

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Support Needed to Strengthen Emergency Care at Sackville Memorial Hospital



SACKVILLE, NB — Every day inside the Emergency Department at Horizon’s Sackville Memorial Hospital (SMH), care teams face a simple but urgent reality: when seconds matter, having the right equipment can make all the difference.

That reality is driving a new **\$120,000 fundraising campaign** launched by the Sackville Memorial Hospital Foundation to upgrade essential emergency care equipment—to ensure patients receive timely, safe, and dignified care when they need it most.

Every person who comes to the Emergency Department—from parents with a sick child to those with life-threatening injuries—is looking for care delivered with empathy, respect, and reassurance.

“Our Emergency Department is often where people come during some of the most vulnerable moments of their lives. We see everything—medical emergencies, traumatic injuries, complex illnesses, and families seeking reassurance. Having reliable, up-to-date equipment allows us to respond quickly and provide the level of care our community deserves.”

Dr. Bruno Chiasson, Emergency Department Physician

Patient volumes at SMH continue to rise, with **12,000 visits recorded last year**, up significantly from **8,900 just a few years ago**. As demand grows, existing equipment is being used more frequently and for longer durations than originally intended.

To keep pace, the Foundation’s campaign will fund a range of critical tools, including:

- **ECG Machine (\$22,000):** Essential for rapid heart monitoring and diagnosis
- **Glidescope (\$28,000):** Enables faster, safer airway management in emergencies
- **Bladder Scanner (\$14,000):** Reduces unnecessary catheterization and improves patient comfort
- **Portable Vascular Doppler (\$600):** Quickly assess blood flow and circulation
- **Transport Chairs (\$4,000 x 6):** Improve mobility, comfort, and efficiency throughout the department

- **Weight-compatible Stretchers (\$6,000 x 2):** Safely accommodate a broader range of patients
- **Trauma Bariatric Stretcher (\$14,000):** Ensures dignity, safety, and proper support for all patients

These tools are not luxuries—they are necessities. They help our health care team diagnose faster, treat more effectively, reduce physical strain on staff, and deliver safer, more respectful care.

Support from donors has already made a meaningful impact at SMH, helping to enhance care and improve patient experiences. With this new campaign, the Foundation is inviting the community to once again come together in support of local health care.

“Together, we can ensure our Emergency Department remains ready—not just for today, but for the growing number of patients who will depend on it in the years ahead.”

Bill Carroll, Campaign Chair

Help us prepare for urgent care. A gift today directly supports essential emergency equipment—ensuring our Emergency Department is ready for the next patient who walks through our doors needing immediate care.

Give today at SMHF.ca/Donate

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