

REPORT ON **Your Support**

TORONTO GENERAL & WESTERN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION NEWS

Winter 2004



Five years after her transplant operation, Sharon Andrews and her husband, Darryl Heffernan enjoyed a cruise through the Caribbean

The Priceless Gift of Life

Sharon Andrews' active and healthy life took a frightening turn when she developed liver disease. It steadily grew to the point where liver transplantation was the only choice left to save Sharon's life. "While the idea of a transplant shook me," she says, "the possibility of a new liver gave me hope for the life I had planned with my family, to do all the things I'd dreamed of."

The 1996 holiday season is one Sharon will never forget. With pneumonia and her liver in failure, she needed blood transfusions just to make it through Christmas. Admitted to Toronto General Hospital on Boxing Day, she knew everything depended on the liver transplant.

In preparation for the next step, Sharon struggled to regain her health. Recalling her anxiety she says, "After you're terrified that you need a transplant, you're horrified that you might not qualify to get one." Finally, she was well enough to be admitted into the Multi-Organ Transplant Program – her journey had begun.

That was seven years ago and since then, Sharon has not only generously given to the Program but has mentored several of its patients. She has high praise for the medical and nursing staff whose expertise makes the miracle of organ transplants possible – and marvels at the advances being made. Sharon enthusiastically encourages all her family members to sign their organ donor cards. She is ever grateful for what she calls, "an incredibly generous and selfless gift that allowed me to live my life".

"Our team has successfully increased the number of organ donations, conducted landmark research in growing new organs through regenerative medicine and assisted in developing new medicines that help prevent organ rejection."

Dr. Gary Levy, Medical Director of the Multi-Organ Transplant Program

The Transplant Centre: A World-Class Model of Care

Over the past decade, the Multi-Organ Transplant Program at University Health Network has given thousands of patients a second chance at life and has enhanced life for many more.

The largest such program in Canada, it has achieved world firsts in transplant care and treatment including the recently celebrated 20-year anniversary of the world's first successful lung transplant. The Program continues to build on this legacy of excellence as transplantation research evolves.

Now for the first time in the Program's history, pre-eminent surgeons, physician specialists and scientists can collaborate in one consolidated facility – The Transplant Centre, located at Toronto General Hospital.

Occupying four floors in the new Clinical Services Building, the Transplant Centre is crucial to meeting the demand for organ transplants, expected to at least double in the next five years. In Canada alone, close to 4,000 individuals are waiting for transplants, representing an increase of over 100% in the last decade.

See inside for what makes the Transplant Centre one of the most sophisticated in the world.

Did you know...

Organ donations from living donors can significantly reduce the waiting time for transplant candidates and have the advantage of ensuring that the surgery is thoroughly planned and prepared for by recipient, donor, and transplant team.

Next-Generation Equipment

Enhances Transplant Care at Toronto General Hospital

The Transplant Centre, opened late November 2003, is set atop the new Clinical Services Building. This one-of-a-kind clinical facility allows University Health Network to do what it does best – the most complex surgeries in Canada including close to 300 delicate organ transplants every year.

Dr. Gary Levy is Medical Director of the Multi-Organ Transplant Program, which treats thousands of patients who depend on the most advanced care possible. "By bringing together all aspects of the Program into one new sophisticated location, we will be able to meet the escalating demand for transplants," he says.

The infrastructure planned for the Transplant Centre is state-of-the-art. Some of the best medical equipment on the continent is already installed in the new surgical suites, designed to support transplant. A dedicated Acute Care Unit is equipped to provide the intensive, specialized care required following transplant surgery. Pressurized isolation

rooms protect transplant patients, who are highly susceptible to infection. A unique Medical Day Unit will provide transplant patients with the ongoing care they need (such as anti-rejection treatments) on a cost-effective, outpatient basis. Eileen Young, Senior Transplant Coordinator, says, "The top-notch design, equipment and services mean we can offer the continuum of care our patients need – from assessment, to surgery, to post-transplant acute care and regular follow-up."

We invite the community to consider supporting the equipment needs in our Transplant Centre. For thousands of patients, these machines and medical technological tools contribute to their second chance at life. Opportunities include video bronchoscopes for monitoring post-transplant lungs, exercise apparatus for rehabilitation, and diagnostic imaging machines, to name just a few.

