

# InTouch

WINTER EDITION - DECEMBER 2024



**DG** Dartmouth  
**HF** General  
Hospital  
**Foundation**

Laura Sills, Research Manager, showcases the new REACT virtual reality technology with dialysis patient Nancy Van Wart.

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PICTURED: GLENNA CONRAD & ROBERT BELL



# INTOUCH CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS

**ACRONYM** Dartmouth General Hospital (DGH)  
**KEY:** Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation (DGH Foundation)

**DATE** November 20, 2024 - January 1, 2025

**EVENT** DGH Foundation at Glow Gardens

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**DATE** March 7, 2025

**EVENT** Get Up There (GUT)

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**DATE** June 14, 2025

**EVENT** Lobster Dinner & Auction

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**DATE** September 8, 2025

**EVENT** DGH Foundation Golf Classic

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**DATE** October 24, 2025

**EVENT** DGH Foundation Radiothon

# INTOUCH IMPORTANT DATES



**Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation**

325 Pleasant Street

Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4G8

Phone: 902-460-4149

Email: [info.dghfoundation@dghfoundation.ca](mailto:info.dghfoundation@dghfoundation.ca)



@DGHFoundation



@dartmouthgeneralhospitalfo8368



Charitable Donation Number: BN 12245-5611-RR0001

## Message from DGH Foundation President

As we approach the end of the year, I am humbled and inspired by the generosity of our community. What you have made happen at Dartmouth General is truly astounding. You are changing the face of healthcare for our families, friends, and neighbours.

Together, you helped raise \$400,000 through our 39th Annual Lobster Dinner. Funds raised are being used to purchase a new endoscopic ultrasound and laser for Dartmouth General. These advanced technologies will be used to treat Barrett's Esophagus, a condition that can result in cancerous changes of the esophagus from long-standing gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD). Previously, the only place in Atlantic Canada to offer this procedure was a Moncton-area hospital.

Our fifth annual Radiothon, presented by Chicken Little Café & Dairy Bar, saw expanded reach in October thanks to a new partnership with Acadia Broadcasting. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who tuned in to longtime partner, 105.9 Seaside FM, and new supporters Hot Country 103.5 FM and Surge 105.1 FM. Your support raised more than \$173,000 to purchase a digital pathology system for DGH – the first in Nova Scotia!

We look forward to the opening of the new Deanne Reeve Pelvic Health Suite in early 2025. The first of its kind in Atlantic Canada, the new Suite will more than quadruple the capacity for urological procedures at DGH and will create capacity for more than 1,000 gynecological procedures each year. This is philanthropy in action!

Each and every day, the impact of your generosity can be seen and felt throughout the Dartmouth General. The inaudible heartbeat of DGH is the people – our incredible healthcare team and the donors and volunteers who give their time, talent, and treasure to support them. Thousands of amazing people working in sync to support innovation and exceptional care for DGH patients.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.



Stephen Harding  
President & CEO



# DGH Foundation Board of Directors



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Board Chair  
Retired Citizenship  
Judge



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**Carolyn Hortie**  
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**Tyler MacLeod**  
Director  
Founder, Rhyme + Reason



**Tara Wickwire**  
Director  
Principal, The Message



# RADIOTHON



The 5th Annual DGH Foundation Radiothon, presented by Chicken Little Café & Dairy Bar raised \$173,000, and ensured that digital pathology will be coming to Dartmouth General. Thanks to our generous supporters, we will be the first hospital in the province that will have pathologists viewing and assessing tissue samples from any location, at any time, at a moment's notice. The new equipment will improve patient care here at Dartmouth General by helping to make diagnosis and monitoring of disease faster and more efficient.

Broadcast live on 105.9 Seaside FM and Acadia Broadcasting channels, Hot Country 103.5 FM, and Surge 105.1 FM our appeal for support reached tens of thousands of listeners in HRM and beyond. Our time on air featured live music from local artists, heartfelt stories from patients, donor challenges, power hours and informative interviews with Dartmouth General Hospital's healthcare team members.

Anne Murray, Denis Ryan, Joel Plaskett, Ashley MacIsaac, Christina Martin and Harmz offered their voices to encourage listeners from every station to support Dartmouth General Hospital.

Special thanks to Cluett Insurance, who joined us as a matching donor, helping to double the amount raised in one of our power hours.



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Special thanks to matching donors Geno Sajko. and Lisa J. Murphy.  
Special thanks to matching donor Cluett Insurance.



