

THE CHECKUP



www.northernlightshealthfoundation.ca/donate

Spring/Summer 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Dear friends,

You know the ancient saying – may you live in interesting times. It sounds pretty good on the surface but when you are living through interesting and ever changing times, it can feel like a curse. Fear not as this pandemic, like the wildfires and floods we've experienced, will pass and we will all be together again.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing commitment to the Northern Lights Health Foundation. Your donations and sponsorships have never been more important to ensure the stability of the foundation and enable us to fund important and impactful health resources in our region.

We had intended to celebrate our 35th Anniversary with you at the Roaring 2020's Spring Fling, at the exciting Hospital Bed Races, and of course the enchanting Festival of Trees. While some of these events have been cancelled or postponed due to the need for social distancing, the Foundation is seeking virtual opportunities to connect and is engaged in fundraising through donor contact and solicitation.

I also want to take this moment to thank the Health Foundation Board and staff for their leadership throughout the pandemic and social isolation period. Together/Apart really described our working relationship but we remained committed to our mission to support the excellent work of our healthcare professionals throughout the regional AHS facilities.

Please enjoy this spring update and know that you make an impact on healthcare in this region each and every day.

Sincerely,

Melanie Antoine

Chair, Northern lights Health Foundation Board of Directors

No Pause in Our **Mission!**

Closed doors, masks, no contact, and a focus on pandemic response doesn't stop the other activities that support great patient and community healthcare. So, although we cannot be together for our fundraising events and gatherings at this moment, the Health Foundation is not pausing in our mission of 'Engaging people, inspiring philanthropy and securing funds to improve health and promote wellness in Wood Buffalo.'

At times like this it is more important than ever to ensure that the Health Foundation continues to have funds available for emergent requests from AHS for the Northern Lights Health Centre, Addictions and Mental Health, Seniors Health & Continuing Care, and for Public, Indigenous and Population Health. We continue to support AHS and are dedicated to maintaining our foundation operations and championing the fundraising required to ensure healthcare services, programs, technology and facilities needs are met.

Our community has been through so much the past five years and today these turbulent times continue in multiple facets of our lives. Flooding, pandemic, economic downturn, and reduced employment all have an effect on our community. What we know is we must take action today to make sure we can respond as needed with what is needed.

Generous donors are stepping forward with cash donations to our Greatest Need Fund and we are seeking your support. We would like to acknowledge the donations from Enbridge Pipelines, Husky Energy, Suncares, Syncrude, and from private donors just like you. Please join them in making a charitable donation to the Health Foundation's Greatest Need Fund today.

DONATE TODAY!



Signature Events: Special Announcement

We are very privileged to announce that Syncrude Canada Ltd. has confirmed to be the Presenting Sponsor of Festival of Trees and Spring Fling through to 2023! The pledge of \$450,000 over three years (2021-2023), demonstrates Syncrude's commitment to the people of this region and the company's desire to support community development and healthcare initiatives at the highest level.

For 35 years, Syncrude and the Health Foundation have built the Festival of Trees and Spring Fling signature events and we are very excited to continue this amazing relationship. We also want to acknowledge that with such uncertainty currently around hosting large gatherings and events, this level of commitment gives us the energy and financial support to explore new ways to raise up the cause and keep you engaged.

These fabulous signature events, have always revolved around you – our generous sponsors, attendees, participants, volunteers, community members, and donors. You are the center of all we do and we want to ensure our events represent you. You, your family, your employees, your co-workers and your friends and neighbors are also the recipients of the healthcare services you invest in through these events. We cannot lose the impact of your support, which is critical to funding the technology, equipment and facilities vital to our evolving healthcare needs.

The Festival of Trees Committee is already hard at work preparing a new and unique festival for November which considers social distancing actions. We think you are going to have a lot of fun and truly enjoy the seasonal look and feel in exciting new ways.

Syncrude's announcement of Presenting Sponsor for Festival of Trees and Spring Fling well into the future ensures that the Health Foundation is ready to host events when and how we are able. We're getting ready for a slightly different but exciting approach to signature events and we want to thank Syncrude for their enduring support!



We can #WinItTogether!

Support **YOUR** local Health Foundation and Health Service Providers



If the first few months of 2020 have taught us anything, it is that health is everyone's right and responsibility.

Building and maintaining high quality health services locally takes a dedicated team of health practioners and generous donations from grateful community members just like you. We are all in this together, and together we will ensure health services, facilities, technology and programs are here when you need them.

Please support our Foundation and Health Service Providers by purchasing a 50/50 ticket today!

