

 Cumberland
Health Care Foundation

Growing Care



Campaign



The Growing Care campaign will ensure that our community has access to the best care possible. It will solidify Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre's reputation for excellence in health care delivery. Together we will ensure residents of Cumberland County are getting the most accurate diagnoses and expedited treatment by having the most up-to-date equipment available.

In doing this, we will leave a legacy for generations to come and set the example that our community cares about the health of its citizens. Please join me and the other volunteers in supporting the Growing Care Campaign.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Cheverie".

Sean Cheverie
Chair, Growing Care Campaign

Since its completion in October 2002, the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre has provided state-of-the-art health care services to residents of Cumberland County in a modern, nurturing and comforting atmosphere.

our foundation

CHCF Chair Phyllis Cameron (left) and Growing Care Campaign Chair Sean Cheverie (right) launched the Growing Care Campaign in March 2006. The Foundation's latest initiative will require local support in order to take root, grow and blossom.



CUMBERLAND REGIONAL HEALTH CARE CENTRE

The Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre (CRHCC) is a state-of-the-art acute care facility that opened its doors in October 2002. The CRHCC is conveniently located in Upper Nappan on the outskirts of Amherst, just off the Trans Canada. The hospital offers a wide range of programs and services including Level 2 Emergency, ICU, surgery and a surgical in-patient unit, Ear/Nose/Throat (ENT), maternal/child and medical units. These main services are supported by laboratory, diagnostic imaging, pharmacy, palliative care, respiratory therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy departments. The hospital proudly boasts the latest technology combined with an overall design that incorporates functionality and efficiency for staff with comfort for patients and visitors.

Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre provides service to the county's 33,000 residents who reside in a large geographic area that includes communities from Advocate Harbour to Malagash and from Fort Lawrence to Wentworth. The hospital employs more than 300, making it one of the largest employers in the county.

OUR FOUNDATION

The Cumberland Health Care Foundation was founded in 1993 in response to the need to raise funds to support the construction of a new regional hospital to replace the Highland View Regional Hospital, which contained buildings that were over 60 years old. Through hard work the community of Cumberland raised \$7.8 million in the Above and Beyond Campaign. The construction of the new facility began in August 2000 and was completed on target in October of 2002.

The Foundation continues to fulfill its mission: "To enhance provision of a high standard of health care within Cumberland County by raising funds and supporting new and improved services, programs, equipment and facilities".



Left: Our current echo ultrasound machine is over five years old and reaching the end of its expected life span. A new echo ultrasound will have up-to-date capability allowing the CRHCC to better treat patients locally.

Right: The routine ultrasound unit cannot meet the current demand. Wait times for an ultrasound appointment can take up to 6 weeks. Two units are required to reduce wait times.



echo ultrasound

The echo ultrasound machine lets patients be treated in their own community.



