



## A LASTING IMPACT

Married for 20 years, Martine and her late husband Danny were always on the move. “We went everywhere,” shared Martine. “The Rocky Mountaineer Train Tour, Viking River Cruise, and Alaskan Cruise; we did it all.”

Sadly, their adventures stopped suddenly when Danny was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. Living in Durham Region, some of Danny’s care took place at the R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre, where he received chemotherapy every two weeks.

“The staff here are amazing,” said Martine. “He loved the care here, and he loved his doctor.”

After a courageous battle, Danny sadly passed away in August 2025, with his razor-sharp wit intact, surrounded by love, and listening to Gordon Lightfoot. But he wanted to ensure he gave back to the people who cared for him and Martine. That included a heartfelt \$10,000 donation in support of cancer care at Lakeridge Health.

“Three months before he passed away, he asked me to look at where to donate,” Martine remembered. “He wanted to give to Lakeridge because they looked after him. It’s a little sad to me because when they don’t see the patient anymore, they don’t know if they’re OK. The staff became like family, so it was important for us to say thank you.”

This holiday season Martine shared that Christmas would be a special time in their household; their tree is adorned with ornaments from the many places they visited, and the memories remain.

“In 2024, his treatment started the second week of November, and the doctor said, ‘You might be able to eat for Christmas.’ Christmas night, he went back twice for turkey, mashed potatoes, and bread. He looked at me and said, ‘I got my Christmas wish.’”

Martine plans to continue honouring Danny’s wishes by seeing the world. Greece, Spain, Portugal and Churchill, Manitoba, to see the polar bears are all on the list.

**Read more about Martine and Danny and learn how you can support our Hospitals with a gift in gratitude at [www.LHFoundation.ca](http://www.LHFoundation.ca).**

## Reaching a Milestone

Thanks to the generosity of our donor community and match donors Colin O'Regan, Bryan Yetman, and their families, the recently announced Lakeridge Health-Grandview Kids outpatient procedure room is close to seeing the first patients access the space, hopefully as soon as Winter 2026.

Hear from patient advocates Abby and Wesley and Dr. Carolyn Hunt, Medical Director, Grandview Kids, about the impact of your support for this first-of-its-kind partnership at [www.LiveHereGiveHere.ca](http://www.LiveHereGiveHere.ca).



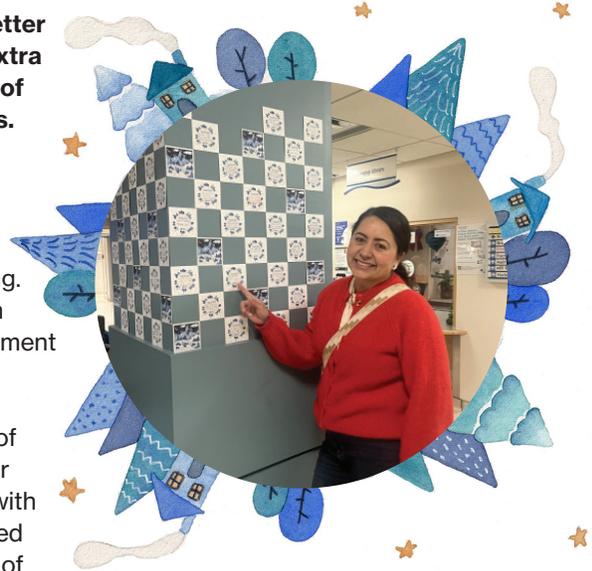
## YOUR MEANINGFUL MESSAGES

**Donors who received our holiday letter this year found a little something extra in their envelope: a beautiful piece of artwork and a chance to say thanks.**

Ajax-based artist Kari of Kari Pop Art generously donated a handmade watercolour painting to be featured on special cards in our holiday mailing. The letter, penned by patient Morgan Bress, shared the need for a replacement CT scanner at Lakeridge Health.

Donors were asked to use one side of the card to share a message with our Lakeridge Health staff and return it with their donation. The other side featured a piece of art to keep, as a reminder of the impact they've made. Messages were displayed in the Oshawa Diagnostic Imaging waiting area for all to see!

**Thank you to Kari for creating this incredible winter artwork, and to our donors who touched our expert staff with their kind words this holiday season.**



Artwork © Kari Pop Art

## RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY SUPPORT



### The Buller Ball

Inspired by the excellent care his wife received during her cancer journey, local musician Matt Buller raised an incredible **\$5,685** to support cancer care at Lakeridge Health Oshawa through his Buller Ball concert held at Brewer's Pantry in Bowmanville.



