

BE THE DIFFERENCE

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2019–2020

ADVANCING HEALTHCARE AT THE MONCTON HOSPITAL

The Moncton Hospital (TMH) has, for decades, been the heart of our community, providing high quality compassionate care for our loved ones. Every day, we see the impact donations like yours to the Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation have on patients and their families.

This year it will be no exception!

We are fundraising to improve the stellar care our hospital delivers by providing leading edge tools and facility enhancements for those whose lives depend on it.

THE COMPLEX CARE SUITE IN THE PAEDIATRIC DEPARTMENT

Children with multiple and complex health needs can spend a lot of time in the hospital. So can their families.

With your help, we hope to create a NEW Complex Care Suite in the Paediatric Department at The Moncton Hospital.

The goal is to provide a convenient, accessible, family-friendly space for kids living with life-limiting illnesses who need special, intense treatment or require long-term or end-of-life (palliative) care. Many of these young patients need constant medical attention or monitoring, and/or are dependent on mechanical ventilators or other medical devices. They may also experience short-term changes in their well-being outside of their chronic disease, putting them at immediate serious health risk.

“Our Paediatric team works closely with children and families to meet their needs and to make sure that their health care plan reflects what matters most to them. We will ensure families understand the health concerns and help them make informed decisions about treatment and care for their child in the short - and long - term”

Christa Wheeler-Thorne, Administrative Director, Women and Child Health Program

The Complex Care Suite will be separate from the rest of the busy unit, allowing more privacy. It will have a kitchen area as well as a seating and overnight sleeping area

“It will enhance the quality of time spent together, whether it be playing cards, sharing a snack, or watching a show together. Parents and other loved ones will be able to stay by their child’s side, sleep, shower and eat there without ever having to leave them alone, which is often a big concern and worry for the families.”

Peggy Wheaton, Director, Child Life Program

for 3-6 people (siblings, parents, relatives) so the child can always have a loved one near. It will also include a bathroom and shower, and things like a desk and shelving unit for the patient to bring some comfort items from home, board games, television and more.

The new suite will be constructed where the current playroom area is, combined with an adjacent hospital room. The playroom will be moved to an under-utilized conference room in the unit with an attached office for the Child Life Specialists, as well as an addition of a one-way mirrored therapy assessment room.

The outdoor playground will also be relocated to a new area on the hospital grounds with access directly from the Paediatric Unit.

Five of the in-patient Paediatric rooms adjacent to the new suite will also be redesigned to provide refreshed and improved family care spaces which will include sleeping accommodations for parents, kitchenette and storage.

MAIZIE'S STORY



Maizie Rae Judson's unique story begins before she was even born.

Maizie's mom, Amanda, has epilepsy therefore her pregnancy was considered high-risk. As a result, she was referred to the Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic at The Moncton Hospital (TMH). During her first ultrasound at 20 weeks her instinct kicked in that something was not quite right, even before she was told they had some serious concerns because her baby was too small for her gestation, and there was not a lot of movement.

Tests were performed and she was monitored closely but without any conclusive results until she was 32 weeks along, when they discovered that the baby had a congenital heart disease. Amanda and her husband, Scott, were told that it was very likely that their baby would need to have surgical intervention within hours or days after she was born.

With that news, they decided to temporarily move to Toronto to give birth at Mount Sinai Hospital where they would have immediate access (if need be) to a Paediatric Cardiac Surgeon.

Maizie Rae Judson was born at 38 weeks, by Caesarian section on August 11th, 2016, weighing 4 pounds. She remained there in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for 2.5 weeks. To everyone's relief, cardiac surgery was not necessary, but she was still very small and delicate.

Amanda and Maizie were transferred home to The Moncton Hospital NICU compliments of Fox Flight Air Ambulance with appropriate medical personnel on board. She was closely watched for another 2 weeks before being released.

Unfortunately, Maizie's health care journey didn't end there.

At 6 months old, and only 7 pounds, Maizie was diagnosed with **Failure to Thrive Syndrome**. She refused any type of food and vomited often after breast and bottle feeding. Her growth and weight were the biggest concern at this stage for her Paediatrician, Dr. Marc Blayney, at TMH.

At 10 months old, because she refused to eat food of any kind, she had a permanent g-tube surgically inserted into her stomach. A specialist told the family that "eating is torture for Maizie." She takes 12 different medications 5 times a day through her feeding tube, on top of her nutritional supplements. Yet, her mom says, "she is the happiest kid in the world."

On top of that worry, Amanda went in one morning to wake Maizie, only to find her unresponsive.

