



Health Sciences Centre
FOUNDATION



Faces of Care

2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT





**Health Sciences Centre
FOUNDATION**

About the Health Sciences Centre Foundation

Partnering with you to advance health care

In partnership with over 54,000 donors since 1976, the Health Sciences Centre Foundation supports the important work of HSC Winnipeg, **Manitoba's hospital**.

Through the Health Sciences Centre Foundation, your gifts **promote innovation** and help to advance vital **medical research**; purchase state-of-the-art **equipment** to diagnose and treat patients; **train the next generation** of medical and research leaders; enhance **HSC Winnipeg's facilities**; and implement **programs** to enhance the patient and family experience.

As a Foundation, it is our role to **inspire your generosity and earn your trust** by building relationships with you, by sharing stories of excellence in research and patient care, and by connecting you with the projects and opportunities that matter most to you.

Together, we make life better for patients and their families.

Health Sciences Centre Foundation

PW112-700 William Ave

Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0Z3

Phone: 204-515-5612

Fax: 204-813-0131

Email: info@hscfoundation.mb.ca

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Editor – Kim Morphy

Editorial Assistant – Cameron Eason

Designer – Stephanie Robinson

Contributing Writer – Stu Slayen

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A Moment in Time

A message from the Chair and CEO

An annual report is a moment in time. It provides an opportunity to pause and reflect on the previous year. While we are happy to reflect on the fiscal year that ended on March 31, we are never really in a position to pause for too long.

The changes in the health care system and the tremendous opportunities that lie before us demand that our staff, volunteers, and you—our generous donors and partners—keep moving forward with energy, kindness, cooperation, and a spirit of innovation. Together, we aim to ensure that the HSC Foundation can continue to fund important advances in health care at Manitoba's hospital—Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg.

We are living in interesting times. The health care system in Manitoba continues to evolve; the pace of development of medical technology is unprecedented; our population is aging; and philanthropy is changing.

“It is our job to rally the community to ensure that HSC can seize opportunities...”


It is our job to rally the community to ensure that HSC can seize opportunities in patient care and medical research, acquire new equipment as soon as possible, and meet the changing health care needs of the population.

In 2018/2019, the community responded generously and passionately to our calls for support. It was a record year, and we thank you. The Firefighters' Burn Fund and the late Paul Albrechtsen stepped forward with transformational gifts. The endowed gift from the Burn Fund will support cutting-edge stem cell research in support of burn care. Mr. Albrechtsen's gift, along with a significant grant from the provincial government, will fund a new state-of-the-art interventional angiography facility.



Our campaigns to raise funds for the new Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit and a new plastic surgery clinic both reached their goals ahead of schedule. And many hundreds of donors made other designated and general gifts, including a large number of new contributors.

As we reflect on all of this, we feel an enormous amount of gratitude. We also feel a tremendous sense of challenge, opportunity, and purpose as we move forward in these changing times. New initiatives are underway; new needs are emerging.

Thank you for all that you do for the HSC Foundation. Your ongoing support makes a difference for all Manitobans. 

Tina Jones
Chair, Board of Directors

Jonathon Lyon
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statistical highlights

Your Impact - 2018/2019

Last year at HSC...

Over **20,000**  surgeries were performed.

More than **120,000** people visited the Emergency Department. 



Over **390,000** people came for clinical visits.



More than **5,600** babies were born.



There were more than **36,000** inpatient admissions.

The Foundation's Online Reach



Facebook Followers: **2,915**



Twitter Followers: **1,995**



Instagram: **launches fall 2019!** 



Did you know?

Since 1976, more than **54,000** donors have generously gifted over **\$175 million** to the HSC Foundation to support patient care. 



The HSC Foundation provided over **\$440,000** in research grants this past year.

HSC serves more than just Manitoba. It is also the designated trauma centre for Nunavut and Northwestern Ontario.



HSC covers **4 million square feet** across **39 acres** —holding **800** beds.

Firefighters' Burn Fund Supports Innovative Stem Cell Research

Studies underway to improve patient outcomes

Thanks to a donation by the Firefighters' Burn Fund, Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg is now able to study how a burn survivor's own stem cells can assist in their treatment. Efforts made possible by the \$2 million endowed gift are showing early results and the long-term prospects are very promising.

"Today, patients can survive even if they have a 90 per cent surface burn. That's because of research."

The substantial donation was announced on December 5, 2018, during a press conference at HSC. With the endowed fund, HSC has already recruited Dr. Camila Lopez Moreno as a Research Associate and has acquired supplies, along with specialized equipment, to enable the purification of a patient's own stem cells from their fat that will be grown in HSC's labs.

Dr. Lopez Moreno has acquired much of the expertise required for obtaining and characterizing stem cells from fat tissue and has already begun this important work. The cells' interactions with skin grafts, scars, and wound healing can lead to dramatic improvements in burn care. Skin grafts that heal faster with less scarring, less pain, better aesthetics, and improved function are on the horizon. For the first time ever, a patient's own stem cells are being studied to improve burn care in Manitoba.

The Firefighters' Burn Fund was established in 1978 to help burn survivors by purchasing equipment, funding educational opportunities for health care professionals, and supporting research. The HSC Foundation has been a frequent beneficiary of their remarkable generosity.

"When we first started, patients with a 50 per cent body surface burn were not given much of a chance at survival. Today, patients can survive even if they have a 90 per cent surface burn. That's because of research," says Martin Johnson, Chair of the Burn Fund. "We're excited to see what the doctors at HSC will be able to learn next, and we hope that our gift will have a significant impact. We are proud to show our support."