Thanks as well to a very special puppy, Lucy, a beautiful golden retriever and beloved family member of Geno Sajko and Lisa J. Murphy, who was our monthly donor match sponsor.

Bow wow the results were terrific!

Thanks to the many donors, sponsors, volunteers, and generous listeners who made this possible. We've already circled **Friday, October 24, 2025**, on our calendars and welcome you to join us on the airwaves or in the Atrium! It is going to sound fantastic!



Jenna Joyce, VP Philanthropy, DGH Foundation, welcomes Denis Ryan, and Minister Barbara Adams to the Seaside FM studio along with DGH Foundation President & CEO, Stephen Harding.



DGH Foundation team celebrates Radiothon 2024 grand total with sponsors Matt Street from Chicken Little Café & Dairy Bar and Acadia Broadcasting crew.



Stephen Harding, DGH Foundation joined Radiothon donors Geno Sajko and Lisa J. Murphy at the Seaside FM studio with on-air host Ken Sanders.



Dylan Langille of Surge 105.1 FM speaks with Dr. Rick Ballys, DGH.

# Bringing Digital Pathology to Dartmouth General Hospital

Dartmouth General Hospital is now on the forefront of medical innovation with the implementation of digital pathology; a state-of-the-art technology, and the first of its kind in Nova Scotia, that is set to redefine the patient experience.

Traditionally, the process of analyzing tissue samples involved preparing glass slides that were then transported to pathology experts in Halifax. This system, while effective, often led to unavoidable delays, with patients waiting hours or even days for crucial results. Now, thanks to the generosity of donors, Dartmouth General Hospital will soon be able to scan samples on-site, streamlining a process that previously depended on external facilities.

With digital pathology, each glass slide is transformed into a high-resolution digital image, allowing pathologists to view and interpret samples on specialized computer screens rather than through a microscope.

Not only does this technology improve patient wait times, but it also elevates Dartmouth General's capacity to provide advanced care right within the community. The digital pathology element we will use is for "intraoperative consultations," which are analyses that occur while the patient is under anaesthesia, when an immediate opinion is needed. Slides will be scanned and interpreted digitally, speeding up the process.

The new system comes with an array of technological upgrades, including the potential to be upgraded to AI-powered tools that assist pathologists by identifying potential abnormalities, patterns, and trends that may otherwise take hours to review manually. This not only enhances diagnostic accuracy, but also provides additional assurance to patients and their families, knowing they are receiving a high standard of care with the support of innovative technology.

By investing in digital pathology, Dartmouth General Hospital is taking a bold step forward, ensuring that its patients have timely access to life-saving diagnostics without the extra wait.

As a pioneering facility in Nova Scotia, Dartmouth General Hospital is setting a new standard for quality healthcare in the region, underscoring its commitment to patient-centered, efficient, and technology-enhanced care.



## DGH Leads On with Vital Signs Wearables Pilot Project

Thanks to a generous gift from the River Philip Foundation that established the John & Judy Bragg Healthcare Innovation Fund, DGH is receiving provincial, national and international recognition for the Vital Signs pilot project in our Emergency Department. When a patient presents at our Emergency Department with respiratory and/or cardiac issues, they are outfitted with a wearable device that monitors their vital signs while they wait to be seen.

The data is transmitted to a central area where DGH staff monitor any changes in a patient's vital signs and alerts colleagues to any concerning changes.

The project has been hugely successful so far, with 100% patient satisfaction. Healthcare centres from around the world have reached out to DGH to learn more about the project and our hospital received the People's Choice Award at the 2024 Nova Scotia Health Central Zone Quality Summit for this project.



Photo Credit: CBC News.



# Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard and J&W Murphy Foundation African Nova Scotian Healthcare Bursary Recipients!

Each year, the J&W Murphy Foundation Renewable Bursary for African Nova Scotian students and DGH staff, and students, is named for a different person of African descent, to promote knowledge of Black excellence and Black history. This year's honouree is Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard.

The recipient of the 2024 Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard Renewable Bursary is Ayres Perry. Ayres graduated from Auburn Drive High School and is attending St. Francis Xavier University. He is an accomplished athlete and will be studying human kinetics, with a long-term career goal of becoming an Athletic Therapist, focused on advocating for and providing culturally competent care that addresses the unique needs of Black people. Congratulations, Ayres and thank you to Dr. Senator Wanda Thomas Bernard for allowing us to name the bursary in your honour, and to the J&W Murphy Foundation for your generous support of this impactful program.



