

# PRESS RELEASE



June 7, 2018

## Donors Fund Game Changing Equipment for the OR, Specialized Newborn Beds and Device to Control Bleeding

**Moncton** – The Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation’s loyal donors have contributed over \$800,000 to its Annual Campaign, exceeding the goal by \$200,000! The funds will be invested in top-notch innovative Operating Room technology that will improve accuracy during surgery, warm and comfortable specialized beds for newborns and a device to control bleeding during endoscopic procedures – *all critical tools for the hospital’s medical team.*

Campaign Co-Chairs Pat Armour and Lois Scott are delighted with the success of the campaign. *“Your support touches and changes the lives of thousands and makes an incredible impact on the health and well-being of our families, neighbours and friends,”* say Armour and Scott.

Neurosurgeons at The Moncton Hospital are now equipped with the latest high-tech digital technology, allowing them to see three-dimensional images of the spine while performing surgery.

The **O-Arm Surgical Imaging System** normally has a \$925,000 price tag but The Moncton Hospital was offered a demo for \$325,000, a fraction of the price. This technology is making surgeons' painstaking work more efficient and accurate and much safer. The O-Arm can take a 3D scan of a patient undergoing surgery in seconds and provide high-quality images to the surgeon while that operation is underway.

*"Not only does it reduce surgical time, hardware placement (pins or rods) is more accurate and there's less anaesthetic time and blood loss, all of which equal less risk for patients,"* says Dr. Charbel Fawaz, Chief of Neurosurgery.

While the O-Arm will be mostly used for spinal surgery, it can also be used in many other situations such as tumour surgery and, less commonly, for repairing broken bones including pelvic fractures and other orthopedic injuries.

Also being purchased with campaign funds are two **Electrosurgical Units (ESUs) with Argon capability** for endoscopic procedures (a nonsurgical test used to examine a person's digestive tract) in the GI (Gastrointestinal) Clinic. Cost for both units is \$110,000.

Many of the everyday procedures performed in the GI Clinic require ESU technology. The most common procedures performed include the removal of tumours and polyps (abnormal tissue growth) to prevent the development of cancer, treatment of “watermelon stomach” (an uncommon cause of chronic gastrointestinal bleeding) and other GI bleeding disorders. Bleeding is fairly common in many of these endoscopic procedures and requires the use of Argon to control blood loss immediately.

The birth of a baby is one of life's most wondrous moments and few experiences compare to this event. Newborn babies have amazing abilities, yet they are completely dependent on others for feeding, warmth and comfort. Because of the success of the campaign, the Foundation was able to order an additional three **specialized beds for newborns** in the Labour and Birthing Unit for a total of five. The infant warmers, which in total, cost over \$200,000, will provide a warm, comfortable and developmentally supportive environment for newborn babies who experience difficulties immediately after birth.

Donations can still be made by calling the Friends at (506) 857-5488, visiting online at [www.FriendsFoundation.ca/Donate](http://www.FriendsFoundation.ca/Donate) or by mail to the Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation, 135 MacBeath Avenue, Moncton, NB E1C 6Z8.

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