Dr. Ed Buchel, Director of Surgery at HSC Winnipeg, is grateful for the support and recognizes the impact that this fund will have. "With the support of the Burn Fund over many years, we have achieved an excellent standard of burn care at HSC. With this gift, we will be able to set a new standard of care and bring Manitobans the latest technologies and treatments." ♦

Thank you to the Firefighters' Burn Fund for their donation to the HSC Foundation to support burn patient care and research. L-R: Dr. Perry Gray (Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at HSC and Chief Medical Officer at Shared Health); Ed Wiebe (Second Vice Chair, Firefighters' Burn Fund); Martin Johnson (Chair, Firefighters' Burn Fund); Jonathon Lyon (President and CEO, HSC Foundation); Jim Abram (First Vice Chair, Firefighters' Burn Fund); and Jack Hildebrand (Secretary Treasurer, Firefighters' Burn Fund).



A Transformational Gift from Paul Albrechtsen

Development of new interventional angiography facility underway


When Paul Albrechtsen passed away in July 2019, the HSC Foundation lost a great champion and friend. Not only did he give generously, he took a keen interest in patient care, facility development, research, and technology. He was curious, knowledgeable, passionate, and engaged.

It is only fitting that his final lifetime gift to the HSC Foundation will allow HSC to make remarkable progress in the field of interventional angiography. His \$5 million donation in December 2018—along with a \$5.2 million investment by the Province of Manitoba—is allowing HSC to develop dedicated space for interventional angiography in the hospital's Diagnostic Centre of Excellence, and equip it with state-of-the-art technology.

Paul Albrechtsen's gift will save lives and limbs.

Interventional angiography is the practice of diagnosing and treating patients through their blood vessels. Interventional angiography procedures include widening narrow blood vessels to keep blood flowing to arms, legs, and other parts of the body; halting bleeding from blood vessels when other methods are not available; breaking up life-threatening blood clots; and delivering certain chemotherapy treatments more accurately.

Paul Albrechtsen's support of this project brought his lifetime giving to the HSC Foundation to over \$13 million—a tremendous level of support from a man who cared deeply about the well-being of Manitobans.

Paul Albrechtsen was a true champion. His impact and his example will resonate for all time. 



The late philanthropist Paul Albrechtsen signs an angiography viewing room frame at HSC's Diagnostic Centre of Excellence on December 12, 2018. L-R: Tina Jones, Chair, HSC Foundation; the late Paul Albrechtsen; Jonathon Lyon, President & CEO, HSC Foundation.



Donor-Funded Projects

Dr. Liu Wants to Play Rec Hockey

Dr. Richard Liu is set to join HSC Winnipeg's team of dedicated doctors. Specializing in thoracics, he will do much of his work in the new, donor-funded Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit.

When Dr. Richard Liu was a surgical resident at Dalhousie University in Halifax, he played in a weekly residents-only hockey game. Thirty doctors registered; only half ever showed up. Instead of lacing up the blades, many residents were inevitably called away to support surgeons and treat patients.

A normal day started at 6:30 and ended about 12 hours later. A small price to pay, though, for a young doctor driven by a desire to help people.

Such is the life of a resident. Very long days; very unpredictable schedules.

Dr. Liu moved to Winnipeg in 2017 with his wife and baby to pursue a second residency, a subspecialty in thoracic surgery that finished this past summer. A normal day started at 6:30 and ended about 12 hours later. A small price to pay, though, for a young doctor driven by a desire to help people.

"As a surgeon, you get instant gratification," says Dr. Liu, who was born in China and raised in Edmonton. "You see a problem and you fix it."

For Dr. Liu, the satisfaction of becoming a thoracic specialist goes even deeper than that. Thanks to the technology available in the new, donor-funded Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit, Dr. Liu can focus on helping very sick people feel better.


"Sometimes you can't cure someone if their cancer is very advanced," says Dr. Liu, "but you can give them a better quality of life and help them make the most of the time they have left."

In October 2019, Dr. Liu will write his Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada exam to become certified in his thoracic speciality. He is staying at HSC Winnipeg where he can work in the new clinic alongside talented mentors and colleagues, and improve the lives of patients dealing with lung, esophageal, and other thoracic health issues.



He will spend his free time with his wife (also an HSC resident) and their now three-year-old daughter. And he is ready again to join a regular recreational hockey game, if anyone is looking for players. He's also looking

forward to engaging with the HSC Foundation.

"The human energy and financial investment from donors are so impressive," says Dr. Liu. "Now that I am in the trenches and working in the new clinic, I see the impact." 

Hugs at the Hockey Rink

Heather Chapko sits rinkside watching her teenaged son play hockey. An older woman—watching her own grandchildren play—approaches Chapko and offers a smile, a hug, and the most authentic “thank you” one can utter.

It’s happened more than once when an ever-grateful breast cancer survivor greets Chapko in public. It’s happened at the rink, at the beach, and at the grocery store.

“It’s the best part of my job when I can see someone who was once in our care out and about—feeling well and looking good.”

As a nurse clinician in Plastic Surgery, Chapko has offered support and care to hundreds of women undergoing the groundbreaking mastectomy and breast reconstruction work at HSC.

“It’s the best part of my job when I can see someone who was once in our care out and about—feeling well and looking good,” says

Chapko, who has worked at HSC for 20 years.



Laura Ng is ecstatic to see what new possibilities arise for patients with new technology and equipment at HSC.


Chapko and her colleagues will soon be working in a redeveloped space at HSC, a project made possible by generous donors to the HSC Foundation. Planning is underway to convert and enhance the current clinic space to reduce wait times, remove certain procedures from HSC’s main operating rooms, and improve all aspects of patient care and outcomes.

The Plastic Surgery Clinic can see hundreds of patients a week for breast reconstruction, traumatic injuries, burns, and skin cancer treatment. The current clinic is aging, crowded, and inadequate for the caseload.

“In the new space, patients will be more comfortable and have more privacy,” says Laura Ng, also a Plastics Nurse Clinician. “We’re also looking forward to having more functional work spaces which will improve efficiency.”

Chapko and Ng both note with pride that they work for one of Canada’s most respected plastic surgery programs.

“People come here from around the world for fellowships and to learn,” says Chapko. “The entire plastic surgery team functions like a family and we’re happy to be part of it.”