Pictured: Stephen Harding, Samara Hudson-Ash, Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard, Ayres Perry, Leda Jarvis, Lisa J. Murphy, Nathan Tesfazion.

Please also join us in congratulating Chioma Ogbanufe, Jascinth "Jazz" Beckford, Lazshell Martell, and Simone Wright, the recipients of the 2024 Senator Dr. Wanda Thomas Bernard Healthcare Bursary for DGH Staff. Our heartfelt thanks to the J&W Murphy Foundation for funding this generous educational support for DGH staff!

We extend sincere congratulations to the six recipients of the 2024 DGH Foundation African Nova Scotian Healthcare Bursary, which we were honoured to award at high school graduation ceremonies in June. A round of applause to Jorja Cain, Kiara David, Daniella Ojukannaiye, Tiyandza Mashwama, Samantha Kieyele, and Xavier Hill!



Pictured: Stephen Harding, Jorja Cain, Nathan Tesfazion

We wish you all the best with your studies and are cheering you on your healthcare education journey!

If you would like to learn more about our healthcare bursary programs, please contact:

**[aaliyah.arab-smith@dghfoundation.ca](mailto:aaliyah.arab-smith@dghfoundation.ca)**



Pictured: Stephen Harding, Samantha Kieyele, Nathan Tesfazion



Pictured: Lazshell Martell

# Community Generosity Shines: \$500,000 in Gifts Propel DGH Foundation Towards Innovation

## Horizon Maritime Gives Generously to Establish Healthcare Bursaries for Mi'kmaq Learners

Horizon Maritime has given a generous \$250,000 gift to launch the Horizon Maritime Mi'kmaq Learners Healthcare Bursary Program at Nova Scotia Community College. This program will offer five renewable \$3,000 bursaries each year to students from the five Mi'kmaq territory districts in Nova Scotia, empowering Mi'kmaq students pursuing healthcare education. It is an exciting start to our new partnership with Horizon Maritime and NSCC!



Pictured: Fred Smithers, Basim Sobeih, Richard MacLellan, Dr. Natalie Cheng, Steve Widmeyer, Stephen Harding, Noah Widmeyer, Al MacPhee



L-R Back Row: Peter Boyd, Ryan O'Leary, Chris Hawkes, Angela DeCoffe, John Fitzpatrick, Stephen Harding, Nicola Ray Smith, Jennifer Stevens, Susan Graham, Haley Keeping, Mike Sherwood, Ann Janega, Jenna Joyce. Front Row: Andrew Smith, Krista Sullivan, Craig Levangie, Al MacPhee, Sandra Giles, Scott Giles.

## \$250,000 DONATION TO DGH PATIENT ESSENTIALS FUND

Thank you to Scotiabank for supporting the DGH Patient Essentials Fund through ScotiaRISE. ScotiaRISE is Scotiabank's commitment to removing barriers and increase access to essentials such as food, water, shelter and medical care. Scotiabank's contribution will ensure patients have access to compassionate supports to address food insecurities, afford medications or other practical needs to support a successful transition from hospital back to their communities.

# 39th Annual Lobster Dinner and Auction Brings New Endoscopic Equipment to DGH

More than 500 friends joined Honorary Chair, Denis Ryan, under the tents at Fisherman's Cove for DGH Foundation's 39th Annual Lobster Dinner & Auction, presented by Conrad Bros LTD. Thanks to tremendous community support, over \$400,000 was raised – amazing!



The highlight of the evening was when we shared an exciting breaking news announcement with guests – longtime DGH supporters Dan, Lee-Anne, Danielle and Mike Chassie announced an extraordinary gift of \$250,000 to Dartmouth General Hospital – incredible!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors, loyal ticket purchasers, and the amazing team of volunteers who make this event possible each year. Led by Dave O'Connor (GLOW The Event Store) and Kim Conrad (Conrad Bros.), our talented and dedicated Lobster Committee works year-round to make this event possible each year. Thank you, to each and every one of you!

And again we extend our utmost gratitude to the J&W Murphy Foundation who so generously helped make this event truly special, with their \$150,000 challenge match.

Together, with the Chassie's generous gift, you made it possible for us to fund all three endoscopic priorities: the Endoscopic Ultrasound, the Erbe, and the RFA Laser used to treat Barrett's esophagus. This is great news for our community!

