

Believe

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Improving the Emergency Experience, Thanks to You

Donor-supported Emergency Department to open in 2025



Dr. Harold Peters says the new Emergency Department will be a modern space and will improve the patient and staff experiences at St. B.

As a community, we have almost reached our Emergency Department campaign goal. You can help St. B cross the finish line with a year-end gift that will have triple the impact, thanks to matching donors. (See next page for details!) Thank you for the gifts you have made in 2023.

St. Boniface Hospital's Emergency Department serves as the front door of the Hospital and, in many respects, the health-care system, says Dr. Harold Peters.

Peters has worked as a physician in the Emergency Department at St. B since 2017. "The first impressions of most patients and their family members are set in their experiences in our Emergency Department," he said.

"That shapes their experience of illness throughout their entire stay."

The populations the Emergency Department serves in Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario are growing. People are generally living longer, notes Peters. "So, disease is getting more complicated. The needs of the health-care system have been increasing significantly," he said.

Time and other factors have put pressure on the department, however. The Hospital's current Emergency Department was built in 1955 and has operated with minimal updates for almost 70 years.

"I can tell you our current infrastructure is overloaded. The building itself is relatively old, and that makes it difficult for us to manage increasingly complex issues with patients," Peters continued. Moving patients from the Emergency Department throughout the Hospital for diagnostics or treatment has become more difficult, owing to the aging facility, he added.

The redevelopment project currently underway at the Hospital will result in a modern space where Peters says he and his colleagues will be able to better offer compassionate, high-quality, advanced resuscitation and critical care to patients.

There's more! Read more of Dr. Peters' thoughts on the new Emergency Department in a longer version of this story at bealifeline.ca > Your Impact.

Thank you for supporting emergency care for all Manitobans at St. Boniface Hospital.



Karen's Corner

The holiday season is a busy time for most of us.

Here at St. Boniface Hospital Foundation, we have been busy preparing for, and enjoying, the many and multicultural celebrations that are held at this time of year. Since last month we have celebrated Diwali and Hanukkah. We are now preparing to observe Christmas. Soon, the start of another new year.

As we gather with our family and friends during the holidays this year, let's all remember to be grateful for the time we have with those we care most about.

Recently, St. Boniface Hospital re-committed to its plan to be more inclusive and a more comfortable place for everyone. The Hospital is a Catholic institution, founded by the Grey Nuns, but it is also a place that welcomes all cultural backgrounds and practices in every season.

Nicole Aminot, St. B's President and CEO, talked about why it is important for our Hospital to be an institution that reflects the diversity of our employees, our patients, and our larger community of caring.

"It is about celebrating major holidays and observances, sure, but beyond that it is about understanding and respecting each other," she said.

We at the Foundation could not agree more.

On behalf of our St. Boniface Hospital Foundation Board of Directors and staff, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas. For those who celebrate other major holidays and observances, I wish you a restful and restorative time together during the upcoming holiday season, and a happy new year.

In closing, I would like to thank you for giving so generously to patient care and medical research at St. Boniface Hospital in the past year.

Thank you from all of us.

Karen Fowler, CFRE
President & CEO
St. Boniface Hospital Foundation

In Brief: Foundation News

Martha Street Studio presents *Seasoned Ground*



Work by some of Manitoba's finest printmakers is on display – and up for sale – at the *Seasoned Ground* show at the Hospital's on-site Galerie Buhler Gallery, whose operation is supported in part by Foundation donors. The exhibition and sale opened on November 30.

"We are delighted to host an exhibition from our friends at Martha Street Studio," said hannah_g, Curator of the Galerie Buhler Gallery. "They are home to an amazing array of local artists who make exciting and beautiful work. We thought it would be fun to host a show during the holiday season where staff might find one or two gifts for loved ones – and that includes themselves!"

Seasoned Ground will remain open at the Galerie Buhler Gallery until January 28. Admission is free. Learn more at galeriebuhlergallery.ca.

Triple your impact!