Get your tickets [HERE](#)

DEADLINE TO BUY A TICKET IS JUNE 30, 2020
DRAW DATE IS JULY 7, 2020

It is June and it's a good time to make a donation in support of your local health foundation! And, if you make your donation through this CanadaHelps portal you will give us a chance to win \$20,000 in the Great Canadian Giving Challenge! We would love an extra \$20,000 to advance healthcare initiatives in our region.

It's been a tough winter and spring but we are #InItTogether and maybe we can #WinItTogether. Make your donation today!

www.canadahelps.org

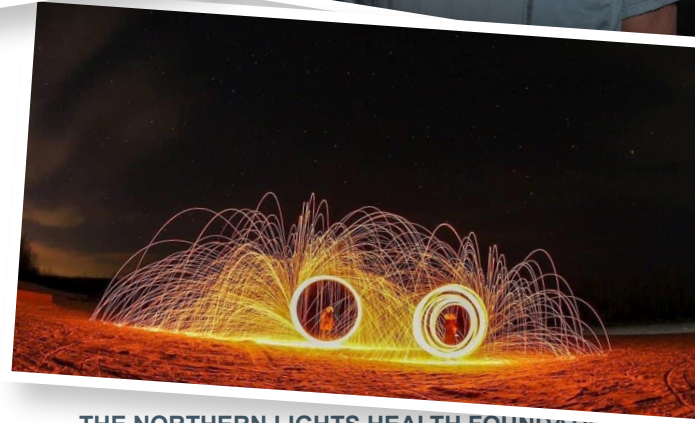
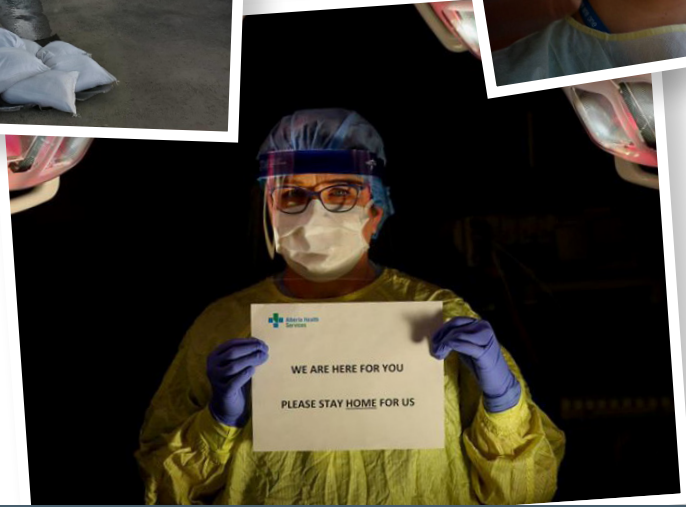
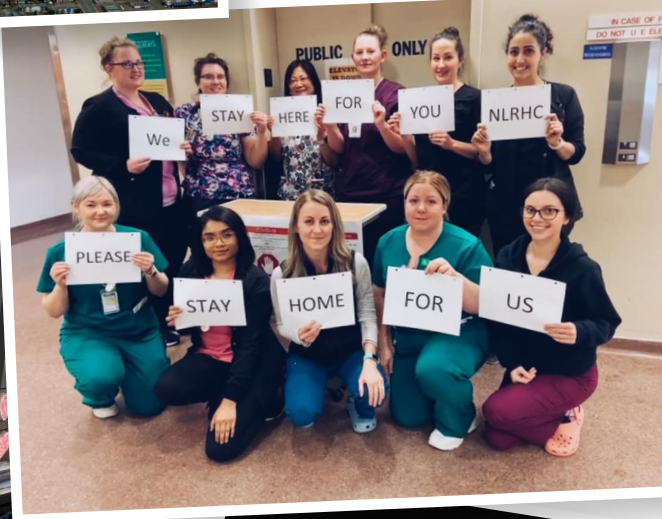


JUNE 1 - 30

HELP US WIN \$20,000! EVERY DOLLAR YOU DONATE IS A CHANCE FOR US TO WIN.

DONATE TODAY

GivingChallenge.ca



Palliative Care Project: **Complete**

We are so pleased to announce the completion of the Jeremy Snook Memorial Palliative Suites. The Palliative Suites are one of eight projects funded through the \$16M Gratitude Campaign. We wish to thank all our Gratitude Campaign donors for the significant impact you have made on healthcare in our region and want to remind you of the difference you are making, every single day.

By now, we hope you have seen the beautiful photos and videos of the three large Palliative Suites. Each suite features a patient room, a family room (with kitchenette and a convertible couch/bed for overnight stays), and a shared bathroom. In addition, a secure family lounge has been created to allow a quiet refuge. Each suite is generous, with room for family and friends to gather, for end of life ceremonies, for consultation with medical staff, and space for quiet contemplation and grieving.