Circle your calendars and put on your bibs – we'll be enjoying lobster once again on the waterfront on **Saturday, June 14, 2025!**



Pictured: Lobster Dinner & Auction Volunteers



Pictured: Tom Forrestall



Pictured: Denis Ryan



Pictured: One Happy Lobster!

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!**

**PRESENTING:**



**MATCHING SPONSOR:**  
**J & W Murphy**  
FOUNDATION



**SPECIAL THANKS TO**



Pictured: John Flemming

**FRIENDS OF DGH:**



## DGH Golf Classic Presented By:

We were excited to welcome longtime industry and community leader, TrueFoam, as our presenting sponsor for the DGH Foundation 35th Annual Golf Classic, held on September 9, 2024, at Brightwood Golf & Country Club. Thanks to the incredible support of our partners and community, it was a record-breaking year, raising more than \$170,000 to help fund innovation and exceptional care at Dartmouth General Hospital.

Our heartfelt thanks to the many sponsors who make this event such a success year-after-year. You went above and beyond this year with so many great activities on the course – thank you!

Our thanks, as well, to the loyal field of 140+ golfers who come out each year, rain or shine, to support this event. The DGH Foundation Golf Classic has been a sold-out event for 35 years, thanks to you. We look forward to seeing you each September for this day filled with camaraderie, laughter, and the joy of community spirit.

And special thanks to long-time DGH Golf Classic committee members who are retiring from the committee after many years of service: Alex Joseph, Sue Tingley, and Mike Stewart. You are true community leaders – thank you!

The 2025 date has been set. We can't wait to see you on **Monday, September 8, 2025** for a day of birdies, eagles, and fun - all in support of our beloved Dartmouth General Hospital.



Pictured: Stephen Harding, Alex Joseph, and Ann Janega present trophy to winning team, MacKinnon & Olding.



Pictured: Denis Ryan and Jennifer Alward



Pictured: TrueFoam Team: Josh Plamondon, Jim Cruikshank, Debbie Coles and Rakesh Jain



Pictured: Dr. John Murdoch and Dr. Henry Adamson

## Thank you to our sponsors!

### Fairway Sponsors



A CROSBIE  
MEMBER  
COMPANY



### Eagle Sponsors



### Birdie Sponsor



### Hole Sponsors

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 Arthritis and Injury Care Centre // Happy Dad Hard Seltzer  
 // Dartmouth Metals and Bottle Ltd. //  
 LA Insurance Services // Gordon Pye // Scotiabank

### Special Thanks To

Tim Hortons // Cube N Links // Harvest Clean Eats // RBC  
 Community Fund // Black Harbour Distilleries // Bullwark  
 Cider // Innovative Beverages // Good Robot Brewing Co. //  
 Moosehead Breweries

# The DGH Foundation Welcomes New Board Members



Welcomes new  
**Board Directors**



**Carolyn Hortie**  
President, DGH Auxiliary



**Tyler MacLeod**  
Founder, Rhyme + Reason



**Tara Wickwire**  
Principal, The Message

Three community leaders who are committed to supporting innovation and exceptional care at Dartmouth General Hospital and the communities we serve.

It is our great pleasure to welcome Carolyn Hortie, Tyler MacLeod, and Tara Wickwire to the Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation Board! Carolyn, Tyler, and Tara were appointed to the Board at our June 27th Annual General Meeting.

## Steve Houle, Vice President, Finance & Administration

Stephen Harding, President and CEO of the Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation, is pleased to announce the appointment of Steve Houle as DGH Foundation's new Vice President, Finance & Administration. Steve joins DGH Foundation after eight years as the Vice President, Administration and CFO of the QEII Health Sciences Centre Foundation.

Steve lives in Dartmouth with his wife and two children and is an active volunteer in our community, most recently serving as Treasurer for the SEDMHA Hockey Tournament.

Steve also serves on the Executive Committee of Health Care Foundations of Nova Scotia as Treasurer.

Please join us in welcoming Steve to this new role.



# Nurse Brittany Harman Goes Above and Beyond for Patients

Brittany Harman is a Registered Nurse working in the Emergency Department at DGH. She has years of critical care experience and a commitment to ensuring that every patient be given the opportunity to experience the high-quality healthcare our hospital is known for, in their own language. For Brittany, that meant learning Arabic.

Every day in the Emergency Room, Brittany was seeing firsthand the missed opportunity to communicate in Arabic - the third most common language spoken in Nova Scotia after English and French.

