



Health Sciences Centre  
FOUNDATION

# Foundation Connection

Delivering Tomorrow's Health Care, Today

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## “We Can’t Stand Still”

New technology will drive excellence and support recruitment, says renowned surgeon

When Dr. Michael West, CM, OM, started his training in 1972, neurosurgery looked a lot different than it does today—and certainly much different than it will look tomorrow.

“At that time in Winnipeg there were no CT scanners, no MRIs, no radiosurgery, and no computers in medicine—all things that we take for granted today,” says Dr. West who retired in 2019. “When I started practising in 1982, we wouldn’t consider operating on complex neurosurgical problems in many elderly patients. The risks were too great. Today, at HSC, brain and spine surgery is being performed on people in their eighties who may be discharged home in a day or two. Sometimes on the same day.”

**“If we want to make sure that today’s graduates and established surgeons will want to work at HSC, it is absolutely critical that we invest in these newer technologies.”**

— Dr. Michael West, CM, OM

Such progress is possible thanks to technological advancements, HSC’s commitment to acquiring new technology, and the willingness of HSC Foundation donors to support such acquisitions when asked.

“We stand on the shoulders of giants,” says Dr. West of HSC’s progress over time.



*Dr. Michael West, CM, OM, retired HSC neurosurgeon who played a central role in acquiring and deploying Canada’s first Gamma Knife: “We need to continue with our investments in minimally invasive equipment to drive excellence in patient care. The Operation Excellence campaign allows us to do that. We can’t stand still.”*

Many would say that Dr. West is one of those giants. Among other accomplishments in his storied career, he played a central role in acquiring and deploying Canada’s first Gamma Knife at HSC in 2003. Using 192 beams of radiation, the Gamma Knife treats certain brain tumours with remarkable precision on an outpatient basis. No incision is required and there is minimal risk of damage to healthy brain tissue. Without the Gamma Knife, there would be no other surgical option for many patients.

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Dr. Michael West, CM, OM, (far right) with the Gamma Knife at HSC in 2003. Without the Gamma Knife, there would be no other surgical option for many patients.

Following the Gamma Knife, HSC continued to acquire additional minimally invasive equipment over time, including the intraoperative MRI (which creates images of the brain during surgery), the Varian Edge

(a radiosurgery system that can target tumours elsewhere in the body with extreme precision), and a number of pieces of equipment in use at the Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit.

“We need to continue with our investments in minimally invasive equipment to drive excellence in patient care. The Operation Excellence campaign allows us to do that,” says Dr. West, a campaign donor. “We can’t stand still.”

Aside from offering better patient outcomes and improved hospital efficiencies, a successful Operation Excellence campaign will attract leading talent to work at HSC. “I left HSC in 1994 because I couldn’t access the technology that I needed to do the cases I was trained to do,” says Dr. West, who returned in 2000 with a commitment from HSC to effect the provision of leading edge neurosurgical care. “If we want to make sure that today’s graduates and established surgeons will want to work at HSC, it is absolutely critical that we invest in these newer technologies.”

To learn more about the six-year, \$100 million Operation Excellence campaign, and to make an online donation, visit [OperationExcellence.ca](http://OperationExcellence.ca).

**Operation Excellence**  
HSC Foundation

**A community campaign for surgical innovation at HSC**

“With the support of generous Manitobans, we can ensure that HSC stays on the leading edge of health care for years to come. Together, we will equip HSC with the latest in diagnostic and surgical technology for all Manitobans. Thank you for your support!”  
-Tina Jones, O.M., Chair, HSC Foundation Board of Directors

Your support will end wait times for diagnostic tests and surgeries, and help HSC deliver tomorrow’s health care—today.

Learn more and donate at [OperationExcellence.ca](http://OperationExcellence.ca)  
or call 204-515-5612 or toll-free at 1-800-679-8493.

**Health Sciences Centre FOUNDATION**

# Leaving Behind a Legacy of Giving

## Six Manitobans pledge to help change health care in Manitoba

On October 15, 2022, we hosted our fifth-annual Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration where we were thrilled to welcome six new members to our Bannatyne Legacy Circle, a community of donors committed to supporting HSC by endowing a final gift to the Foundation when they pass away. These six Manitobans, who come from all walks of life, share a desire to improve health care for all.

The morning saw an excited group of attendees at our first in-person Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration since 2019 who listened to touching stories of our newest Bannatyne Legacy Circle members, updates on the impact philanthropy has on health care, exceptional live music from the Luminous String Quartet, and more. John Broadhurst, “I can’t think of a better organization to support with a planned gift. I know that it will make a difference.”

