

## Local Resident **Grateful for Sackville Memorial Hospital** and **Exceptional Care** of Husband in His Final Days

March 14 was a difficult day for longtime Sackville resident and gallery owner Janet Crawford. Her husband John, whom she had been married to for 47 years, passed away after a brief illness. He had been suffering from a brain tumour since November 2022. Despite the heart-aching loss, Janet is eternally appreciative of the Sackville Memorial Hospital (SMH) and its outstanding staff for making John's last days as pleasant as possible.

Her 72-year-old husband was known as a soulful, quiet man who nurtured his inner person. Janet recalls the atrium being one of his favourite spaces in the hospital as it had a very calming effect on him. They both enjoyed their daily visits there, which included the warmth of the sun, the beautiful plants, and the soothing sounds coming from the water fountain. "A perfect environment, not only for the patient, but for family members to reflect and have a private moment," remarks Janet.

"Our stay in the Sackville Memorial Hospital was amazing. It was evident that the doctors and nurses were well trained and professional. Without exception, they were all helpful, compassionate and



John Crawford with three of his four grandchildren

friendly. The entire staff—including food services and housekeeping worked so hard to make John's last days as enjoyable and stress-free as they could be. These people will be forever in my heart, and I am grateful to them all."

Having two adult children and four grandchildren, the Crawfords have entered the doors of the hospital on many occasions over the years. It gives Janet peace of mind that they continue to have such a vibrant facility in the community to access care. One of the reasons the local hospital is alive and well is because of the hard work of the Foundation, and its generous and loyal donors. Janet, a donor herself, encourages the community to continue to support the Foundation and its efforts to help provide the best possible tools to allow health care staff to care for patients.

"The SMH is a treasure and is the essence of what is needed to promote good health, provide trust in our health care system, and nurture a strong community."

# We Made It! GIVING MATTERS

The Sackville Memorial Hospital (SMH) Foundation's Rest Restore Reconnect Campaign has reached its ambitious \$150,000 goal thanks to our donors. Funds raised will be invested in a much-needed therapeutic Outdoor Garden Courtyard for patients, families, and staff.



The area, located outside and behind the hospital (access will be from the Brunswick West patient lounge) will be transformed into a three-season space for patients to relax and heal. This much-needed area will foster wellness in an environment for those yearning for a quiet spot and time to reflect, outside of their hospital room. The courtyard will offer multiple benefits to patients, such as reducing stress and anxiety, and supporting recovery, while addressing their emotional and social needs. Just having access to sunlight has been proven to help ease mild depression and improve sleep quality.

The proposed design is for a covered porch area of 450 sq. feet, with a seating area that includes ample furniture, a robust flower garden, and barrier-free pathways.

Construction has started. Anticipated completion date is before winter.





### TRHS Dragonboat Team Riptide Gives to Foundation

Presenting a cheque for \$2,863.60 to Foundation Chair Bill Evans are, from left to right, Tantramar Regional High School Dragonboat team members Vivienne Blanche and Katherine Gautreau.



### **Rose's Your Independent Grocer Customers Give Back**

Rose's Your Independent Grocer customers were asked to donate to the SMH Foundation—and donate they did, raising \$1,342.04! Left to right: Aileen Sears, Supervisor; Sheila Parker, SMHF Volunteer; Cindy Ward, Front End Manager; Camille Dyson, Supervisor.

## An Update from Horizon **There's lots of great news to share about our incredible hospital and community!**

Retention and recruitment efforts continue to be our top priority and I'm so pleased to report that the Brunswick Inpatient Unit and the Emergency Department have onboarded close to 20 new LPNs and RNs, and we've added a number of Nurse Practitioners and casual nursing staff. We continue to aggressively recruit Emergency Department physicians and remain focused on retention efforts for our talented and dedicated staff to improve working conditions and promote a healthy work-life balance.

We're also eagerly preparing to welcome Beal University Canada to Sackville Memorial Hospital to deliver a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program.