Motivated by a desire to better serve patients, Brittany began language lessons in 2020. After three years of studying and with the unwavering support of DGH, in 2023 Brittany made the commitment to take a six month leave of absence to attend an Arabic immersion program in Jordan.

Brittany embraced the challenge, culture, and the lessons. Back home now, she has taken on the responsibility of welcoming, comforting, and explaining DGH Emergency Room processes and procedures to Arabic speaking patients.

"It's a game changer when I, a blonde-haired blue-eyed nurse, speak to them in their own language. I absolutely love being able to help every member of the family, including the patient, understand the course of treatment that our world class Emergency Team is delivering using phrases that illustrate we understand and respect their culture, customs and language," says Brittany.

She looks forward to the day that every DGH medical professional can say welcome, bienvenue and mrhbaan.



Pictured: Brittany Harman in Jordan

## Remembering Tom Forrestall

The Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Tom Forrestall, a beloved friend, philanthropist, and national treasure in the Canadian art world. Tom's brilliant talent and kindness touched so many of us, and we are honored to have had the privilege of working with him.

Tom was not only a legendary painter but also a dear friend to Dartmouth General Hospital. His talent and generosity were evident in the stunning portrait of Neville J. Gilfoy that hangs in our Atrium here at the hospital, a piece that continues to inspire us and reflects the depth of his work. His annual donation of art was a highlight at our lobster dinners and golf tournaments. When we asked donors to write a love letter to our frontline healthcare teams, he delivered his message of love through art.

Tom's legacy will live on through his art, his friendships, and the countless lives he touched. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. His contribution to our community and to the arts will never be forgotten.

Rest in peace, Tom. You will be greatly missed.



Pictured: Stephen O'Regan, Stephen Harding, Mary W. O'Regan, Suzanne O'Regan, Tom Forrestall



Pictured: Sandy Houston, Robbie Frame, Stephen Harding, Jennifer Estabrooks, Chris Moir, Fraser Moir, Robert Bell, Jenna Joyce, Tom Forrestall.



Pictured: Tom Forrestall's message to DGH Staff



Pictured: Stephen Harding & Tom Forrestall

## Knights of Columbus Fund Essential Equipment at DGH

Our heartfelt thanks to the Knights of Columbus, St. Thomas More, for their incredible support of Dartmouth General Hospital. Thanks to a generous gift of \$30,325.00, the DGH Foundation will fund the purchase of a Lucas Chest Compression System and a Flexible Uretero Fiberscope for DGH.

The LUCAS device provides mechanical chest compressions to patients in cardiac arrest. It increases provider safety and is not subject to fatigue for CPR required over long durations. The Uretero Fiberoptic is used to examine the bladder, perform biopsies and perform laser surgery. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for supporting exceptional healthcare for our community.



Pictured: Grand Knight Ken Harrity with Knights of Columbus members, Tim Halman, Stephen Harding and Shannon Shields

## Physician's Assistant of the Year in Canada!

Erin Sephton, a physician assistant (PA) at Dartmouth General Hospital, has received the 2024 Tom Ashman Award from the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA) for her exceptional leadership and service. Presented on her birthday at CAPA's national conference, the award highlights her commitment to teamwork and community impact. Sephton credits her colleagues and mentors, emphasizing that this honor reflects shared achievements.



Pictured: Erin Sephton, Physician's Assistant of the Year in Canada

Dr. Todd Howlett recently received the CAPA Honour Roll Award. Dr. Howlett was recognized for his outstanding contribution to the promotion and development of the Physician Assistant profession in Canada.



Pictured: Dr. Todd Howlett

## Concerts in Care Comes to Gary Ramey Music Studio

Concerts in Care has presented more than 26,000 professional concerts for elder audiences in retirement communities and residential care sites since 2012. And now they bring their wonderful talent to the Dartmouth General each month for the benefit and enjoyment of patients, staff and visitors.

