Your Legacy of Caring

Have you considered naming the Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Care Foundation in your will?

It is a profound and lasting way to show your support of cancer care. After taking care of your loved ones, a bequest is a wonderful way to ensure that your commitment to cancer care will continue.

Did you know:

- Gifts made in your will can reduce or eliminate final income tax that would otherwise reduce what you leave to your family.
- There is no immediate cost to putting a gift in your will. And if you so choose, you can leave your gift in memory or honour of someone special.
- Anyone can make a gift in their will – whatever the size. All gifts are greatly appreciated and will support cancer patients and treatment across Newfoundland and Labrador.
- These decisions can be made through discussions with your family, Financial Advisors, lawyer or insurance agent.

If you would like additional information, please call Lynette Hillier at 709-777-7590.

Planned Giving

THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATIONS CONTINUED...

In This Together

Through the overwhelmingly generous support of so many, the $5 million **In This Together** campaign to build a new chemotherapy unit for the Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Centre has been completed! Construction is expected to begin this summer and open in 2021.

This new unit will be three times larger than the current unit, allowing all outpatient chemotherapy services to be delivered in the one unit. The extra space will accommodate future demand, will incorporate an in-house pharmacy, patient orientation/education spaces, and many other functional enhancements in a beautiful space with additional patient privacy, isolation rooms and quiet rooms.

To the individuals, families, businesses and service groups who gave so generously – thank you. YOU made this new chemotherapy unit a reality!

Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Care Foundation
building hope together

HOPE Notes

DONOR UPDATE
SUMMER 2020

A Legacy of Caring

It is with heavy hearts that we celebrate the life of Dr. Kim Hong. Dr. Hong cared for and treated thousands of cancer patients throughout Newfoundland and Labrador during his 35 years as a Radiation Oncologist. He was well known for his compassion and his commitment to his patients and their families.

In 1999, Dr. Hong's friends, colleagues and former patients came together to support an education endowment fund for the staff of the Cancer Care Program. This Fund honors Dr. Hong, and the importance he placed on continuing education in the oncology field.

Dr. Hong was instrumental in building the Cancer Care Program in Newfoundland and Labrador and continued in retirement to be a great friend of the Foundation, he will be greatly missed.

IN THIS PHOTO: Dr. Kim Hong, Radiation Oncologist.

HOW COVID-19 HAS CHANGED...

Cancer Care

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on everyone's lives. Daily life has changed at Cancer Centres and chemotherapy sites across the province too. COVID-19 has changed all aspects of healthcare, and strict adherence to public health guidelines is necessary to protect everyone.

Now, as you enter any of the Cancer Centres, there are screening stations where every patient is screened before entering the building. Masks are given to patients, and must be worn at all times. Oncology appointments have continued either via telephone, video or in-person. Chemotherapy and radiation treatment have continued as normal, with small modifications in workspaces and workflow to ensure social distancing can be maintained. Waiting rooms have chairs spread out according to the guidelines. Staff wear masks when providing treatment.

So much has changed, but patient care and safety remains the priority. Thank you, to everyone who has visited our centres across the province, for your patience and understanding with our new normal in cancer care.

Fundraising For Cancer Care

It is safe to say that the COVID-19 pandemic has had some devastating economic effects with decreased revenues for many businesses and non-profit organizations, job losses, and grim economic forecasts.

At the Foundation, we felt the effects almost immediately, most notably due to the cancellation of in-person fundraising events. Golf tournaments, community events, community bingo and even our largest annual fundraising event, the Polka Dot Trot, were affected.

With the public health restrictions ever-changing, we are still working on the logistics of how to safely do some of those events. The Polka Dot Trot will be a virtual event this year. Still just as fantastic and inspiring as before - just virtual so you can participate wherever you may be!

We Asked & You Answered!

To make up some revenue shortfall from cancelled events, we did an email fundraising appeal and an online Giving Tuesday appeal. They were tremendously successful, and raised $45,000. In addition, a direct mail appeal was sent to in the mail and raised an amazing $50,000.

We are so grateful to have the most amazing and supportive donors! Thank you so much for responding in such a big way. Funds will directly support cancer patients' right across Newfoundland and Labrador through the Patient and Family Support Fund. The fund has become even more important given the additional financial strains placed on some cancer patients from the pandemic.

We cannot thank you enough for being there for cancer patients during these stressful times.

THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATIONS

Cancer Transitions

Through funding from the United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador, we were able to offer the Cancer Transitions program for cancer patients who had recently completed cancer treatment.

Cancer Transitions is an 8 week program that was developed in the United States in 2006. Delivered by Oncology Social workers, the program covers topics such as Quality of Life, Emotional Health and the Long-Term effects of cancer.

Feedback from our winter session was overwhelmingly positive. Another session had just started when the COVID-19 restrictions began, and the program was halted. We hope to resume the program in a safe virtual environment. Thank you so much to donors to the United Way of Newfoundland and Labrador for making this program possible.

PICTURED ABOVE: Participants in the winter session of the Cancer Transitions program celebrate their final session.

Partnership with Discovery Health Foundation

Through generous donor support, we were very pleased to provide $10,000 to the Discovery Health Foundation, which raises funds for health care facilities located on the Burin Peninsula and the Clarenville region. Funds were used towards the purchase of a Sentimag system which helps to identify the first lymph nodes to which cancer cells are likely to spread for early stage breast cancer patients. The Sentimag system can help reduce potential side effects such as lymphedema, and can reduce the need for a more invasive surgery.

How Your Generosity Helped Cancer Patients During the Pandemic

The area of greatest need continues to be the Patient and Family Support Fund – assisting cancer patients who are experiencing financial distress. Since January 2020, this fund has assisted 256 cancer patients right across the province, with $79,000 in funding to meet their immediate needs including food, transportation, and accommodations for travel to receive their cancer treatment. Donations of Aeroplan points have allowed us to purchase 10 plane tickets for patient travel in just the past few months. Your donations have made this all possible.

STORY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...