MAIZIE'S STORY

"She was breathing but I couldn't wake her up. I called 911 then sprinkled water on her face and she still wouldn't open her eyes. I changed her and still nothing. I think I was in automatic mode as it is such a blur to me until we got to the hospital."

Maizie's blood sugar had dropped dangerously low to the point that she was almost unconscious. A full workup revealed that little Maizie also had liver and kidney disease. She was sent to the IWK for a full assessment and treatment plan.

Back home in Moncton, when her symptoms characteristically escalated, she was admitted to The Moncton Hospital for emergency care. "The first time she was admitted, I didn't leave the Paediatric Unit for 9 days. Scott and I slept head to toe on a stretcher beside her bed."

Maizie was admitted over 22 times to the Paediatric Unit at TMH before she was a year old. She is now on the 'direct admission' list, which means she need only arrive in the Paediatric Department at TMH to be admitted on the spot with clear directives and protocols to be followed.

Despite all these setbacks, Maizie had grown and advanced, albeit a little slower than typical. She walked at 22 months, her talking improved greatly and she even took up skating! Mom went back to work part-time and Maizie embraced daycare with great joy.

Until this past February that is.

Amanda noticed that Maizie was 'walking funny', like her shoes were too tight for her, and she would sometimes simply 'fall back on her bum' with no intent or warning. After an MRI was done in Halifax, she struggled to wake from the sedation – it took 3.5 hours. When she woke, her ability to walk and

talk were affected. **She has never walked or talked since. It was devastating to everyone involved. And still no definitive explanation.**

After this, Maizie experienced another serious episode where her kidney levels and liver enzymes were crashing. Following a blood transfusion at TMH, Scott and Maizie were medevacked to the IWK. In the urgency of it all, the staff of the Paediatric Unit had scrambled to give Scott their insulated lunch bags and a bookbag for Maizie's medications and personal things.

In the emotional whirlwind, Amanda simply shut down. In what she describes as an amazing, over the top act, the staff of the Paediatric Unit made a bed up for her for the night and fed her breakfast in the morning, before her parents picked her up to drive to Halifax to join Scott and Maizie. "I will never, ever forget the kindness and generosity they showed to me when I was in such a vulnerable state. They have seen me at my best and at my worst and have never given up on us. They are like our second family and I can't imagine going through this journey without them."

Once Maizie was stabilized and back home again, in an attempt to continue searching for answers, Dr. Blayney referred the Judsons to Toronto's Sick Kids Hospital to meet with metabolic specialists. While there, they received results from a sophisticated DNA testing that had been sent away to Switzerland many months before.

Maizie was ultimately diagnosed with the very rare, Mitochondrial Disease Complex 1 Deficiency. It is a shortage of a protein complex called complex I or a loss of its function. Affected children typically have normal early development but develop symptoms in late infancy or early childhood with progressive neurological abnormalities.

MAIZIE'S STORY

This was beyond difficult for Amanda and Scott to absorb, yet it finally explained everything Maizie was going through and it will help with her treatment plans moving forward.