These suites are designed to provide patients and their families with a serene and comforting space. It is also a space designed to meet the needs of the healthcare professionals, where they can provide the best possible specialized end of life compassionate care for their patients.

The ward of suites has been named the Jeremy Snook Memorial Palliative Suites in honour of the beloved son of Brian and Gail Snook who passed away in 2014. Brian and Gail were instrumental in creating and running the Jeremy Snook Memorial Raffle and attracting multiple donations and attention to the palliative suites project. The three individual suites are named for the lead donors to the palliative suites project – the Imperial Oil Suite to acknowledge a major gift from Imperial Oil and the Imperial Oil Foundation, the RE/MAX Fort McMurray Suite to acknowledge the tremendous efforts and funds received from Lance Bussieres and his family of agents, and the Fouts Family Suite to acknowledge the campaign leadership and senior level funding from Dan & Janet Fouts.

This project could not have been started or completed without the generosity of our donors. Unfortunately, we are not able to gather at this time to celebrate the completion of the Jeremy Snook Memorial Palliative Suites, but please know that the suites will soon be available to provide end of life care in our region. Without our Gratitude Campaign donors, none of this would be possible. Thank you!



To see the full story of the opening of the
Jeremy Snook Memorial Palliative Care
Suites check out this video:

[Jeremy Snook Memorial Palliative Care Suites
Grand Opening](#)

Acts of **Care** in Support of Healthcare



We adopted a hashtag in the early days of the coronavirus pandemic - #COVIDCantStopGood and find it's the perfect descriptor for the great acts of good we see in our community.

Over the past months, the Health Foundation and the hospital have received numerous offers of support and acts of kindness from all areas of the community. Gratitude for healthcare workers has been expressed in posters, hearts in windows, cards, and painted rocks, and through gift cards for meals and goods, and discounts at stores and gas stations. Frontline workers received handmade scrub bags, mask holders, and other comfort items.

Volunteers rushed to help when flood waters threatened to reach the hospital. With many hands working together, a barrier of sandbags was quickly erected in the staff parking lot. Volunteers have been connecting to patients and residents through letters and by doing virtual concerts. The creativity of the community and the desire to help is evident everywhere.

In this issue of The Checkup we are shining a spotlight on the volunteer activities of Naseem Abdo who was recently named a Suncor Energy Foundation SunCares Changemaker. Naseem is well-known to the Health Foundation as a driving force behind the Markaz-UI-Islamic Congregation of Fort McMurray toy and cash drives. We are always astounded when Naseem and co-fundraisers bring in boxes and boxes of children's toys and items from their very successful initiatives. These gifts are distributed to the pediatrics, Diagnostic Imaging, Allied Health and Emergency

departments and certainly make a child's visit to the hospital easier.

The SunCares Changemakers program recognizes and celebrates Suncor employees who go above and beyond in their communities and annually identifies five employees as SunCares Changemakers. Each Changemaker identifies a community organization(s) of their choice. Criteria for selection is based on a number of factors including volunteer efforts, creation of community initiatives or programs, making a significant impact in community and personal donations. In addition to recognition, the Suncor Energy Foundation made a donation of \$6,500 to the Health Foundation to honour Naseem's great community work.

"Naseem exhibits what it truly means to be a Changemaker in his community based on his work with the Markaz-UI-Islamic Congregation of Fort McMurray," says Joanne Manser, Suncor Energy Foundation senior advisor. "Naseem underscores the deep commitment Suncor employees have to their communities and to making a difference in the world. We are truly inspired by Naseem, and incredibly proud to recognize his accomplishments." We would like to echo those comments and offer our congratulations and gratitude for Naseem's support of the Health Foundation.

SUNCARES
SUNCOR EMPLOYEES IN COMMUNITY



Naseem - second from right

Community Gives Back

Thank you to Husky Energy for a \$5,000 donation towards our Greatest Needs Fund which shows that we are #InItTogether. Pictured here are some of the staff at the Husky Sunrise site showing their support for healthcare workers.



To celebrate National Nurses Week, Nelli Wati, owner of Balloon Moose Studio, created and sold these sweet balloon nurse treats and donated all funds to the Health Foundation.



A Gratitude Rock Garden is forming at the Health Foundation Centre. Started by art teachers of the District this is a colorful way to welcome healthcare workers.



The Fort McMurray Bengali Association donated \$500 to the Northern Lights Health Foundation!

Pictured clockwise from top left:
Aniket, Ila, Sudarshana (President of Fort McMurray Bengali Association), Joy, Rituparna, Shuvankar, Moumita, Hridisha and Suman

The Health Foundation thanks you!



at the Northern Lights Health
Fort McMurray Public School
e staff to the hospital each day.