For more information on how you can help, please contact Krista O'Donnell at (416)-340-4009.



Betty Watt in one of the new operating theatres at Toronto General Hospital

Transplants Then and Now

"In the not-too-distant-past, a living donor organ transplant looked something like this. A donor and surgeon were in one operating room (OR) and a recipient and surgeon in another. With the clock ticking and surgery underway, assisting physicians made careful observations in each OR and immediately reported back to confirm anatomical information so their respective surgeons could complete the procedures.

Today, Toronto General Hospital has the most sophisticated surgical communications system available in the world. Overhead monitors in each OR show the surgery in progress – in perfect resolution. Transplant surgeons can see and talk to each other – it's the ultimate in effective procedure and time-efficiency – and this, in the end, results in excellent patient outcomes. As well, images can be relayed to anywhere in the world, making the system invaluable for medical training, education and research."

Betty Watt, former Nurse Manager of Toronto General Hospital's Operating Rooms and Post-Anaesthesia Care Unit

Announcing the "Circle of Life" Monthly Giving Program

Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation is privileged to have a special group of individuals who make pre-authorized donations each month. Their commitment is a tremendous support to funding medical research so vital to enhanced patient care. We are pleased to recognize and welcome our monthly donors as members of our *Circle of Life Monthly Giving Program*.

Monthly giving is a convenient way to spread your donation over the entire year, saving the cost and time of writing and mailing cheques. It lets you budget your generosity throughout the year – and

you receive a single, cumulative tax receipt at year-end. You may choose to have funds withdrawn regularly from your bank account or from your credit card. It's easy, and you may update or cancel the arrangement at any time.

For as little as \$10 a month (over one calendar year) you automatically become a member of The Frederick Banting Society. Circle of Life members will be recognized as a special group within The Frederick Banting Society and will receive invitations to hospital events throughout the year.

To all of our monthly donors – please accept our heartfelt thanks and welcome to the Circle of Life!

If you would like to join this circle of nearly 700 special friends, please contact Nicole Graham at (416) 340-4800, ext. 6884 or visit www.tgwhf-uhn.ca.



Support a Scientist:

Meet Dr. Li Zhang

Dr. Li Zhang is an internationally recognized transplant immunologist. All transplant patients are at risk for contracting diseases due to a depletion of cells that help the body fight off infection. Dr. Zhang's goal reflects the dream immunologists and clinicians have had for many years – to find a way of avoiding transplant rejection without weakening the immune system.

Having received medical training in organ transplantation, Dr. Zhang was drawn to a research career at UHN – home to Canada's leading Multi-Organ Transplant Program. Although inspired by the benefits of transplants, Dr. Zhang recognized the magnitude of the problems of rejection. The immunosuppressed state causes many transplant recipients to suffer infection.

Dr. Zhang has devoted herself to understanding the mechanisms that control immune responses after transplantation. Her lab, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, was the *first in the world* to identify cells present in the body that play a key role in promoting transplantation tolerance. Through regenerative medicine, which uses the body's own cells to repair or grow new cells, Dr. Zhang hopes to develop a therapy using these tolerance-promoting cells. This promises improved graft acceptance, increasing the chance of survival and quality of life for transplant patients.



Dr. Li Zhang, Senior Scientist, Division of Cellular and Molecular Biology at the Toronto General Research Institute and Wyeth-Ayerst/CIHR Clinical Research Chair in Transplantation

Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation invites you to Support a Scientist like Dr. Li Zhang. Every dollar you give enables our scientists to advance medical research in many areas.

To find out more about how you can Support a Scientist of your choice, please contact Andrea Blackler at (416) 340-4800 ext. 7379.

The Generosity of an Old Friend

James Graham Hunter was an avid music and art lover. He was an intelligent man with broad interests and therefore might have chosen any number of organizations to support other than Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation. But for one important reason, Mr. Hunter decided to leave the Foundation a bequest well in excess of \$1 million.

Why? Toronto General Hospital was *his* hospital. For much of his life, he'd lived just blocks away and it was like 'home' to him. He liked the people. He liked the wards. When he had to come, either for his own health or to visit a sick friend, he liked the way he was treated, from the receptionists, to the physicians to the caretakers in the old Bell Wing, a favourite local rendezvous spot for him.