Thanks to HSC Foundation donors, Chapko, Ng, and their colleagues will soon be in a position to achieve even greater levels of excellence in a modernized, re-organized space. 

“We’re also looking forward to having more functional work spaces which will improve efficiency.”



Heather Chapko loves nothing more than seeing former patients in the community—and knowing that she made a difference.

Our 2018/2019 Donors

Thank you for making a difference

Each day, we are inspired by you: people who are invested in providing support for the thousands of Manitobans who pass through the doors of HSC Winnipeg—Manitoba's hospital—each and every year. Your contributions allow our foundation to work with HSC Winnipeg to elevate health care in our province. These donations assist with providing world-class medical research, advanced technology, and excellence in patient care. **We THANK YOU!**

\$5,000,000+

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Thank you, Mavis Taillieu,
for leading the campaign
to develop the new Wilf
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L-R: Dr. Larry Tan, Section Head & Regional Lead,
Thoracic Surgery at HSC Winnipeg, and Mavis Taillieu.

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 Harry Walder
 Anneliese Weiss
 Dr. Jim Wener
 WGH Nursing Class of 1958B
 Arlene and Bernie Wilgosh
 Alexandra Yackoboski
 David R. Young
 Kitty H. Yue
 Gloria Zirk

Monthly Donors

Megan Adams
 Catharina W. Allan
 David R. Allan
 Helen Armstrong
 Weston Barkman
 Nerio C. Bautista
 Fritz Becker
 Gerald Bentley
 William Camier
 Marilyn Carson
 Valeria Coiro
 Shirley Cooke
 Gary D. Craig
 Elizabeth Dagenais
 Walter De Jersey
 Karen Demman
 Fiona H. Donald
 Duncan T. Duha
 Beverley Einarson
 Marie Falk
 Harlan Friesen
 Len Funk
 Judy Gallagher
 William S. Gardner, Q.C.
 Joanne L. Gibson


Joan Gohl
 Tyler Gompf
 Richard Grayson
 Susan Harrison
 Margaret R. Hill
 Bob and Roberta Horner
 Arsenio N. Huypungco
 Colin Irving
 Anne Johnston-Peters
 Barbara C. Jones
 Tina and Mike Jones
 Bonnie Keller
 MaryAnn Kempe
 Kathleen Knight
 Barry Kohinski
 Tom Kolba
 Ken Krueger
 Brian Lerner
 Gary Light
 Larry R. Livingston
 Victoria N. Macalos
 Joyce K. Madden
 Diane G. Maduk
 Marie Mandryk
 Arlene Marsh
 Georgia Masters
 Delores Matthews
 Margaret McClurg
 Cheryl McKittrick
 Marnie McLaren
 Helga McPherson
 Michael Muirhead and Maureen Stewart
 Sandra and Edmund Mulholland
 P. D. Nikkel and R. B. Silvester
 Dianne Ormiston
 Virgilio Pagtakhan
 Sonjia Pasiechnik
 Joanne Pearson
 Joanne Peters
 Laszlo and Shirley Pothe
 Carol Poulin
 Steffie Prydun

Justina Ramos
 Marilyn Reid
 Jess Reid
 Joanne Remillard
 Donald Rice
 Shelley Ringland
 Marilyn Robbie
 Duchelli V. Rosario
 Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Rowbotham
 Dr. and Mrs. Len Rust
 Elaine Samborski
 Maureen Seddon
 Fatimata M. Sesay-Wagay
 Ian Seunarine
 Joyce Shead
 Dinanath Singh
 Clark F. Sinnott
 Doug Slater
 Jean Smellie (McIntyre)
 Dawne Smithson
 Don and Eleanor Snitka
 Viola Sparrow
 Wendy Thiessen
 Louisa Thomas
 Glen A. Torgerson
 Iris Trager
 Valerie Volkart
 Albert Walker
 Christopher P. Watson
 Dorothy White
 Elinor Wiechern
 Jill Winograd
 Dr. Brock J. Wright
 Amanda Wright
 Brenlea B. Yamron
 Anonymous (1)

This list reflects 2018/2019 donations (monthly and \$250+) received by March 31, 2019. We have carefully reviewed for accuracy, and we apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact the HSC Foundation office with any questions or corrections. Thank you!

Third-Party Fundraisers

Thank you to everyone who organized, donated to, or volunteered at a third-party fundraiser this year in support of the HSC Foundation!

With your community, creativity, and passion, nearly \$28,000 was raised in support of patient care at Manitoba's hospital through barbecues, holiday parties, fitness classes, and golf tournaments. We can't wait to see your fundraising ideas in action in the years to come. 

Topher's No Frills BBQ—A big thank you to Topher and his team for hosting a community BBQ in support of the HSC Foundation.



Our Events

Hope To Life Radiothon



Grateful patient Robyn Lazar suffered with mental health issues growing up and now is a yoga instructor with the Movement for Mental Health program at HSC. She is joined by Geoff Currier from CJOB.

HSC Foundation Radiothon exceeds fundraising goal! More research, resources coming to support hospital

On January 25, 2019, the community came together to support the HSC Foundation through our 15th annual Hope to Life Radiothon, presented by Maric Homes. In just one day, donors contributed over \$184,000! These funds will support the ongoing needs of Manitoba's hospital with improvements in patient care, important research initiatives, training opportunities for health care staff, the acquisition of cutting-edge medical equipment, and the development of new state-of-the-art facilities.

This total includes \$30,000 in matching gifts from The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company, Johnston Group, and Access Credit Union, and \$8,000 in matching gifts from the Challoner Family.