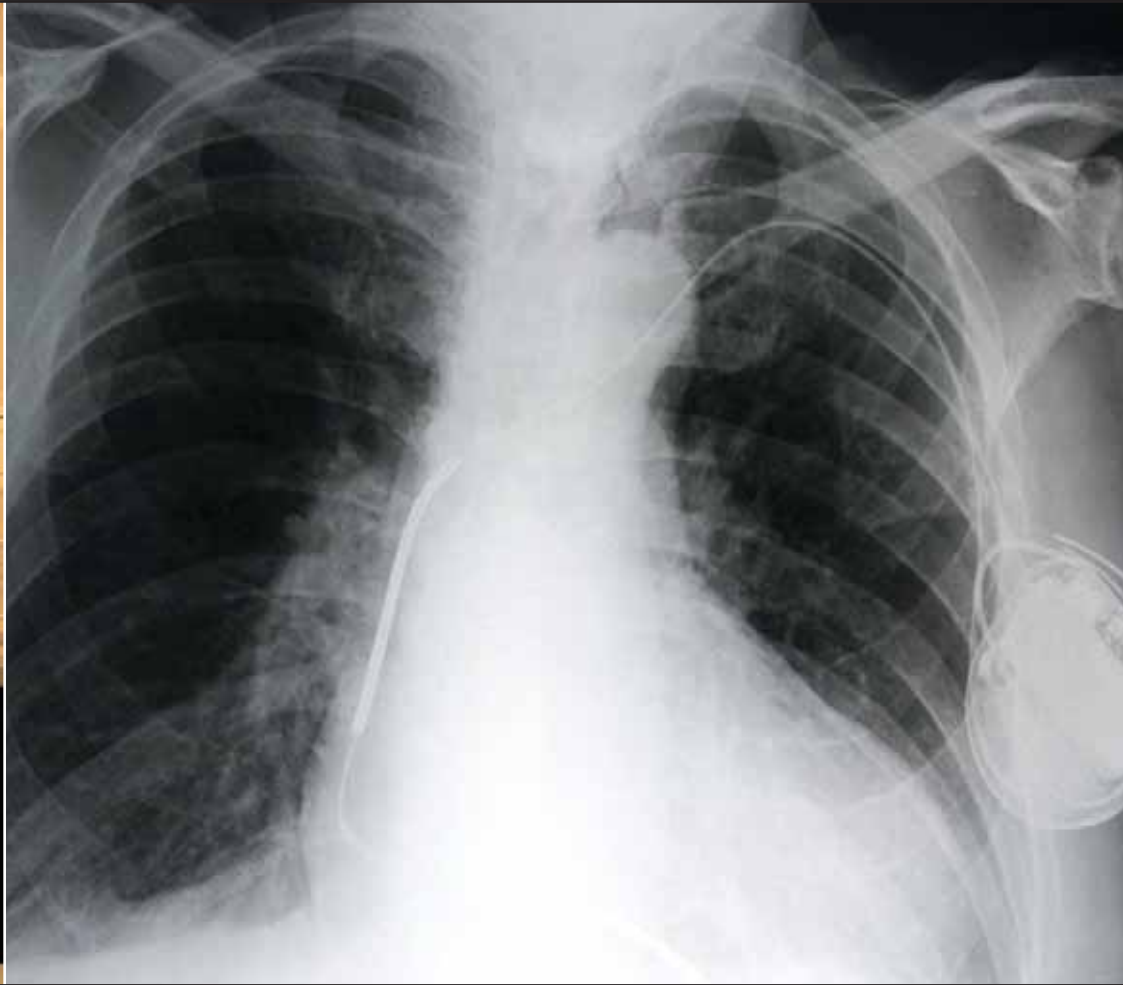
GROWING CARE IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre continues to evolve to meet the health needs of citizens. To reach this goal, much of its suite of diagnostic imaging equipment needs updating. In addition, given the full complement of specialists and the volume of surgery being performed, the completion of the third operating room is required to keep pace with expanding programs at the facility.

New and more advanced diagnostic imaging equipment means more accurate diagnosis, which ultimately means more effective and timely treatment. It also means reducing wait times, a concern throughout the medical system. Much of the diagnostic imaging equipment was brought over from the old Highland View Regional Hospital, and is reaching the end of its lifespan. While the current Routine Ultrasound unit is an excellent piece of equipment it cannot meet current demand. The wait time for an ultrasound appointment is approximately 5 to 6 weeks. Two technologists are running one machine and it is increasingly difficult to accommodate the case load during a shift. Two units are required.

ECHO ULTRASOUND

Echocardiography is integral to the accurate diagnosis, management, and prognosis for various cardiac conditions, but it requires regular updating of equipment. The echo ultrasound unit is five years old and is reaching the end of its expected life span. The image on the unit is degrading, as are the probes and other parts. Unfortunately, the unit is not upgradeable. With a new Echo Ultrasound, we will have up-to-date capability. Annually over 1000 Echocardiography exams are performed at CRHCC, which allows residents to be treated right here in their own community versus traveling outside Cumberland County to Moncton, Truro or beyond. We want to ensure the continued availability of this important diagnostic tool in our community.



Left: Our current radiography unit can be converted to digital with a flat panel upgrade.

Right: With a digital upgrade this chest x-ray, showing a new pacemaker, can be sent directly to the computer imaging system electronically.



radiography

The Solid State Flat Panel Detector will improve patient wait time.