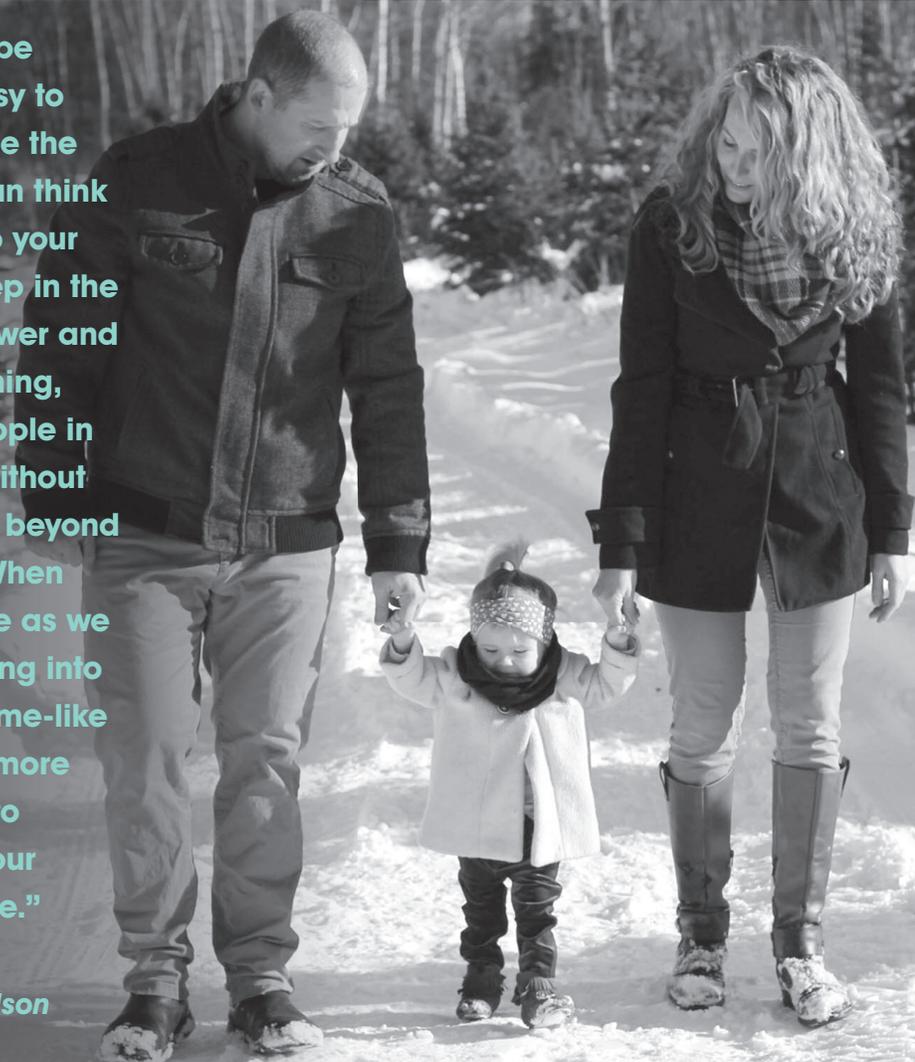
Today, Maizie is in a wheelchair and, although she is still not walking or talking, some of her gestures are returning. She is starting to lift her head up and hold out her arms to her parents again. The gleam in her eyes has returned. She is the happiest when she is at her daycare with her peers and teachers. The kids have been educated on

her condition and she is somewhat of a "hero" because of her g-tube. She always told the kids that she has two belly buttons and they all brag about knowing her. "It is all what you make of it and we choose to make the best of each day because we don't know what tomorrow will bring."

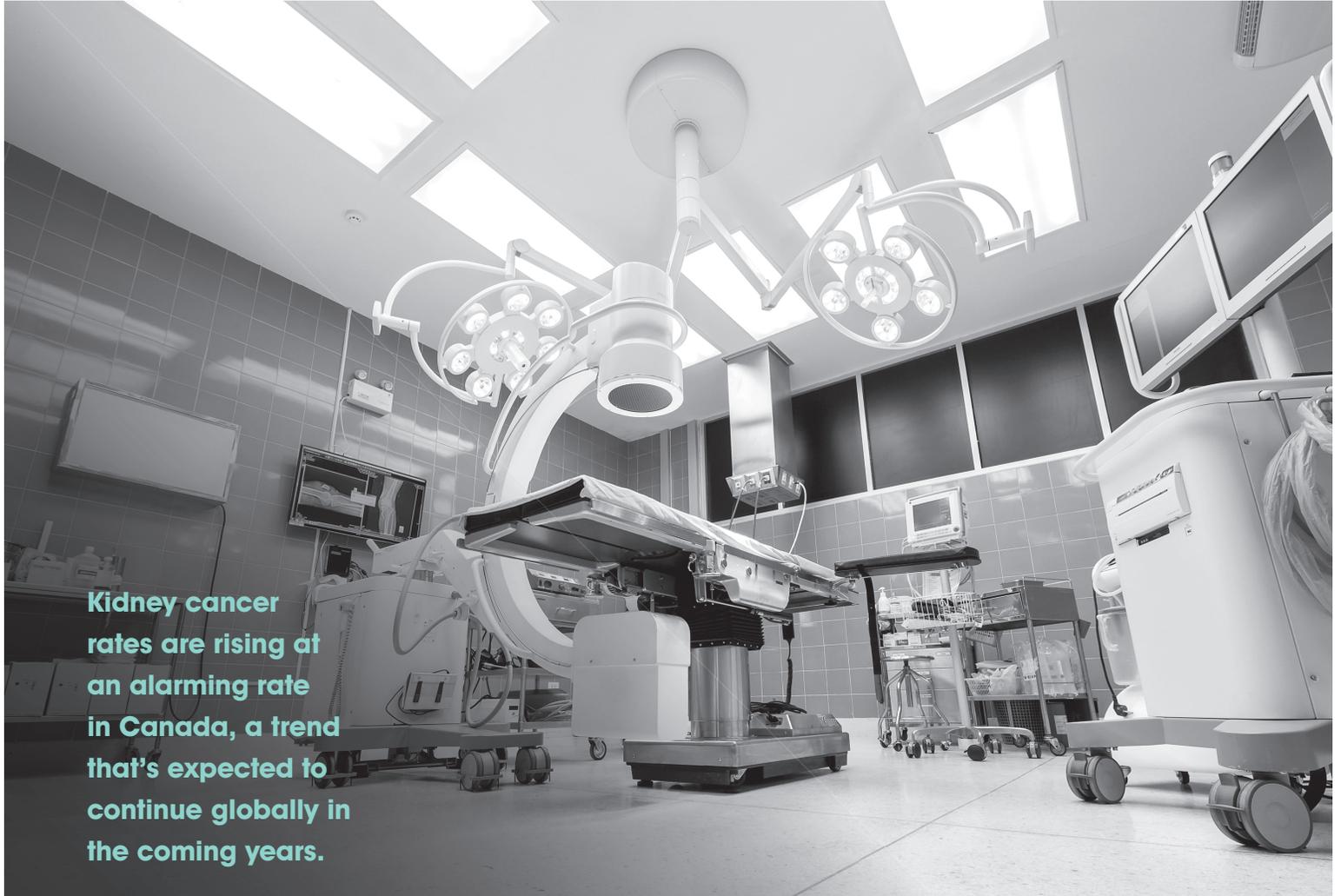
Maizie continues to attend specialty clinics frequently for her kidneys, heart and liver, has bi-weekly blood work and is attending speech, physio and occupational therapies all at TMH. **She will be admitted when necessary and will no doubt use the new Complex Care Suite when it is completed.**