Please join us in welcoming John Broadhurst, a passionate advocate for mental health care; R.M. (Bob) and Deirdre Kozminski, Manitobans who now live in Alberta and remain dedicated to supporting HSC; Jim Morden, a past HSC Foundation Board member and current HSC Foundation Honourary Director; Margaret and Paul Wright who, when Margaret was given a terminal diagnoses of her esophageal tumour in 2015, sought treatment at HSC from which Margaret is now cancer free. “HSC is at the forefront of mental health care in Manitoba. I would even hazard to say within Canada,” says Broadhurst, who, at age 33, is the



The 2022 members of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle. Top L-R: John Broadhurst; Margaret and Paul Wright. Bottom L-R: Deirdre and R.M. (Bob) Kozminski; Jim Morden.



Attendees of the 2022 Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration were excited to hear from HSC doctors and researchers on the impact legacy giving has on health care.

youngest member of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle. “I can’t think of a better organization to support with a planned gift. I know that it will make a difference.” Broadhurst hopes that by sharing his story, he can help further reduce the stigma of mental health and inspire others to consider legacy giving.

Learn more about legacy giving and the Bannatyne Legacy Circle by contacting Irma McKenzie at [imckenzie@hscfoundation.mb.ca](mailto:imckenzie@hscfoundation.mb.ca) or 204-515-5612 or 1-800-679-8493 (toll-free). To learn more about our 2022 members, please visit: <http://bit.ly/3WkoEsa>. The HSC Foundation Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration was presented by Johnston Group Inc. in partnership with Canad Inns, with additional support from Outstanding Branding, BelleFosh Signs, Jones & Company Wine Merchants, Luminous String Quartet, and Techmodern Consulting.



Member of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle, John Broadhurst: “HSC is at the forefront of mental health care in Manitoba. I would even hazard to say within Canada.”

# Success!

Campaign ensures that optimal emergency gynecological surgery will be available around the clock



*Thanks to HSC Foundation donors, emergency surgical care with best-in-class technology will now be available 24/7.*

A campaign to upgrade existing surgical equipment for gynecology reached its \$105,000 goal in early January.

The funds will allow HSC to update software in HSC Women's Hospital, effectively making an additional room available for all manner of scheduled and emergency gynecological surgeries. Funds will also be used to purchase an equipment bundle, specific to gynecological uses, that can be used with an existing laparoscopic tower in an operating room in the main hospital building.

This means that emergency surgical care with best-in-class technology will now be available 24/7.

"Above all, this is about patient safety," says HSC Gynecologic Oncologist Dr. Erin Dean. "These investments by donors support minimally invasive surgery, which represents the highest standard of care. The technology means we can work with smaller incisions, which means less risk of herniation and infection. The equipment allows surgeons to have much better visualization during surgery, which leads to greater precision. The new software and equipment allow us to provide exceptional emergency surgical care, without compromise, at any time of day or night."

Emergency gynecological surgeries include procedures for ovarian torsion (when the ovary twists around the tissue that supports it) and ectopic pregnancy (when a fertilized egg implants outside of the uterus). Sometimes, these surgeries can be scheduled, but often these conditions require immediate attention.



*HSC Gynecologic Oncologist Dr. Erin Dean: "...the new software and equipment allow us to provide exceptional emergency surgical care, without compromise, at any time of day or night."*

***"Above all, this is about patient safety. These investments by donors support minimally invasive surgery, which represents the highest standard of care."***

***— Dr. Erin Dean***

"Not only did the Foundation's campaign make these specific upgrades possible, it shone a spotlight on the unique nature of women's health," says Dr. Dean. "The fact that donors understood this and responded generously is gratifying and important for the future of women's health care in Manitoba."

The campaign was led by Katie Hall Hursh, a member of the HSC Foundation's volunteer community Board and Chair of the Fundraising Committee.

"I am positively thrilled, but not at all surprised, by the success of the gynecology campaign," says Hursh. "Once again, Manitobans—many of whom were first time donors to the Health Sciences Centre Foundation—have proven the depths of their generosity. Because of them, women from all over our province will have access to timely, state-of-the-art surgical care when they need it."

# Record-breaking \$220,194 Raised During Innovation HSC Radiothon

Annual event improves care for thousands of patients every year



*Trina Wall, grateful patient and HSC Foundation volunteer, shares the courageous story of her battle with—and recovery from—cancer.*

On January 20, the Health Sciences Centre Foundation raised a record-breaking \$220,194 during our 17th-annual Innovation HSC Radiothon, presented by Maric Homes. Generous Manitobans called, clicked, walked up, and texted their donations in support of improving care at HSC Winnipeg, Manitoba’s hospital.