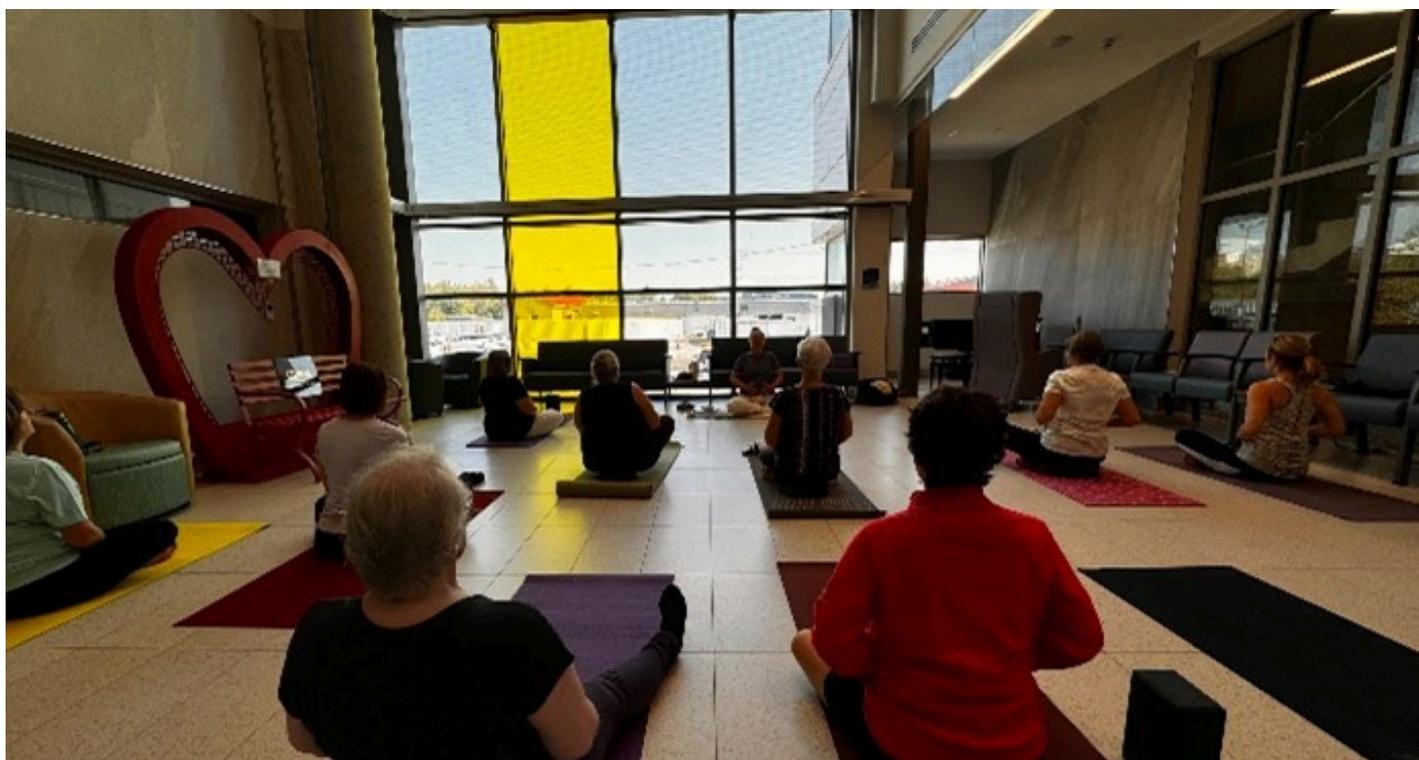
Music is known to improve mood, decrease stress and help promote healing. Thank you, Concerts in Care, for sharing your music with us in the hospital atrium. Days are better when there's music!