Earlier this year, the provincial government granted conditional approval to deliver the program in New Brunswick and while the program assessment is completed by the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Committee, the design and planning of the space Beal will lease in the former Queens Unit for the on-site portion of the program is underway. Having an on-site nursing education program is an excellent opportunity for both Horizon and the Tantramar community to showcase the many wonderful aspects of providing health care services to patients, clients and families in this vibrant area of the province! Plans are underway for the renovation and construction of our existing Operating Rooms (OR), which is part of Horizon's overall plan to increase OR use in community hospitals across the province to help alleviate the surgical backlog for less complex day surgeries and in turn allow less wait time for more complex surgeries in the regional hospitals. Approximately \$2-million has been committed to this work.

All of this success would not be possible without the generous support of our Foundation donors, our committed and hard-working Foundation Board, hospital staff and the championing efforts of the Sackville/Tantramar community to keep their community hospital operating and functional.

Horizon is wholeheartedly committed to building on the momentum of the positive changes in the Tantramar community—because our work here is not done. We will continue to collaborate with you and our partners to improve the health care system for the better!

Christa Wheeler-Thorne BSc BN RN M.Org.Mgmt

Executive Director, Horizon's The Moncton Hospital & Sackville Memorial Hospital



## **DONATION FORM**

#### Yes, you can count on my support!

Enclosed is my gift of:

● \$35 ● \$50 ● \$100 ● \$250 ● Other \$\_

Please make your cheque payable to: Sackville Memorial Hospital Foundation 8 Main Street,Sackville, NB E4L 4A3 Tel. 506.364.4205 E-mail: smhfoundation@horizonnb.ca



Donate online at **smhf.ca**. Our online donation feature offers an instant, secure, and easy way to give.

Charitable Registration # 11961 8429 RR0001 A tax receipt will be issued.

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VISA/Mastercard:	
Expiry Date:	— thank you!

smhf.Ca Donations fund innovative equipment, education and enhanced patient care.

### **Foundation Bids Farewell to Dedicated Board Members**

The Foundation recently recognized the tremendous contribution made by Pravin Varma (2017-2023), Cindy Crossman (2019-2023) and David Stewart (2019-2023).



#### SMH Foundation Awards Bursaries 2023

The Sackville Memorial Hospital Foundation awarded three \$1,750 bursaries to Tantramar Regional High School students who will be studying in the health care field.

One of the bursaries was established in honour of Foundation board members who have passed away.

This year's recipients are **Ava Allen**, **Marlise Carter**, and **Mack Faulkner**.

### 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Bill Evans Chair Jane Braedley Vice-Chair & Secretary Diane Michaud Treasurer

#### Directors

Alice Cotton Jocelyn Ollerhead Marilyn Prescott Carolle de Ste-Croix Thank you for all that you have done to advance the Foundation's mission



### **Colouring Kits Create Diversion for Children**

Foundation-sponsored colouring kits are provided to families with children visiting the SMH Emergency Room (ER). The purpose of the kits are to help keep children occupied during their stay.





18-month-old Ryleigh Cormier is keeping busy colouring before being seen by ER staff.



# Staff Education: **A Foundation Priority**

The following Horizon Health Network staff were awarded funds since April 2023, which in turn benefits patients and their families. Education funding is a partnership between the Foundation and the SMH Auxiliary. **Over \$3,700 was invested in the staff education opportunities below.** 

Staff person	Department	Participated in
<b>Hailey Langille</b> , Dietician	Food Services	NB Professional Diabetes Conference
<b>Jennifer Newman</b> , Physiotherapist	Physio	NB Vestibular Rehabilitation— A Comprehensive Introduction
<b>Corinna Power</b> , Nurse Practitioner	Port Elgin Health Centre	Annual Nurse Practitioner Conference, Toronto
Kate Chapman, Nurse Manager	Brunswick West	McMaster Continuing Education (Online)– Leadership Foundations & Tactical Humor
Sarah Brown, Facility Business Manager	SMH	Strategic Marketing Planning (Online)– UNB Fredericton

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**



The mission of the Sackville Memorial Hospital Foundation is to raise funds and administer its resources to preserve, maintain and enhance the quality of health care in the Tantramar region.