Join matching donors Canada Life and Maple Leaf Construction until the end of December to make your next gift work **3x** harder for our new Emergency Department! Give at bealifeline.ca.

ft3 Architecture

EMERGENCY

PCL

Because of Your Support, Patti Survived SCAD

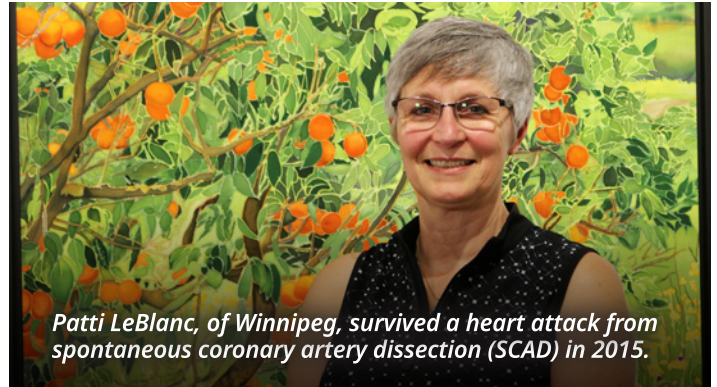
Patti LeBlanc didn't think lifting a slow cooker would send her into an ambulance. But in December of 2015, that's just what happened.

LeBlanc, 49, was loading up her car for a church potluck when she was hit with alarming sensations. She felt as though an elephant was pressing on her chest, her chin was sore, and she had pain in her jaw. Suddenly, she felt her left arm tingling.

"I started thinking the worst about what this could be. I didn't know the signs of a heart attack," said LeBlanc. "At my age, why would I?"

LeBlanc was ultimately diagnosed with spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD), which is a tear in the artery wall, reducing blood flow and often leading to a heart attack. "I was told as a SCAD survivor to take everything slowly, and to breathe," said LeBlanc. She knows how close she came to death.

Today, LeBlanc makes sure to cherish every moment. Each year, on the day of her heart attack, she reflects on what she was able to accomplish in the past year, including these in a letter to her care team.



Patti LeBlanc, of Winnipeg, survived a heart attack from spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD) in 2015.

"I want them to understand that because of their care, I'm still here. Because they saved my life, I was able to celebrate my granddaughter's first birthday. I was able to get back to running and doing what I love."

Patti LeBlanc's story continues at bealifeline.ca > Your Impact.

Our community of generous donors makes amazing things happen at St. Boniface Hospital. Thank you.

Truly Exceptional Emergency Care, Thanks to You



Lisa Raven, Réseau Compassion Network Board member, received "truly exceptional care" at St. Boniface Hospital's Emergency Department.

Last year, Réseau Compassion Network Board member Lisa Raven ended up in St. Boniface Hospital's Emergency Department for what she suspected was a stroke. St. B is one of Réseau Compassion Network's family of 13 service agencies working to serve Manitobans' needs across the continuum of care.

She was numb on one side, couldn't lift her arms above her head, and was worried. She headed to the Hospital, hoping for the best.

As an Indigenous woman, she felt a lot of support throughout her emergency care experience. Someone was always by her side, informing her and caring for her at each step. "It was so reassuring to have someone there with me," Raven said.

With staff regularly checking in on her, she was seen quickly by the emergency physician and sent for a more comprehensive MRI. They confirmed what she was experiencing was not a stroke, but acute migraine symptoms. Emergency Department staff promised to keep her under their watch until her symptoms were gone, and she felt well enough to go home.

Raven praised the Emergency Department staff for her exceptional care. "I really appreciated the communication and the care. The way I was treated and informed was really great," she remarked. "I often read about the bad experiences in health care, especially for Indigenous populations. But my experience was a really, really good one, and I think those need to be heard, too."

Your support means the best emergency care for people like Lisa Raven. Thank you.

Giving. Remembering. Celebrating.

Thank you to our many compassionate donors who have chosen to make gifts to St. Boniface Hospital Foundation in honour of those listed below.

Gifts recognized were made from from April 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023.

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St. Boniface Hospital Foundation is located on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the national homeland of the Red River Métis. We acknowledge that our water is sourced from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. We respect the treaties that were made on these territories and we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past. Recognizing that we are all treaty people, we dedicate our efforts towards a more loving and compassionate world as we all move forward in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.



Hôpital St-Boniface Hospital
FONDATION • FOUNDATION

C1026 – 409 Taché Avenue Winnipeg,
MB R2H 2A6

Open weekdays: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tel: 204-237-2067 **Web:** bealifeline.ca

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