhausted and vulnerable from chemo treatment, having to fight an unknown infection. The old lab technology at TMH took at least between 48-72 hours to identify the cause of the infection... because of the generosity of our donors, that is now a thing of the past,” remarks Fowler.

The technology was put through quality testing before being operational in late February. The Laboratory, which performed over 3 million tests in 2015, is arguably The Moncton Hospital's most vital service. There are 146 Lab Staff including 89 Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLT's) at TMH. The Lab touches virtually every aspect of patient care.

New Pediatric Ambulatory Care Clinic Space Coming Soon... *for patients like Ashley*

Construction to be completed by late 2016



8 year old Ashley Upshall of Fawcett Hill, outside Petitcodiac, recently received the devastating news no child should have to hear “you have leukemia” (cancer). Her mom Beth, says that since her daughter’s diagnosis, she has been a “real trooper” while going through all the necessary treatments to battle this disease. Beth was happy to learn that \$185,000 will be invested into the creation of a new Pediatric Ambulatory Care Clinic space, a long overdue opportunity to enrich the care of services for chronically ill children into one designated area on the Pediatrics Unit. “Knowing exactly where Ashley’s appointment is and being able to sit in a more private waiting area will take away some of the added stress of our many hospital visits,” says Beth. “As a mom, I am so grateful for the Foundation

and its donors for making this project a reality.”

Christa Wheeler Thorne, Nurse Manager of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Family Planning Clinics, says at present, there is not a set area for the pediatric clinics.

“We are currently being creative with multi-purpose use of space on our Pediatric Unit, and it’s inconvenient for our patients, families and staff – we are excited that renovations have begun for the designated area which will address our children’s need in a private child-friendly environment,” says Wheeler Thorne.

Over 3,200 children a year (from South-East and Northern New Brunswick, as well as parts of Nova Scotia) attend our various pediatric clinics to deal with a number of health issues related to kidney (nephrology), diabetes, cancer

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(hematology/oncology), neurology (seizures, disorders of the nervous system), orthopedics (prevention or correction of injuries or disorders of the skeletal system and associated muscles, joints, and ligaments), heart (cardiology), blood work (phlebotomy), high-risk immunization, pediatric sedation (children are put to sleep for special procedures i.e. MRI) and day treatment procedures (i.e. suture removal, dressings changed).



Christa Wheeler Thorne, Nurse Manager of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Family Planning Clinics, is all smiles seeing that construction of the Pediatric Ambulatory Care Clinic space is underway.

Breast Cancer Survivor Makes her Birthday Celebration an Occasion to Give Back

Doris Methot of Moncton, a breast cancer survivor, recently celebrated her 90th birthday. In lieu of gifts, she asked that those attending her party, (many breast cancer survivors themselves), make a donation to the Friends of The Moncton Hospital’s Angel Fund. This emergency fund was established in 2003 as a result of the Hillsborough Fashions Gala to provide financial and other assistance to women suffering from breast cancer. The fund helps out with transportation to and from chemotherapy treatments, wigs, prostheses, food coupons, and more.

“When you get to my age, you don’t really need any birthday presents; the hospital needs our support so much more.”

The next time you celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, make the day even more distinct by asking family and friends to make a donation to the Friends in lieu of presents. This is a great opportunity to rally support for a cause that matters to you.



Benefits of being a Faithful Friend

Benefits of supporting The Moncton Hospital through the Faithful Friends Club include the opportunity to divide one's contribution into monthly payments, a feature many of our donors appreciate. They are also grateful for the convenience of having their pre-determined donation automatically withdrawn by credit card, bank withdrawal or cheque.

Members of the **Faithful Friends Club**, which includes all existing monthly donors, are invited to an annual special reception, receive a "Moncton H Club" pin, and have the opportunity to receive a guided tour of The Moncton Hospital or view new equipment purchased with donor funds. Most importantly, they join a group of committed individuals who are ensuring that The Moncton Hospital is



Become a monthly donor today and join the **Faithful Friends Club!**

equipped with the technology needed to meet the healthcare demands of 2016 and beyond. **To join the Faithful Friends Club today, please signup online by visiting www.friendsfoundation.ca/faithfulfriend or contact Katherine Robertson, Community Engagement Coordinator at Katherine.Robertson@HorizonNB.ca or at (506)870-2447.**



This group of Faithful Friends was delighted to see the revolutionary Bacteria Identification Technology up close and personal.