### The Port Perry LumberJacks

The Port Perry LumberJacks saw an opportunity to chip away at cancer care needs at the R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre. They kindly donated **\$4,520** from pink toque sales at their 'Pink in the Rink' event this year. Go LumberJacks!

# SPOTLIGHT: CT SCANNER



## A Picture of Urgency

In October, we asked you to help our medical experts see clearer with the launch of our Diagnostic Imaging campaign and an ambitious goal of raising \$2.35 million to fund a replacement CT scanner at Lakeridge Health Oshawa.

Currently, the Oshawa Hospital runs two CT scanners, one of which is over ten years old and at risk of failure due to its age. If it breaks down, it means delayed or deferred care for thousands of patients.

“A replacement CT scanner is essential to help our medical teams deliver answers fast, start treatment sooner, and give patients the best possible shot at recovery,” shared Dr. Geoff Donsky, Radiologist and Chief of Diagnostic Imaging, Lakeridge Health. **“If you’ve ever experienced the stress of waiting for a diagnosis, or have watched a loved one face the unknown, you know just how critical these moments are.”**

Short for Computed Tomography, CT scans produce internal images of bones, organs and tissues with more detail and clarity than an average X-ray scan. Patients in nearly every area of our Hospital, from the R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre to the Emergency Department, Cardiology and beyond, require CT scans as part of their treatment plan.

One such patient is Morgan, who received cancer care at the Oshawa Hospital and shared how CT scans were essential to her diagnosis and treatment. Like Morgan, many

patients rely on CT scans to provide important and sometimes life-changing information.

**With over 30,000 CT scans completed in 2024 and a growing population in Durham Region, it’s easy to see why CT scanners are some of the most important pieces of equipment at our Hospital.**

Once a new scanner is funded, it will arm our Diagnostic Imaging team with more detailed imaging, faster scan times, and AI assisted technology, ensuring our Hospital is equipped to meet the urgent needs of our community today and into the future.

**Thanks to your incredible generosity, our holiday appeal raised over \$260,000 towards our goal so far! But community support is still needed to ensure a new CT scanner can be brought to Oshawa as soon as possible. Visit [www.EquippedtoCare.ca](http://www.EquippedtoCare.ca) to learn more about how you can support this essential equipment today.**



**For Joy, the Radiation Therapy department at the R.S. McLaughlin Durham Regional Cancer Centre (DRCC) was and still is a second home.**

A retired Medical Radiation Technologist (MRT), Joy helped countless patients receive care during her 15 years of dedicated service. In 2022, she too experienced the same compassionate care after receiving a cancer diagnosis.

“It’s more than just a job pushing buttons and taking images,” said Joy. “It’s sympathy, it’s empathy, it’s focusing on the care. It was a pleasure.”

**This past November, Joy generously chose to give back to her former**

**department during MRT Week with a special donation of \$10,000.**

Her gift will support two important pieces of equipment for the Radiation Department: a compression belt, which helps minimize the natural movements of the body during treatment, and a positioning system that helps support patients during their appointments.

“It’s really incredible,” shared Brian Leung, Manager, Radiation Therapy. “For Joy to come back and fund this equipment is inspiring. It sends a powerful message to the team.”

**Read more about Joy’s journey from staff member and patient to donor at [www.LHFoundation.ca](http://www.LHFoundation.ca).**

## Thank you for your support – Connect with us!

### Have a story to share?

We’d love to hear it. Contact Leah at [leah@lh.ca](mailto:leah@lh.ca) or **905-576-8711 ext 33139**.

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# RECOGNIZING YOUR GRATITUDE



We recently met with Dr. Mahmoud Sakran and the Paediatrics Team at Lakeridge Health Oshawa to celebrate their recognition through the Circle of Gratitude program. A grateful family recognized the team for the excellent and compassionate care they provided for their daughter during her stay.



Celandine B., a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department at Lakeridge Health Oshawa, received her first Circle of Gratitude recognition from a grateful patient who wanted to say ‘thank you’ for the great care she provided!

**To learn more about how you can honour a Lakeridge Health staff member or team through the Circle of Gratitude program, visit [www.CircleofGratitude.ca](http://www.CircleofGratitude.ca)!**