The Radiothon was broadcast live on 680 CJOB and supported by its sister station, Power 97, from the heart of HSC Winnipeg. Guests included grateful patients who shared moving stories and doctors, researchers, and frontline staff who shared insights into their work at HSC. Thank you to our Radiothon sponsors, partners, donors, and volunteers. ♦

A special thank you to our Savour Partners and Sponsors:

Qualico (Presenting)

Manitoba Liquor Mart (Partner)

Parrish & Heimbecker

(Lead Supporter & Entertainment Sponsor)

Cape Town Partners:

Crosier Kilgour	RADCO
HSC Section of Plastic Surgery	Solinsky Consulting TD
HSC Section of Thoracic Surgery	University of Manitoba
HSC Section of Urology	Department of Anesthesiology, Perioperative and Pain Medicine
Mercedes-Benz	
PC Caucus	
Pitblado LLP	

Event Partners:

BOMImed	The Winnipeg Foundation
Sierra Courier	

L-R: 2019 Savour Emcee Chrissy Troy (103.1 Virgin Radio Personality); Dr. Eric Jacobsohn (Medical Director of Research, HSC Winnipeg); Tina Jones (Board Chair, HSC Foundation); and Jonathon Lyon (President & CEO, HSC Foundation). ♦

A big thank you to our Partners:

Maric Homes (Presenting)

Johnston Group (Matching Partner)

The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company (Matching Partner)

Access Credit Union (Lead-Up Supporter)

Savour

Largest crowd in event history enjoys Savour South Africa: Wine & Food Experience

The ninth annual Savour: Wine & Food Experience, presented by Qualico and in partnership with Manitoba Liquor Marts, was held on February 23, 2019. More than 570 guests were treated to the sights, sounds, culinary tastes, and amazing wines of South Africa all while helping to raise nearly \$550,000 in support of patient care.

Guests were treated to a true South African experience, complete with savannah décor accented with sunset-tones, iconic foods and wines, and a travelling safari guide. The Big City All Star Band had the dance floor filled, while those in attendance generously supported the HSC Foundation through its live auction.

Our Fund-A-Need auction raised \$200,000 for new specialized miniature telescopes and a lithotripter machine to better treat patients with kidney stones. These devices allow doctors to break up stones and then remove them through very small holes in the skin. The patient never has to pass the stone fragments through urination. The new equipment will mean less bleeding and less damage to the kidney.

Because of your support, we're able to make a significant contribution to the quality of health care in Manitoba. ♦



Contributing Faces

Calling in gratitude

If you received a call from Valeria Coiro during the HSC Foundation Radiothon in January, you could probably hear the smile, the enthusiasm, and the gratitude in her voice.

"Anything I can do to help HSC I am happy to do," says Coiro.

Coiro supported the Radiothon as a volunteer caller, representing her employer, Bold Commerce, where she works as a Merchant Success Specialist. She jumped at the opportunity to help out as a way to say thanks for the care she received as a breast cancer patient in 2018. (She also took a break between phone calls to sign up as a monthly donor to the HSC Foundation!)

Coiro and her husband Everson moved to Winnipeg from Brazil in 2015 after a few years of half-jokingly saying, "Let's move to Canada." Some online research pointed them to Manitoba, and Everson knew that Winnipeg hosted the Pan-Am Games in 1999.

They arrived, and Valeria enrolled at Red River College. Within days of graduating, she was diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2018.

While the journey was stressful, Coiro was amazed and impressed—not only by the quality of the care, but by the

kindness and compassion of all of her caregivers at HSC.

Medically, Coiro's recovery has been remarkable. She had a mastectomy in July 2018 following several rounds of chemotherapy.

It was expected that she would need radiation treatments as well, but after surgery she was declared cancer-free. The chemotherapy had been 100 per cent effective. The incredible success caught the attention of researchers and she is now being followed as part of a long-term study.

"As Winnipeggers, we are lucky to have a jewel like HSC," says Coiro, who was born and raised in Argentina. "They treat everyone with the same love and care." ♦

Tune in on January 24 for our 2020 Hope to Life Radiothon, and donate to help people just like Valeria.



Valeria Coiro, a breast cancer survivor and grateful patient, shares her story during the 2019 Hope to Life Radiothon.

Savouring a Successful Event

For more than 570 attendees, Savour South Africa: Wine & Food Experience in February was an outstanding celebration shining a light on HSC and the HSC Foundation.

"It's a year-round commitment," says Rice, a member of the Savour committee. "Our goal is to produce the best possible event and to make it a little bit different every year. There is a lot of creative energy around the table. It's a fun committee, driven by our energetic Board Chair, Tina Jones."

Rice and her committee colleagues work to determine the event theme, recommend auction items, and develop ideas for food and décor.

For Rice and her colleagues, though, Savour is more than a party. Much more.

"I like knowing that the funds we raise have an immediate impact on the health care system," she says.

Savour generated nearly \$550,000 in revenue in 2019, including funds to purchase a new lithotripter machine for treating kidney stones. In 2018, revenue from Savour purchased new point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) units for portable, state-of-the-art diagnostics at HSC.

Rice comes by her community spirit and volunteerism honestly. Her parents raised funds for the hospital in Thunder Bay, the city where she was born and raised. She has also been inspired by the philanthropy and leadership of her husband Brad's parents.

"My Mom and Dad were great volunteers, and Brad's parents were enthusiastic supporters of anything that made Winnipeg a better place," she says.

Aside from the HSC Foundation, Rice has also been a volunteer with ChildFind Manitoba, the Children's Hospital Foundation, and JDRF.

"Volunteering is an important way to get involved in the community and make a difference," says Rice. "The HSC Foundation is a great organization with excellent staff support. The sky's the limit with them." ♦

Savour Portugal: Wine & Food Experience will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2020, at the RBC Convention Centre. Visit hscfoundation.mb.ca for more details.



Marnie Rice, a member of the Savour committee, is passionate about volunteering for Savour's Wine & Food Experience.

It's Our "Why"

Johnston Group has supported the HSC Foundation since 1992. Why? "Because it's our 'why,'" says Matt Johnston of the Winnipeg-based employee benefits company.