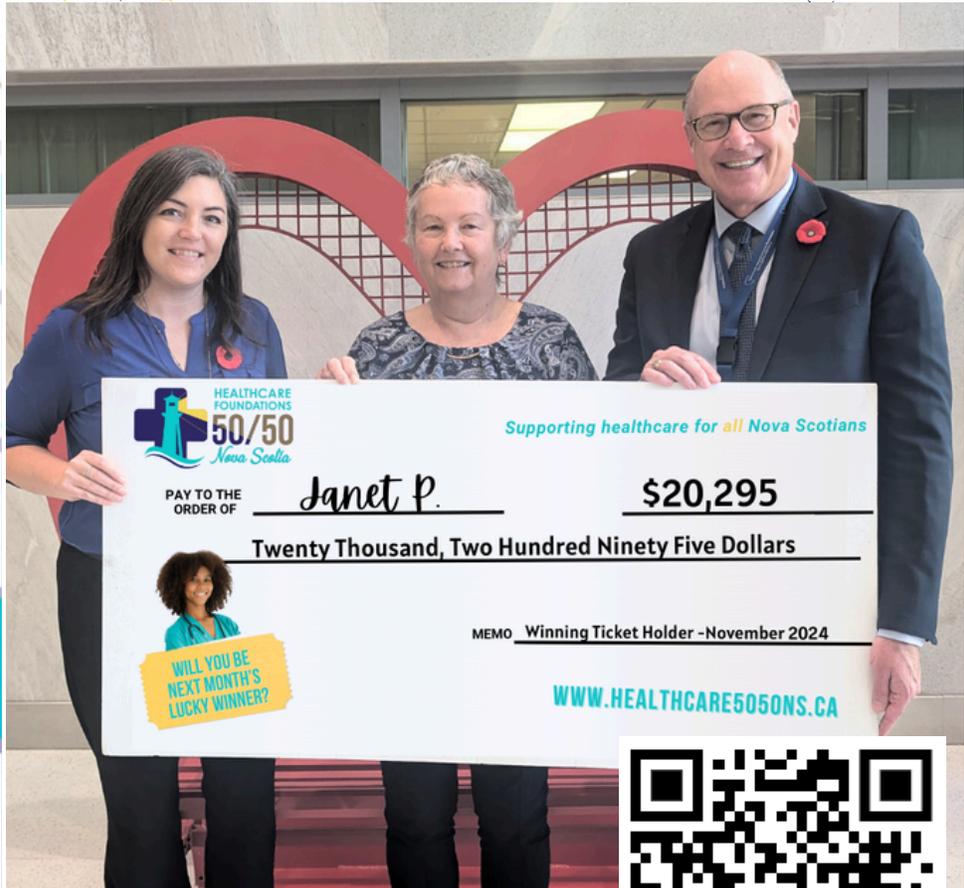
Pictured: Nadia Moore performs in the Gary Ramey Music Studio

## Weekly Yoga in the DGH Atrium

Thank you to the talented and generous Jennifer Bell-Harding who donated her time and talent to lead weekly yoga sessions for our DGH team! Each Wednesday throughout the fall, Jennifer led a gentle yoga practice over the lunch hour at no charge for the staff to attend. Another example of a small thing that makes a big difference! Thank you, Jennifer, for caring for our caregivers. Namaste!



Pictured: DGH Staff Participating in Yoga



Pictured: Shannon Shields and Stephen Harding present cheque to lucky winner, Janet P.



## Healthcare Foundations 50/50 News

The ticket to a perfect collaboration could be yours! The Healthcare Foundations 50/50 is creating some impressive jackpots in Nova Scotia. Lucky winners are counting their treasure and more importantly the very same amount is being donated back to participating Nova Scotia healthcare foundations to help purchase essential equipment and support community-focused programs in every participating hospital or organization.

Something new for the Healthcare Foundations 50/50 is a monthly Early Bird Bonus Draw of \$1,000 cash for ticket purchasers who purchase their tickets before the Early Bird deadline and a bonus \$1,000 cash to the participating Healthcare Foundation selected as the “Inspired By” foundation by the jackpot winner!

**Be an early bird and get your tickets or learn more here:  
[www.healthcare5050.ca](http://www.healthcare5050.ca)**

## The DGH Auxiliary Healing Garden: A Labour of Love

Eighteen years ago, community members, physicians, and DGH staff gathered to celebrate and break ground on what would become the DGH Auxiliary Healing Garden. A true labour of love, the beautiful garden was a passion project for the Auxiliary and was made possible through the volunteer efforts and generosity of the Dartmouth Kinsmen, The Buffalo Club, Conrad Brothers, and the dedicated DGH Auxiliary members and their families. DGH Auxiliary members and past members continue to help maintain the Garden to this day.

We were honoured to host members of the DGH Auxiliary to thank them for this beautiful gift that is well-used and well-loved by staff, patients and visitors. And to officially unveil the signage that marks this special place at our hospital.



Pictured: DGH Auxiliary President, Carolyn Hortie, with DGH Auxiliary Members, and DGH Foundation staff, Jenna Joyce, and Carolyn Marshall



Pictured: Sharon Davis-Murdoch

## Congratulations to DGH Foundation Board Member Sharon Davis-Murdoch!

Please join us in congratulating DGH Foundation Board member, Sharon Davis-Murdoch, on being awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal! Sharon is a social justice champion and an advocate for culturally competent health care. She is co-founder of the Health Association of African Canadians and a long-time public servant.