From 6 AM to 6 PM, listeners tuned in to 680 CJOB, Power 97, and Peggy 99.1 to hear from grateful patients throughout the province who shared their health-care journeys, as well as doctors, researchers, and frontline health care providers who shared insights and innovations from HSC.

“Every donor who supported our Innovation HSC Radiothon will make a difference in the lives of the many thousands of Manitobans who rely on HSC every year,” says Jonathon Lyon, President & CEO, HSC Foundation. “On behalf of the Board, staff, and volunteers of the HSC Foundation, I want to thank everyone who contributed to the success of this event. As the HSC Foundation continues to fundraise for Operation Excellence—the largest campaign in our history—Radiothon proceeds will help revitalize and refocus HSC as a surgical centre of excellence and innovation.”



*Patient Darlene Roth-Chaloner talks about her rare fungal infection and the ongoing excellent care from Dr. John Embil, an internationally recognized specialist in infectious diseases at HSC.*

This year, Innovation HSC Radiothon donations included matching gifts from Access Credit Union, Arbor Memorial, Johnston Group, Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company, and Manitoba pork producers. Monthly Giving Partners, Birchwood Automotive Group and Payworks, matched monthly donations.

“Maric Homes is proud to have partnered with the HSC Foundation since 2000 with 13 years of lottery support and seven years as Presenting Partner of the Innovation HSC Radiothon,” says Tanya Maric, VP Operations, Maric Homes. “Not only have we seen the impact of fundraising on the lives of Manitobans, we have personally experienced HSC’s outstanding health care. The continued excellent care HSC provides has deeply touched so many Manitobans and as Presenting Partner, we are proud to continue to support the HSC Foundation.”



*Gérald Danais (left), owner and President of Zoomfone—Innovation HSC Radiothon Pre-Calling Partner—shares an embrace with Trina Wall, grateful patient and HSC Foundation volunteer, after her interview.*

Money raised through the Radiothon enables the HSC Foundation to improve patient care at HSC through important research initiatives, the acquisition of cutting-edge medical equipment, and the development of new state-of-the-art facilities. Current fundraising priorities include Operation Excellence, the HSC Foundation’s bold six-year, 100 million dollar plan that will help end surgical and diagnostic wait lists while acquiring equipment that will improve patient outcomes and position HSC for sustained excellence; Innovation HSC, an annual campaign to support health care excellence at HSC; developing a unit for epilepsy and neurosurgery patients at HSC; and other initiatives.

# Women’s Hospital Nurse Shining Example of Care Given—and Received—on HSC Campus

HSC staff member; mentor; patient; and mom to patient—Karmen Bridges shares her story in honour of HSC’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary



*Karmen Bridges (right), has been a nurse at HSC Winnipeg Women’s Hospital for eight years, delivered her two children there, and her son has received emergency care at HSC Winnipeg Children’s Hospital.*

How many adults can say that they became what their five-year-old self wanted to be when they grew up? Karmen Bridges can.

By grade one, Bridges knew she wanted to work in obstetrics—the branch of medicine that specializes in caring for women during pregnancy, childbirth, and post partum. Bridges’s interest was first piqued by the infamous TV show, *A Baby Story*, and was further inspired by her high school biology teacher.

At 18, Bridges moved from Russell to Brandon to study nursing and since graduating from Brandon University eight years ago, Bridges has been a nurse, specializing in obstetrics, at HSC. Today, Bridges is a clinical nurse educator at HSC Winnipeg Women’s Hospital.

Since HSC Women’s Hospital treats the highest-risk maternity patients between Ontario and British Columbia, Bridges has cared for some of the sickest moms and

babies. “If some of these patients weren’t pregnant, they would be in the ICU,” says Bridges, who has worked on all units at HSC Women’s Hospital and is currently the educator on the Labour and Delivery Unit.

During her time at HSC Women’s Hospital, Bridges has provided

compassionate care to thousands of moms—including one of her friends who delivered on Bridges’s first day back at work from her own maternity leave.

As one of five nurse educators at HSC Women’s Hospital, Bridges mentors the next generation of nurses. In fact, one of those nurses—Marilyne—was Bridges’s obstetrics nurse when she delivered Kenton, her second child, at HSC Women’s Hospital.

***“I have seen the health care team here [at HSC Women’s Hospital] save many lives—there’s nowhere else I’d want to go. Marilyne was so smart, thorough, and caring. And she also knew that something wasn’t right after Kenton was born.”***

***— Karmen Bridges***

“I have seen the health care team here save many lives—there’s nowhere else I’d want to go. Marilyne was so smart, thorough, and caring. And she also knew that something wasn’t right after Kenton was born,” says Bridges.