Johnston explains that Johnston Group has been undergoing a reflective process, informed and inspired by renowned author and organizational consultant, Simon Sinek. Sinek's seminal book, *Start With Why*, aims to help businesses, organizations, and individuals articulate their core purpose—their "why."

"We brought in a facilitator and worked with a cross-section of our team," says Johnston. "Together, we defined our 'why' as 'Putting people first so our community can thrive.' I think that is what makes people want to show up at work every day."

While the wording is new, the spirit of putting people first has been integral to the company since its inception. That spirit governs how they serve their 30,000 clients, and it shapes the company's approach to philanthropy.

With the HSC Foundation, Johnston Group has made significant gifts to special projects and campaigns, and it has sponsored a number of events. The company recently committed to long-term sponsorship of the Foundation's Radiothon and the Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration.


"The HSC Foundation is a critical organization in our community," says Johnston. "They help acquire the latest technology, which attracts and retains the talent we have and deserve to have. Being involved year after year with the HSC Foundation is a no-brainer."



Employees at Johnston Group put their community first.

Johnston Group is a platinum member of Canada's Best Managed Companies, having held the Best Managed distinction every year since 2001. Johnston credits the company's success and enthusiasm for giving back to the community in large part to an "amazing group of proud Winnipeggers"—the 270 people who work at Johnston Group.

He also credits the culture and character of Winnipeg, where so many companies support community initiatives.

"We all do the best we can in our own way," says Johnston. "That's what makes this city so impressive." 

Reflecting on Progress

"Dr. West saved my dad's life in the early '80s..."

"You have operated on relatives of mine."

I am indebted to you."

"This doctor saved my life."

These are just some of the comments posted on the HSC Foundation Facebook page after the Foundation posted a note congratulating Dr. Michael West on being awarded the Order of Manitoba. Words of praise and gratitude for a renowned neurosurgeon who retired at the end of June after nearly 40 years of practice.



Dr. Michael West received the Order of Manitoba in 2019 after an incredible career at HSC Winnipeg. He set up the first Gamma Knife in Canada in 2003.

Cementing community well-being

When Shawn McMillan of Lehigh Hanson got the call to support the HSC Foundation campaign for the Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit, he knew his company would step up.

“We make careful decisions about our charitable giving,” says McMillan, Vice-President of the company’s cement division. “Not only was it clear that the clinic was a vital project, we also wanted to honour Wilf’s memory.”

The late Wilf Taillieu was the mayor of Headingley and the President of Taillieu Construction. The clinic, which opened in 2019, is named for him in recognition of his contribution to community life. His wife Mavis led the fundraising effort.

“Wilf gave back to Manitoba in a big way. Mavis has, too!” says McMillan. “Her leadership of this campaign is a shining example of that.”

With roots going back over a century, Lehigh Hanson is an international leader in aggregates, cement, concrete, and heavy building products. The company’s global head office is in Germany; its Canadian head office is in Edmonton. In Manitoba, Lehigh Hanson affiliated companies Inland Aggregates, Inland Concrete, Inland Pipe, and Lehigh Cement operate plants in Birds Hill, Stonewall, and Winnipeg.

While the company builds communities around the world with its products, it strengthens communities with philanthropy and the promotion of volunteerism through its Lehigh Hanson Cares initiative.

Lehigh Hanson stepped up in support of the HSC Foundation by contributing to the fundraising efforts for the Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit.

“We feel very strongly about giving back to the communities in which we operate, and we like to get our employees involved,” says McMillan. “We are especially active with health-related causes and community improvement initiatives.”

As for the company’s support of the HSC Foundation and the Wilf Taillieu Thoracic Surgery Clinic and Endoscopy Unit, he hopes other businesses will take notice.

“Government can’t fund it all,” says McMillan. “Sometimes the private sector has to get involved in moving the needle. We’re proud to do our part.”

“What I’m doing now doesn’t bear much resemblance to what I was doing at the beginning of my career,” said Dr. West during his last two weeks on the job. “The changes in technology have been amazing.”

Indeed, when Dr. West started his residency in 1973, there were no CT scans and no MRIs. And the tools used to destroy tumours today were in the realm of science fiction.

He cites the example of an acoustic neuroma (a benign growth on the nerves connected to balance and hearing).

“That used to be a 6–18-hour surgery, a week in the hospital, and up to three months of recovery. And there was a great risk of damage to hearing and facial nerves,” he explains. “Today, for most patients, the neuroma is an outpatient procedure because of the Gamma Knife. People usually go home the same day and are back at work in a day or two.”

Dr. West might be best known for setting up Canada’s first

Gamma Knife at HSC in 2003. Using 200 beams of radiation, the Gamma Knife treats certain brain tumours with remarkable precision, no incision, and typically zero damage to healthy brain tissue. Dr. West also collaborated on the acquisition and use of the Varian Edge, another minimally invasive radiosurgery technology like Gamma Knife.

In retirement, Dr. West will be trading in the Gamma Knife for a simpler instrument—his old acoustic guitar. He plans to take lessons and re-learn his favourite Jimi Hendrix tunes. You’ll also find him running, reading, and building models with his two grandchildren. He also plans to keep up with the latest research in neurosurgery and deliver the occasional guest lecture at HSC.

“I’m grateful to HSC and the University of Manitoba for their support,” says Dr. West. “I’m excited to see what they will do next for the well-being of our patients.”



Financial Statements

Summary Financial Statements

The following is taken from the Health Sciences Centre Foundation's audited financial statements reported on by BDO Canada LLP.

Statement Of Accountability

These financial statements were prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and are taken from the March 31, 2019, audited financial statements.