Congratulations, Sharon, on this well-deserved honour!

# The Van Wart Family Gives \$1,000,000 to Fund First-In-North America Kidney Health Research Project at DGH

Thanks to an incredible gift of \$1,000,000 from the Van Wart Family, Dartmouth General Hospital will be home to a first-in-North America research project to help study the impacts of dialysis on cardiac and cognitive function. Findings from the research project will be used to improve future health outcomes for dialysis patients across Nova Scotia, Canada, and worldwide.



Pictured: Robert Van Wart & Stephen Harding



Pictured: Dr. Karthik Tennankore

The research project will be spearheaded by Dr. Karthik Tennankore, Interim Division Head, Nephrology, and will focus on enhancing dialysis care through wearable technology in the form of heart rate monitoring devices, oxygen saturation detectors and cutting-edge virtual reality (VR) tools, developed at Harvard University. Results gathered will assist with diagnosis and help drive behavior change and self-monitoring.

“We are honoured to be able to make this investment in kidney health research. DGH feels like part of our family, so it’s extra special that it will be the home of this research project. Like many others in Canada, kidney disease has touched us in a profoundly personal way. We’re excited by the promise of Dr. Tennankore’s research project and what it will mean for families like ours going forward,” said donor, Robert Van Wart.



Pictured: Robert Van Wart

Research to this level has not been done before. Broken into two phases, the research will focus on first assessing cognitive function using REACT Neuro Virtual Reality Technology and secondly using wearable sensors to better understand the impact of the dialysis on health and health outcomes.

The results obtained will be instrumental in allowing clinicians to better understand the impact of dialysis on cognitive function and to better manage and care for patients who are receiving dialysis.



Pictured: Nancy Van Wart

Our heartfelt thanks to the Van Wart family for this generous gift that will have a profound impact for patients undergoing dialysis. It will have a direct impact on clinical care while simultaneously providing information to improve future health outcomes for dialysis patients around the world.



Pictured: Front: Nancy & Robert Van Wart  
 Back: Dr. Karthik Tennankore, Dr. Natalie Cheng, Nancy Regan, Mike Savage, Stephen Harding, Ann Janega, Dr. Jeannie Shoveller, Carolyn Marshall

# HOLIDAY MAGIC

**A DRAGON'S OATH**

Presented by

**CHARM**

DIAMOND ▼ CENTRES

**with Mike Savage & Nancy Regan**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH**

**AT 4:30PM ON**



# Legacy Giving: Creating a Lasting Impact

“If you’re going to live, leave behind a legacy. Make an impact on the world that can never be erased.”  
~ Maya Angelou

You have more power to make a difference than you realize. By giving even just a small portion of your estate to Dartmouth General Hospital, you can make a significant impact on the causes you care about, and still support those you love. Legacy gifts to Dartmouth General ensure that our healthcare teams can continue to deliver exceptional care, and that our culture of innovation grows for generations.

There are so many ways to give and we can work together to maximize your impact for years to come.

- A Gift in Your Will
- Giving through Life Insurance
- Gifts of Securities
- RRSPs and RRIFs
- Real Estate Property
- Charitable Remainder Trusts

If you are looking for guidance, please contact Jenna Joyce, Vice President, Philanthropy at [jenna.joyce@dghfoundation.ca](mailto:jenna.joyce@dghfoundation.ca) or 902-460-6788 and together we can help to navigate the way to making legacy plans.



Pictured: Gwen & Robert Haliburton, DGH Legacy Donors

## DGH Foundation Holiday Hours – Happy Holidays!

Our offices will be closing at noon on December 24, 2024, and will reopen at 8:30AM on Thursday, January 2, 2025. To contact us during this time, you can call: 902-460-4149.

Please note all donations post-marked or arriving in our office by December 31st or earlier are eligible for a 2024 tax receipt.

Thank you for supporting Dartmouth General Hospital!

Happy Holidays!

## Become A Monthly Donor!

MD doesn't only mean Medical Doctor at the Dartmouth General Hospital, now.

Becoming a Monthly Donor is an easy and convenient way to support the Dartmouth General Hospital.

You can choose to have your monthly donation come from your credit card or your bank account. Learn more about becoming a Monthly Donor by contacting us by phone:

**902-460-4149**

or by going to our website:

<http://www.dghfoundation.ca/donate/>



Pictured: Monthly Donors,  
Don and Debbie Kyte.

**Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation**  
325 Pleasant Street  
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