*Karmen Bridges knew she wanted to work in obstetrics since she was five years old.*



*Karmen Bridges with son Kenton: "I have seen the health care team here [at HSC Women's Hospital] save many lives—there's nowhere else I'd want to go. Marilyne was so smart, thorough, and caring. And she also knew that something wasn't right after Kenton was born."*

When Bridges was 36 weeks pregnant with Kenton, she required an iron transfusion that triggered a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. Bridges's legs turned black and blue, her heartrate spiked, and Kenton's heart rate flattened. After hers and Kenton's heart rate stabilized, she was discharged—but felt something wasn't quite right.

When Bridges delivered Kenton two weeks later, he was born through thick meconium (stool ingested when the infant is in the uterus), which he aspirated at birth. Kenton's skin appeared dusky, he slept often, and his breathing was laboured. Upon learning that his breathing was three times faster than normal, Bridges and Kenton rushed to HSC Children's Hospital Emergency.

The next nearly four weeks in the hospital was a taxing journey of studies, appointments, and hoping for answers. Kenton went through genetic testing and swallow studies, and had two lung biopsies before he was five weeks old. After the second biopsy, a foreign substance was discovered deep in Kenton's lungs: meconium consolidation, which doctors expected caused an atypical pneumonia. After it was determined safe to do so, Kenton was discharged with an oxygen monitor and a feeding tube to recover at home.



*L-R: Kenton, Kyle, Karmen, and Everly Bridges. The Bridges are an extraordinary example of care given—and received—on the HSC campus.*

At 10 months old, Kenton received an x-ray that showed his lungs were clear of the meconium. He has scar tissue and a puffer in case he needs; otherwise, Kenton is a happy, healthy baby.

"HSC is an amazing place—we are lucky to have some of the best care in the country right here in Manitoba. Donations to the hospital help enable that care and help patients and their families receive the best treatment possible during some of the worst times of their life," says Bridges.

*This year marks 150 years of health care leadership, compassion, and innovation—beginning with the establishment of the Winnipeg General Hospital (WGH) in December 1872. In 1972, the WGH merged with Children's Hospital of Winnipeg and The Manitoba Rehabilitation Hospital—D.A. Stewart Centre (Respiratory Hospital) and became Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg (HSC).*

*For the past 50 years, HSC has continued to be a leader in Manitoba and across Canada.*

*Keep an eye on [hscfoundation.mb.ca](http://hscfoundation.mb.ca) throughout the year to learn more about the history of Manitoba's provincial tertiary hospital, and how technology and services have advanced, thanks to donor support.*

# Winnipeg Jet Jerseys Spotted at PsychHealth

The Winnipeg Jets bring plenty of smiles to staff and patients at HSC



Patients of the HSC PsychHealth Child and Adolescent Inpatient Unit were overjoyed to meet members of the Winnipeg Jets on Dec. 5, 2022. Jets pictured (L to R): Dylan DeMelo, Blake Wheeler, Dominic Toninato, Connor Hellebuyck, and Josh Morrissey.

The Winnipeg Jets have had a good start to the NHL season, but they've also brought plenty of smiles, a few tears of joy, and holiday spirit to patients and staff on the HSC PsychHealth Child and Adolescent Unit.



Some of the patients couldn't hold back their tears of excitement when meeting their favourite players and getting their autographs.

On December 5, 2022, Winnipeg Jets players Dylan DeMelo, Connor Hellebuyck, Josh Morrissey, Dominic Toninato, and Blake Wheeler traded in their helmets for Santa hats to spend time with some of their biggest fans.

The patients, aged 12–17, were overjoyed to meet their on-ice heroes, and more than a few shed happy tears. But tears of joy didn't stop the patients from going all out when it came to beating Hellebuyck at a paper jet contest or beating DeMelo TWICE at air hockey. Morrissey would have won in an NHL 20 videogame matchup, but a well-timed press of the off button means there's no proof of that.

"It's quite an amazing feeling when you see a smile on a kid's face—maybe their day is a little better because of us coming to visit," says Morrissey, Alternate Captain and defenceman.



Winnipeg Jet Dylan DeMelo down one goal in a very close air hockey game with a patient.

"Our unit, which provides care to patients under 18 from across Manitoba and parts of Nunavut who require an acute psychiatric admission to hospital, was radiating with joy long after the visit. We can't thank the Winnipeg Jets enough for spreading cheer to patients and staff alike," says Christal Nicholson, Manager of Patient Care for HSC's Mental Health Program.

Thank you to the Winnipeg Jets for a wonderful visit that put staff and patients in the festive spirit, and best of luck in the rest of your season.

To make your donation today, visit [hscfoundation.mb.ca](https://hscfoundation.mb.ca)  
or call 204-515-5612 or 1-800-679-8493 (toll-free).

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