Tina Jones
Chair Of The Board Of Directors



Andrew Stibbard, CPA, CA
Chair, Finance & Audit Committee

Health Sciences Centre Foundation Inc. Summary Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31,		2019	2018
ASSETS			
Current Assets	Cash	\$2,744,359	\$2,477,051
	Investments	12,265,850	2,822,872
	Pledges Receivable	683,026	1,088,188
	Accounts Receivable	117,928	153,189
	Prepays	27,721	27,885
Total Current Assets		15,838,884	6,569,185
Long Term Assets	Investments, at Market	33,185,410	29,441,272
	Pledges Receivable	1,264,083	1,214,391
	Capital Assets	6,362,889	6,455,117
	Total Long-Term Assets	40,812,382	37,110,780
Total Assets		56,651,266	43,679,965
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities	Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	710,640	622,956
	Deferred Revenue	25,000	5,000
	Total Current Liabilities	735,640	627,956
FUND BALANCES			
Unrestricted	Endowment	18,775,948	16,561,406
	Restricted	24,924,218	14,364,141
	JBRC Capital	12,215,460	12,126,462
	Total Fund Balances	55,915,626	43,052,009
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances		\$56,651,266	\$43,679,965

For further details, please refer to the HSC Foundation's audited financial statements on our website.

Celebrating a Record Year

A comment on our financials

Health Sciences Centre Foundation Inc. Summary Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances

For the years ended March 31,		2019	2018
REVENUE	Donations	\$989,309	\$1,632,048
	Lotteries, Net	2,325,234	2,599,945
	Ventures, Net	298,431	283,635
	Investment Income	1,623,598	1,584,632
	Major and Planned Gifts	12,280,331	4,345,922
	Funding Commitments	45,763	61,055
	Total Revenue	17,562,666	10,507,237
EXPENSES	Office Administration	968,554	916,481
	Donor Development	315,270	716,486
	Major and Planned Gifts	656,928	672,365
	Marketing and Communications	154,741	86,806
	Amortization	185,215	219,730
	Total Expenses	2,280,708	2,611,868
Excess of Revenue over Expenses before Funding Commitments		15,281,958	7,895,369
Funding Commitments		(2,418,341)	(7,853,028)
Excess of Revenue over Expenses		12,863,617	42,341
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year		43,052,009	43,009,668
Fund Balance, End of Year		\$55,915,626	\$43,052,009

The generosity of our donors and supporters never ceases to amaze me. Our foundation has the honour of hearing directly from patients and their families about the impact that Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg has on their lives. We are not only blessed to hear about the impact of the hospital, we are also entrusted with gifts to support the great work being done at HSC. We value your confidence and generosity. It is truly humbling.

In 2017/2018, our total revenue was \$10.5 million. **This increased to \$17.6 million in 2018/2019.** This record revenue was because of our tremendous supporters and donors. Thank you! Revenue came from donations to our foundation, and support of our events and lottery programs. These funds allow us to invest in research, life-saving equipment, and technology.

In addition to support for current projects, donors continue to establish and contribute to our endowment funds. Our endowment fund balance increased from \$16.6 million on March 31, 2018, to \$18.8 million one year later. These funds will continue to grow, generate income, and have an impact on patient care into the future.

Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg is Manitoba's hospital. We all rely on the services and care provided at HSC. Thank you for making investments to bring health care at HSC to the next level.

Some of our remarkable patient stories, and background on current projects and research, are outlined in this annual report. Please take the time to read these stories and learn more about the work you have supported.

Thank you for your inspiring generosity.

With gratitude,



Susan Robinson
Vice President of Operations

Celebrating Legacies

Bannatyne Legacy Circle holds inaugural celebration

Including the HSC Foundation in your Will is a decision that will have a lasting impact. It is an expression of care and compassion. It is a reflection of your values. It is your legacy.

On September 22, 2018, 110 guests gathered as the HSC Foundation paid tribute to the new members of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle, a planned giving initiative designed to shine a light on legacy giving and honour those who make a commitment.

The donors who joined the Bannatyne Legacy Circle in 2018 were: **F. Lynn Bishop; Clara and John Fjeldsted; Helga McPherson; Gwen Steiman; and Muriel Sutherland.**

The inaugural event was held at the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada and featured original musical entertainment and a presentation about important rheumatology research, funded in part by HSC Foundation donors.



Dr. Hani El-Gabalawy provides insight into his medical research and the impact of receiving an HSC Foundation General Operating Grant at the 2018 Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration.

Each new Bannatyne Legacy Circle member signed a pledge and was presented with a bound story about them and their commitment to the HSC Foundation.

There are many ways to leave a legacy gift to the HSC Foundation and we are grateful that in 2018/2019, 15 people came forward with new commitments. This exceptional generosity allows the HSC Foundation to continue to support HSC for the benefit of all Manitobans, for all time. ♦

For more information about legacy giving options and the Bannatyne Legacy Circle, please contact Irma McKenzie, Director of Planned and Legacy Giving, at 204-515-5624 or imckenzie@hscfoundation.mb.ca.



F. Lynn Bishop solidifies his legacy at the 2018 BLC signing ceremony.



Attendees enjoy breakfast at the 2018 Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration.

Clara & John Fjeldsted join the signing ceremony at the 2018 Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration, cementing their future gift to the HSC Foundation.

Helga McPherson signs to leave her legacy at the 2018 Bannatyne Legacy Circle Celebration.



**CLARA & JOHN FJELDSTED,
BANNATYNE LEGACY CIRCLE 2018:**

"I have always lived my life to the fullest, but there is not a day that goes by when I don't think that this is a day I might not have had. I feel very blessed thanks to HSC Winnipeg."



**HELGA
MCPHERSON,
BANNATYNE
LEGACY
CIRCLE 2018:**

"We all need hospitals. We all need to ensure we have a place to go and that those places get bigger, more advanced, with more machines. And that requires donations. Because I know it's not cheap. I have a purpose to do good things."



**MURIEL SUTHERLAND,
BANNATYNE LEGACY CIRCLE 2018:**

"Supporting emerging researchers helps them get started and build credibility early in their careers. This support can help them attract funding from others and advance research that leads to better patient care. My hope is that we will always have a high degree of excellence in health care right here in Manitoba, so that when we need help, we can receive it here at home, with up-to-date equipment and knowledge."