"This space is going to be AMAZING! It is never easy to leave the room, let alone the unit, because all you can think about is getting back to your child. To be able to sleep in the same room, have a shower and a cup of tea in the morning, and have important people in our lives come to visit without interruption to others, is beyond what I could imagine. When you spend as much time as we do in the hospital, coming into a warm, welcoming, home-like environment will mean more than I could ever put into words. Thank you from our family and for our Maizie."

**Amanda Judson,
Mother of Maizie Rae Judson**



ADVANCED ULTRASOUND MACHINE DISPLAYS 3-D IMAGES OF THE KIDNEYS



Kidney cancer rates are rising at an alarming rate in Canada, a trend that's expected to continue globally in the coming years.

Constantly striving to provide the best possible health care and keep up with the latest technology, the Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation is asking for your help to purchase an advanced ultrasound machine and probe that displays outstanding 3-D images of the kidneys on a high-resolution monitor during laparoscopic or minimally invasive surgery.

Urologist Dr. Troy Sitland performs 50-60 kidney cancer surgeries at The Moncton Hospital each year and says the new equipment offers multiple advantages. "It will allow us to very quickly identify where the tumour is exactly located in the kidney, it is safer because we don't risk cutting where

it is unnecessary, and we don't have to remove as much of the kidney to get a good margin."

Although ultrasounds are routinely used to identify different structures, and in-particular tumours, the benefit of the ultrasound probe is that it will enable surgeons to perform even more minimally invasive surgeries.

"The advantage is that it's a really thin ultrasound probe that can go in through a small, 12 mm port and can be put directly on the kidney to identify the tumour."