Young Philanthropist Gives to Provincial Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Unit

Meet Isabelle Stewart from Moncton. She is an amazing and inspiring 8 year old author who has recently published her first book "ESCAPE FROM Darken Hall CASTLE."

Isabelle is not only talented and creative, but also generous! She has decided that part of the proceeds of her book sales will go towards the Provincial Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Unit (PCAPU) at The Moncton Hospital. The six-bed unit

provides crisis intervention and assessment to children up to the age of 16 in New Brunswick who are referred by their medical professional. A special fund has been established for helping patients on this unit with toiletry items, clothing and other personal needs which Isabelle has chosen to support.

Thank you so much for your support Isabelle!

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Come in	135 MacBeath Ave., Moncton, NB E1C 6Z8
Call	506.857.5488
Click	friendsfoundation.ca
Email	Friends@HorizonNB.ca

We would love to hear your comments and suggestions. Call or write **Julie Thébeau** at 870.2699 or Julie.Thebeau@HorizonNB.ca



Wireless Internet for Patients is Now Available Thanks to the Friends!

Free WiFi is now available for all patients and their families at The Moncton Hospital. Linda Saunders, Friends Executive Director, said the Foundation is delighted to partner with Horizon Health Network in providing additional comfort for our patients. "Providing WiFi for patients aligns with the Foundation's mission to enhance patient care. Having access to wireless technology not only enables patients to



WiFi Patients

stay in touch with the people who are important in their lives but also helps to combat the sense of isolation some may feel while in hospital, all contributing to the best possible patient experience," said Saunders. The wireless network called 'WiFi - Patients', allows patients to communicate with family and friends through website access, social media, and email.

Donor Dollars Impact Patient Care Orthopedics Gets New Equipment

In 2014, Corey Craig Group donated \$100,000 in celebration of their 40th anniversary of Tim Horton's in Moncton. The funds were used to purchase a **Mini-C Arm** for Orthopedics. This equipment provides immediate x-rays for Orthopedic procedures in clinic, as well as to determine if surgery is required... all while exposing the patient to much less radiation than regular x-rays.



From left to right: Craig O'Neill, President and CEO, Corey Craig Group; Mary O'Neill; Dr. Will Allanach, Orthopedic Surgeon; and Corey O'Neill, Vice-President, Corey Craig Group.

If you are already supporting the Friends as a financial donor...

THANK YOU

Your gift will impact patient care.

Yes, I want to support the Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province _____

Postal Code _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

I am enclosing a cheque in the amount of

\$30 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000

I would prefer to send \$ _____

Visa Mastercard AMEX

Expiry Date _____

Account # _____

Signature _____

Yes, please send me more information on making a bequest to the Friends.

Interested in monthly giving?

Call 857-5488 or visit us online at

friendsfoundation.ca/donate



Calendar of events

Walk of Life for Cardiac Rehab at TMH
Saturday, June 4th at Centennial Park at 10am. Walk 1k or Walk/Run 5K. Contact Kelly Gould at 857-5722, Kelly.Gould@HorizonNB.ca.

NB Doctors Cycling Against Cancer
June 13th to 17th . Visit www.nbdocscac.com or contact Katherine.Robertson@HorizonNB.ca for details.

Hand in Hand Home Dream Lottery
Tickets available starting May 3rd. Visit www.handinhandlottery.com for details.

Moncton Cruisers
Sunday evenings (6pm-9PM) from May 29th until September 25th at Canadian Tire, Dieppe.

Taylor Ford Hit It Fore Health Golf Tournament
Wednesday, September 7th , 1 PM
Royal Oaks (\$350 a player/ \$1750 team of 5)
Contact Julie.thebeau@HorizonNB.ca