**GWEN
STEIMAN,
BANNATYNE
LEGACY
CIRCLE 2018:**

"We have our five grandkids living in Winnipeg. I hope my grandchildren will see the effects of what leaving a legacy can mean. I also want to encourage them to contribute to charities: to show them that this is what Grandma and Grandpa are doing."



**F. LYNN BISHOP,
BANNATYNE LEGACY CIRCLE 2018:**

"Because of philanthropy, Manitobans have access to some of the best medical technology in the world. We must continue to build on that."



Promises Fulfilled

In 2018/2019, we received estate gifts from five generous supporters of the HSC Foundation who, sadly, passed away. We are grateful for their foresight and we recognize them as members of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle. Their promises have been fulfilled, and we are grateful.

We honour the memories of:

Clara Eleanor Clapham
Marguerite Kathleen Friesen
Beryl Patricia Long
Otto Rudolf Schelberger
Annie Speirs



Their generosity will save lives, change lives, and bring comfort to families throughout Manitoba.

Funded Research

Foundation grant paves the way for innovative work

A New Lens on Lupus

It's difficult to diagnose. It's difficult to treat. And there hasn't been a significant new drug developed in over a decade. For the medical community, lupus poses many questions. With the help of a 2018 grant from the HSC Foundation, Dr. Annaliese Tisseverasinghe is looking for answers.

She is interested in knowing whether "adverse life experiences" affect a patient's clinical response to this debilitating autoimmune disease where the body starts attacking its own tissues. Adverse life experiences are stressful or traumatic events or circumstances, including: poverty; being a witness to or a victim of an accident or crime; the death of a loved one; childhood neglect; and physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.

"We already know that lupus patients report increased flares under stress," says Dr. Tisseverasinghe, a rheumatologist and clinical researcher at HSC Winnipeg. "I want to understand if adverse life experiences negatively affect lupus control and, if so, what we can do about it."

Recruitment of patients began in the summer of 2019. Dr. Tisseverasinghe hopes that about 300 patients will participate. They will complete a comprehensive lifestyle and health questionnaire, and rheumatologists will provide information about each patient's case.

The \$67,850 grant from the HSC Foundation will pay for a Research Coordinator to recruit patients and help them navigate the questionnaire, as well as data entry and statistical analysis.


"We hope to learn why some people do worse despite receiving appropriate medical treatment. If we knew more about the impact of psychosocial risk factors, we could potentially improve clinical outcomes. While we can't prevent an adverse life event, we may be able to modify a person's response to it," says Dr. Tisseverasinghe. "The knowledge we gain could help us develop

a more holistic approach to treating lupus involving social workers, psychologists, and others." With this additional support, she adds, we may be able to prevent lupus-related organ damage, disability, and death.

Dr. Tisseverasinghe is also excited that the research will shed light on how stress impacts other autoimmune diseases, aside from lupus.

"As a researcher, you have a question and you devote energy and your career to finding answers," she says. "There is a thrill in looking at something in a new way. The ultimate goal is to find better ways of treating complex diseases so patients can live longer and healthier lives."

While you can never know results until the research is done, Dr. Tisseverasinghe knows one thing for certain right now: this work would not even be starting if not for the HSC Foundation grant.

"I am extremely grateful for the Foundation and its donors," she says. "The support allows us to think outside the box and find ways to improve the lives of our patients." 

2018 General Operating Grant recipient, Dr. Annaliese Tisseverasinghe, received \$67,850 towards lupus research.



Funded Research

- **Dr. Janilyn Arsenio, \$70,000:** “Deciphering single-cell transcriptional signatures to identify molecular determinants of protective immunity.”

Dr. Arsenio investigates how white blood cells become diverse during chronic infections to help develop better treatments for infectious diseases and chronic inflammation conditions.

- **Dr. Andrew Goertzen, \$70,000:** “Detector development for an MRI-compatible PET insert for neuroimaging applications.”

Using a positron emission tomography (PET) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) together helps researchers study the brain. Together, the two technologies combine excellent imagery with functional information. While access to hybrid PET/MRI devices is limited, Dr. Goertzen and his team are exploring low-cost PET inserts. These inserts can fit inside existing MRIs and allow for simultaneous PET/MRI imaging.

The HSC Foundation extends a special thank you to our Honourary Directors who provided support for Dr. Goertzen’s grant.

- **Dr. Tabrez Siddiqui, \$70,000:** “Pathogenic mechanisms of aberrant plasticity and cognition in a genetic model of comorbid intellectual disability and autism.”

Mutations that cause autism and intellectual disabilities attack proteins in the brain, affecting how brain cells communicate. Dr. Siddiqui and his team are identifying how this communication gets disrupted, helping identify new potential treatments.

Co-Investigator: Michael F. Jackson

- **Dr. Annaliese Tisseverasinghe, \$67,850** (see story on page 22).

- **Dr. Magimairajan Issai Vanan, \$120,000, funded in partnership with CancerCare Manitoba Foundation:** “Role of Sonic Hedgehog (SHH) pathway in promoting blood-brain barrier (BBB) integrity in diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG).”

A protective wall, called the blood-brain barrier, covers the brain and prevents bugs and harmful chemicals from entering the brain. A protein, called Sonic Hedgehog, keeps this wall closed. A certain brain tumour relies on this protein to grow, and it’s challenging getting medicines into the brain to treat this tumour, as the barrier around the tumour is always closed. Unfortunately, this often leads to death. In this project, Dr. Vanan and his team will test whether these tumour cells produce the Sonic Hedgehog protein, and whether blocking that protein will help open the wall surrounding the tumour—ultimately helping cancer medicines enter the tumour to kill its cells.

Allied Health

- **Ms. Cali Orsulak, \$15,075:** “Review of prescribing practices in Winnipeg hemodialysis patients.”