We've been braving the elements in Fort McMurray for generations. Now we can suit up in our Mac City gear and carry on in style. Hats, Tees, hoodies — even mugs and stickers — you can buy them online today and stay strong. What's more, the MacCity clothing line contributes 25% of all profits to the Northern Lights Health Foundation. Show Mac City some love: greenmerch.com/mac-city



Your Previous Contributions at Work During the Pandemic

Where does my donation money go and how does it make a difference? We receive these two questions frequently and are always able to demonstrate the importance of your funding. Funds raised at events, through 3rd party fundraising, by working casinos, and donations to our Greatest Needs fund are pooled to maximize the projects we can support to AHS in our region. We also receive grants and donations from industry partners allocated to major projects.

As we celebrate the Health Foundation's 35th anniversary we look back on the impact of over \$75M invested in healthcare locally. We can't be together during this pandemic so we thought we would revisit some of our previous funding announcements and show you the impact your support is having that allows the Northern Lights Health Centre to continue to treat patients with care and compassion.

MATERNAL CARE

Donors to the Health Foundation funded the expansion of the Maternal Care ward of the Northern Lights Health Centre including adding more patient rooms, creating the family waiting room, the expansion of the Non-Stress Test (NST) Clinic, and the creation of the Special Care Nursery. Donor funding purchased the Panda infant warmers and resuscitation units, the Telehealth connectivity to the Stollery Children's Hospital, the ambulatory fetal monitors and the infant bassinets. Your donations also funded the creation of the Pediatrics cleanroom with isolette incubators for infants requiring bili light therapy. On average 100 babies are delivered each month at the hospital and your donations are giving mothers and infants the spaces and equipment required for their very best care.

MEDICINE, SURGERY AND ICU

Urgent care, emergency care, and surgical care are ongoing despite the pandemic. The Hospital receives patients from the region who are injured on the job, at home, in vehicle incidents, in off-road incidents, through all kinds of mishaps at home, or are suffering from heart attack, stroke or other chronic illness. Donor funding enabled the purchase of a central monitoring system which monitors patient vital signs like temperature, heart rate, oxygen, blood pressure, respiration and fluid in the heart.

The system effectively increased the Emergency Departments active beds from 4 to 25, and ICU's monitored patient beds from 6 to 8. In addition, the Health Foundation utilized donor funding to enable the purchase of portable monitors called telemetry units which are used in the ER, the surgical, medical and pediatrics wards. Your donations were also allocated to the creation of the spinal surgery unit and the expansion of orthopedic and orthoscopic surgery. Most recently, the Health Foundation Board of Directors allocated almost \$800k to the purchase of the OmniCell Drug Medication system which will soon be connected and in use throughout the hospital.

These are just a few examples of your donation dollars hard at work providing more and improved health services at the hospital. Please continue to give generously so that the healthcare you need will be available when you need it.

Ways to Make an Impact

With your support, we can have world class healthcare where and when you need it most, right here at home. Your generous gifts are crucial to ensuring we have the best care possible for everyone in our community. There are so many ways you can support healthcare.

Make a Donation - A donation is a quick and easy way to make a lasting impact. Consider becoming a monthly donor – it is easy, affordable and you will receive a tax receipt.

Honour your Healthcare Hero – Show your appreciation for the care you or a loved one received by taking part in the Health Foundation's Honour Your Hero program.

Leave a Legacy – Leave a bequest gift as part of your estate or life insurance plan to ensure your support for local healthcare lives on well beyond your lifetime.

Leave a Memory – Create a lasting memory of a loved one by making a donation or requesting donations to the Health Foundation in lieu of flowers. Our *In Memory Wall* is located on the main floor of the hospital and viewed by hundreds of visitor's every day.

Sponsor a Signature Event – Increase your company's visibility in the community while making an impact on health care. As a bonus you'll get tickets to the hottest events in town!

Volunteer – Festival of Trees, Spring Fling, and Hospital Bed Races take a large team of volunteers to be successful. Your time is valuable – make an impact by choosing to volunteer with us!

Come to our Events – Buy tickets to our fantastic events – Ugly Christmas Sweater Party, Ladies Holiday Luncheon, Festival of Trees Gala, Daddy Daughter Sugar Plum Fairy Ball and Spring Fling Gala all offer exciting opportunities for interaction and fun!

Host an Event – Support community healthcare with your friends, family or your workplace through hosting an independent fundraiser.

DONATE TODAY!

CONTACT US

We would love to talk to you about making a donation.

Please contact the Health Foundation at:

(780) 791-6041 or go online to www.northernlightshealthfoundation.ca



 NORTHERN LIGHTS
Health Foundation

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