DIGITAL RADIOGRAPHY

Digital Radiography is the new frontier for Diagnostic Imaging and is currently the most up-to-date system that hospital imaging departments are purchasing. Digital Radiography transmits the patients' images directly to the computer imaging system in use at CRHCC, which in turn allows the images to be electronically available within minutes to other departments within the building, and to other health care facilities with similar technology in Nova Scotia and the rest of the Maritimes. With this advancement, a patient can be x-rayed without the technologist having to handle cassettes and process the images. Moreover, a digital unit decreases the time a patient is on the x-ray table and the time a patient is in the Diagnostic Imaging department. From an environmental perspective, this technology is a significant improvement over old x-ray suites that involved film and chemicals for processing, to say nothing of the space required to store them.

CRHCC has a radiograph unit that can be converted to digital with an upgrade called a flat panel. Without this piece of equipment the types of examinations that can be performed are limited and it means the space can only be used 40 percent of the time. Conversion to the Solid State Flat Panel Detector will allow the table to be used for all studies and improve patient wait time. As well, the images are superior in quality to general x-rays, greatly aiding the Radiologist in the ultimate diagnosis.



Left: Thanks to the CRHCC's two existing operating rooms, patients no longer have to leave the community to have procedures.

Bottom Right: Funds from the local community are required to help complete and equip a third operating room.

Top Right: Zoe and Thane McAloney were the first twins born in Amherst in 12 years.



operating room

A THIRD OPERATING ROOM

“September 20th, 2004 was an exciting day for our family and for everyone at the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre.

Thane and Zoe were the first twins born at the new hospital, and the first twins born in Amherst in 12 years.”

Evlynn and Geoff McAloney



As predicted, the new hospital has played a significant role in attracting and retaining more specialists to our community. That has resulted in increased demand on the current operating rooms, as patients do not have to leave the community to have procedures performed, or may return for recovery and rehabilitation thanks to the presence of specialist physicians. This process is called repatriation.

For example, in 2004 the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre welcomed the first set of twins born in Cumberland County in a number of years. Little Zoe Grace and Thane William, daughter and son of Evlynn and Geoff McAloney, were born in September 2004. Thanks to newly recruited obstetrician-gynecologist (OBS/GYN), Dr. Marquis Okon, there is no need for Mrs. McAloney, and other mothers like her, to leave the area for deliveries that might be considered higher-risk. The number of births at the CRHCC increased in 2004-05 as well, since more women had the opportunity to access gynecological services within Cumberland County.

With the increased number of surgeons and ENT and OBS/GYN specialists on site, more regular OR time is required. The opening of this suite will result in shortened wait times for surgery and allow patients to move more quickly from diagnosis to surgery. While funding from the province and federal government will cover the majority of the costs towards the new OR, we must also raise funds for additional OR equipment. The present funding formula for capital projects such as this are 75% from government and 25% from local sources.

The third operating room will also play a very important role in the expansion of services. In part due to this expansion, 10 additional beds will be added at the hospital, bringing the total number of inpatient beds to 75.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

In order to meet the needs of fully equipping the new operating room and purchasing the digital imaging equipment, we need to raise \$1.6 million. Here is the breakdown of costs:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|
| • X-Ray machine upgrade | \$ 500,000 | |
| • Ultrasound machine | \$ 350,000 | |
| • Echo Machine | \$ 70,000 | (community share; provincial government funding of \$280,000) |
| • OR construction | \$ 200,000 | (community share; provincial government funding of \$600,000) |
| • OR equipment | \$ 380,000 | (instruments, upgrade existing OR's audio/video, etc) |
| • Campaign Costs* | \$100,000 | (donor/volunteer recognition, public relations, resource materials) |
| • Total: | \$1,600,000 | |

Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre is already a facility of which we are very proud. Now we can take the care provided in our community to the next level by improving the quality of health care for all residents with state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment, and by supporting the opening of the third operating room. We have a marvelous opportunity to stay at the leading edge of health care by giving to the Growing Care Campaign.

*represents 6% of campaign goal, well below industry standards of 15-20%.



growing care

*Plants symbolize growth,
nurturing and life.*



ABOUT THE GROWING CARE CAMPAIGN

Since its founding in 1993, the Cumberland Health Care Foundation has nurtured the growth of health care services in Cumberland County. Updating the health centre's diagnostic imaging equipment and completing a third operating room is yet another growth in health care delivery to which the Foundation is providing a caring hand. As our communities grow, so too does the need to ensure a high standard of health care to all residents. The Foundation's latest initiative will require local support in order to take root, grow and blossom. Please help support The Growing Care Campaign today.

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