Patients on dialysis have a high risk of experiencing adverse drug effects if they’re also taking multiple medications. Using information from the Kidney Health Record, Ms. Orsulak and her team will review the costs and patterns associated with dialysis patients in Winnipeg using potentially inappropriate prescription medications.

- **Ms. Kristy Wittmeier, \$22,294:** “Collaborating to improve care for children and teens with chronic pain.”

Chronic pain can severely restrict day-to-day life, affecting 5% of youth. A group of local caregivers and youth affected by chronic pain came together to discuss priorities for chronic pain research in Manitoba. They highlighted the importance of continued youth involvement and access to more educational resources. Ms. Wittmeier and her team will start addressing these factors by bringing together their clinical research team with youth to review and recommend resources for use in HSC’s pediatric chronic pain clinic, and to share with families affected by chronic pain in Manitoba.

Dolly & Michael Gembey Nursing Research Award

- **Dr. Nicole Harder, \$55,784:** “Psychologically safe debriefing to reduce psychological distress and anxiety after end-of-life simulation-based experiential learning.”

Caring for patients at the end of life can be stressful for nurses and nursing students. Using simulation as an intervention, Dr. Harder and her research team are developing a solid body of evidence needed to identify and begin managing psychological stress when caring for end-of-life patients.

Mindel & Tom Olenick Research Award in Immunology

- **Mr. Hadeesha Piyadasa, \$5,000:** “Regulation of airway inflammation and hyperresponsiveness by an innate defence regulator (IDR) peptide in asthma.”

Asthma affects over three million people, costing Canada over \$2 billion every year. When airways become inflamed, lungs that have a decreased ability to clean themselves may also have a decreased ability to treat infections and inflammation. Mr. Piyadasa is examining this relationship at a molecular level to better understand how this occurs.

- **Mr. Anthony Altieri, \$5,000:** “Regulation of airway inflammation: Cytokines IL-17 and TNF, and cationic host defense peptide LL-37.”

Cytokines are molecules that help control our immune systems and fight diseases. Inflammation is very important for healing infections, but sometimes the molecules that trigger inflammation act abnormally, resulting in chronic inflammation. In chronic inflammatory diseases such as asthma, some cytokines become more concentrated. One such cytokine, IL-17, is known to inflame airways and amplify how other cells respond to the inflammation. This can cause tissue damage. Mr. Anthony Altieri is exploring how inflammation caused by IL-17 cytokines can be regulated at a molecular level, helping provide new ideas to control inflammation. His project is a continuation of other extensive research done by his research group.



Mr. Hadeesha Piyadasa, 2018 Olenick Award recipient, working in lab space in the Manitoba Centre for Proteomics and Systems Biology.

Cumulative Giving

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We are fortunate to serve in the province of Manitoba, where we can rely on continuous, selfless acts of giving to advance health care. As Manitoba's hospital, HSC Winnipeg continues to expand—and our needs continue to grow. The HSC Foundation is so grateful to have a diverse network of supporters from across the province who know we can make a difference when we work together. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

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Medical researcher Dr. Janilyn Arsenio is discovering how white blood cells can fight diseases more effectively, thanks to research you've funded.

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**Victor Stutsky had a serious stroke at age 88.
 He made a full recovery, thanks to donors like you.**

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Eric Guy broke
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John 'Lucky' Hughes had severe West Nile virus, lives with diabetes, and overcame death many times. He nicknames himself Lucky, thanks to donors like you.

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Endowment Funds

Living Life and Giving Back

You couldn't guess from Margaret Wright's smile, her spirit, and her to-do list that she lives with end-stage liver disease. Or that in 2015 she was told she had maybe 18 months left. That is her story, though, and she and her husband Paul live it with grace, gratitude, and generosity.

It started with a diagnosis of stage-three autoimmune liver disease in 2003. Her liver specialist at HSC, Dr. Kelly Kaita,

"Just after we got home the phone rang," says Wright. "It was Dr. Kaita telling us not to lose hope."

slowed the progression with medication and followed her carefully. In 2015, during a routine follow-up test, Dr. Allan Micflikier found an esophageal tumour. She had developed a very aggressive cancer.

At first, it seemed that there were no treatment options.

Her liver, it was believed, was too compromised to tolerate anesthesia and pain-killers; and chemotherapy and radiation were out of the question. She was initially told that she had 6–18 months to live. On the way home from receiving that devastating news in early 2015, she and Paul phoned their three adult children and asked them to come over so that she could tell them.

"Just after we got home the phone rang," says Wright. "It was Dr. Kaita telling us not to lose hope. There might be a surgical option after all. I am here today because he was an advocate for us and did further research. We really needed someone to act quickly on our behalf."

Wright was scheduled for thoracic surgery with Dr. Larry Tan in just a few weeks. She has been cancer-free ever since. Dr. Kaita and Dr. Tan continue to monitor her regularly. "We will always be grateful," she says.

Wright, now 72, is a busy grandmother of five who enjoys book clubs and dinners with friends. She is active in the Baha'i community: hosting study circles, helping with Soul Food evenings, and performing as a puppeteer for children's classes. This fall she will be a facilitator for the Circles of Reconciliation program, bringing Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples together.

Wright says that the love and care she received from her dear family was the most important part of her story. This year Margaret and Paul are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. She says Paul is her true hero, forever optimistic, unflinching as a caregiver. "I am blessed!", she says. ♦

Paul and Margaret Wright.



A gift today, an impact forever

By establishing an endowment fund at the Health Sciences Centre Foundation, you are making a gift for all time. Your endowed gift will help patients today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

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Marketing & Communications

Kim Morphy - Director of Marketing and Communications
Cameron Eason - Digital and Marketing Coordinator



Sponsorship & Events

Monique Levesque-Pharoah - Director of Sponsorships and Events
Heather Gillis - Fundraising Events and Grants Officer
Wendy Fyfe - Lotteries Clerk (seasonal)

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