ADVANCED ULTRASOUND MACHINE DISPLAYS 3-D IMAGES OF THE KIDNEYS

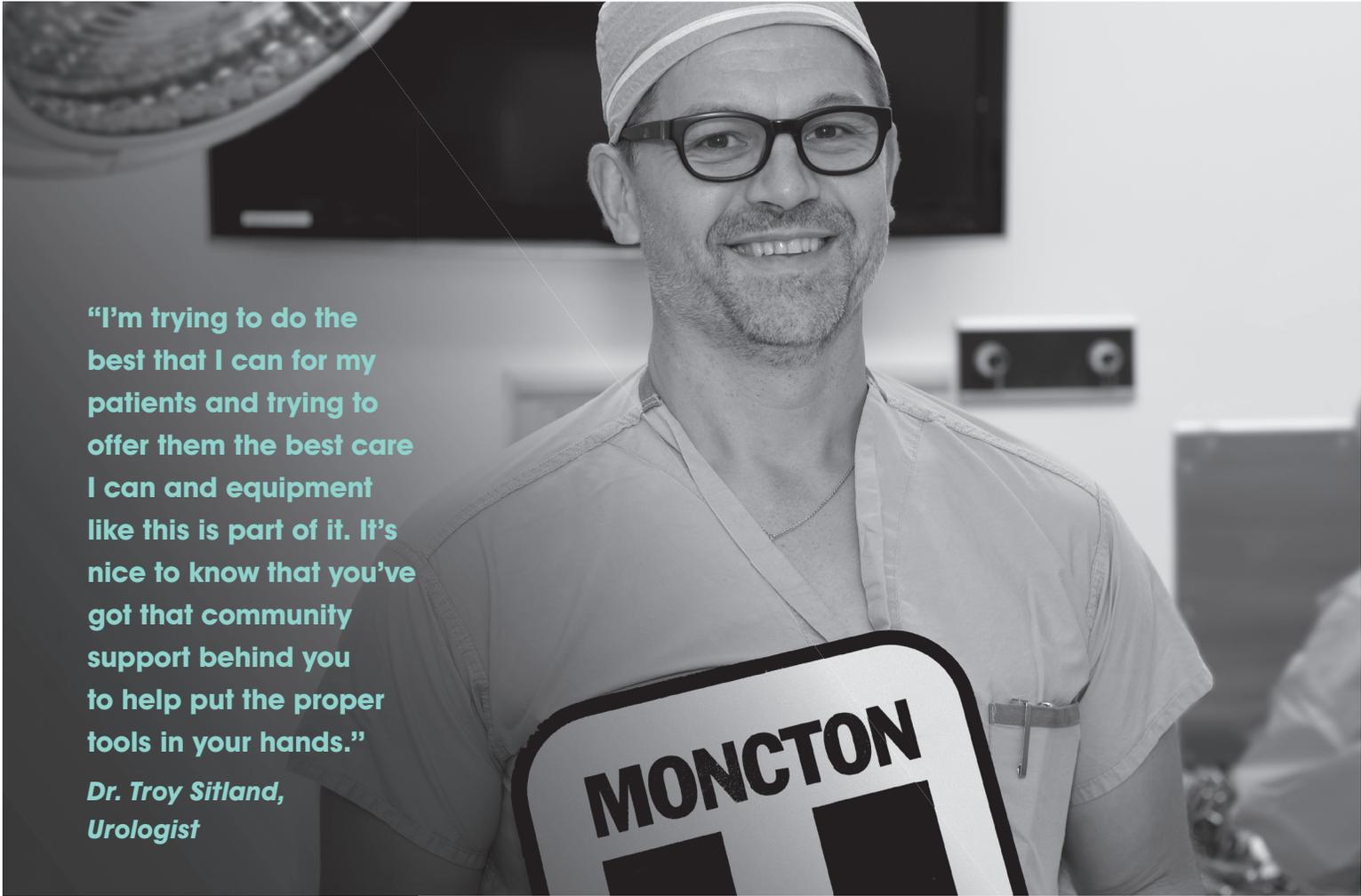
Tumours are sometimes buried deep within the kidney and can't be seen. Rather than cutting blindly, Dr. Sitland says the probe will provide him with a roadmap to where the tumour is located.

It's also going to be useful for liver and pancreas surgery, making it a critical tool in the recruitment of hepatobiliary surgeons at the hospital. "For me, it's clearly important, but for liver surgeons, there's a lot more cases that they can't do without it. It's even more essential for them."

The Moncton Hospital receives a lot of referrals from throughout the province each year because of its

well-established Advanced Kidney Cancer Laparoscopic Program. Although not suitable for all patients, Dr. Sitland says the new ultrasound equipment is expected to be used in at least one third of the kidney cancer cases. "It's going to have use in a lot of them once we get better at it. Right now, there are some cases I can't do without it," he admits. "Again, it's going to make it safer, it's going to make it better, and it's going to make it quicker."

Dr. Sitland has been involved in many fundraising projects at The Moncton Hospital throughout the years. As a surgeon, he says it's very motivating and humbling to know that there are people out there who care.



"I'm trying to do the best that I can for my patients and trying to offer them the best care I can and equipment like this is part of it. It's nice to know that you've got that community support behind you to help put the proper tools in your hands."

***Dr. Troy Sitland,
Urologist***

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Together we can help advance health care for people just like Maizie and many others at The Moncton Hospital.

Thank you so much for your past support to ensure that The Moncton Hospital keeps current with new equipment and modern spaces to provide top quality patient care.

We ask for your help now to support sick kids at our hospital and to deliver the latest in kidney cancer technology to our patients.

Your gift today will make an immediate and measurable difference in the quality of care our hospital can provide these precious patients and their families. We are profoundly grateful for your generous consideration.

Sincerely,



**Linda Saunders, President and CEO,
Friends of The Moncton Hospital Foundation**

PS The Moncton Hospital is committed to providing you with optimal care and the very best treatment. To do that, we need to have the finest equipment and facilities for the job. That is why your help is so critical. Thank you for your contribution.



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