Mr. Hunter not only felt he was receiving the best possible care – he felt *comfortable* here and expressed his wishes by arranging for a gift in his will of undesignated funds. The Foundation welcomes all gifts and it is a special privilege to receive bequest donations specified as undesignated. These funds can be directed to changing needs as they arise. They are vital, as they also meet needs relevant in the future.

Undesignated donations allow us to direct funds to the highest priorities of our hospitals.

Perhaps for Mr. Hunter, this made the most sense of all, because he had confidence in the Hospital that had become like a friend. His generosity will enable us to continue our work – and to honour that trust.

The Gift Planning Program at Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation provides a variety of giving options to support leading-edge research and care – both now and for the future. If you would like more information on these different ways of giving, please contact Paul Grossman, Major Gifts Officer, at (416) 340-4854.

The Supper Club



Jossy and his Orchestra kept guests dancing to the tunes of the 1930s all night long

The glamour and style of the 1930s was clearly apparent at The Supper Club – a first-time Foundation event held November 22, 2003 at the Design Exchange. Over 200 guests enjoyed the evening and raised over \$140,000 for neuroscience, heart, transplantation and minimally invasive surgery research. Sincere thanks to our donors and all who contributed to this new event's success. Special thanks to presenting sponsors IBK Capital Corp. and The Panigas Group of Companies Ltd., as well as to CIBC World Markets Inc., AIM Trimark Investments, Mitchell Sandham Group, RBC Capital Markets, First Professional Management Inc., CI Fund Management Inc., BMO Harris Private Banking and Medtronic of Canada.



Have Fun and Support a Great Cause

Coordinating a group event – an excellent way to support your hospitals

A special event is an excellent way to get involved in your community and to support programs at Toronto General Hospital and Toronto Western Hospital. Your event can be a fun, creative way to get together with family, friends and colleagues while at the same time helping your hospitals offer excellent patient care and lead in medical research and education.

Any activity that brings people together to have fun can be an event. From "A-thons" of any kind to cook-offs, theme parties, mystery events, sporting events to tours of any kind.

Not only can your event be fun, but it can also be easy to coordinate. Recruit your friends and family to help brainstorm ideas for an event that excites you – from a dinner party to a golf tournament, the possibilities are endless.

You don't have to do it alone! We will provide guidance to help make your event a success.



A great day on the green can support a great cause



Through the Lew Dunn Memorial Golf Tournament, the Dunn family raised \$167,000 in 2003 to support Dr. Richard Reznick and colorectal oncology research

Your event will support a TGH or TWH area of your choice. Last year alone these events raised over \$400,000 and made many other people aware of the wonderful work being accomplished at our hospitals.

For more information, please contact the Events Department at (416) 340-3935 for an information package or to speak with one of our Event Coordinators.

upcoming events

March 27, 2004

The 5th Annual "A Night to Celebrate"

La Primavera Banquet Hall, Vaughan
Proceeds to colon cancer research, education, equipment and clinical care, TGH

May 4, 2004

The 8 Ball

The Academy of Spherical Arts, Toronto
Proceeds to benefit The Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, TGH

June 13, 2004

The 2nd Annual Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion

Proceeds to benefit Spinal Cord Injury Research at the Krembil Neuroscience Centre, TWH

June 28, 2004

The 7th Annual Legacy Golf Tournament

Devil's Pulpit Golf Club, Caledon
Proceeds to benefit cardiac research at The Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, TGH

October 15, 2004

The Hope Ball

Proceeds to benefit the Krembil Neuroscience Centre, TWH



The Frederick Banting Society

Continuing a tradition of excellence

MEMBERS' CORNER

The Frederick Banting Society recognizes donors who contribute \$100 to \$24,999 in a calendar year. Over 5,700 Society members help us continue to support the life-changing medical research and education initiatives that lead to enhanced patient care at Toronto General Hospital and Toronto Western Hospital.

Upcoming for Members

You are invited to our spring "Behind the Scenes" Tour on June 10, 2004 at Toronto General Hospital. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

Also, you'll soon be receiving your Annual Members' Listing in the mail, if you haven't already received it. *Thank you very much for your support!*

How do I Become a Member?

If you are interested in becoming a member of The Frederick Banting Society and would like more information, please call (416) 340-4800, ext. 6884.

We welcome your support!

Together we make life better.

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University Health Network