

the **LifeLine**

St. Paul's Hospital Staff Newsletter



**St. Paul's Hospital
& Foundation**

Together, for Good.

What Kind of Paradise is This Community?

What does the perfect community look like? Who would be there? What challenges—if any—would you face?

For many Christians, they would refer back to the Garden of Eden which is often described as “paradise”. In fact, the word paradise literally translates to “an enclosed garden”. Adam and Eve could be seen as the first perfect community.

In the book of Genesis, God put Adam in the garden along with water, fruit, and all manners of flora and fauna. Paradise! Well, not quite yet...

In this creation myth, God sees that Adam is lonely so he creates Eve. Paradise! Well, not quite yet...

There was still work to be done. Land to be tilled. Gardens to tend to. Even in paradise, there is labour and struggle.

Here at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation, we speak of ourselves as “a community of health, hope and healing for all”. But

we recognize every hour of every day that this is no paradise.

Even in the story of the Garden of Eden, there was temptation in the form of a tree. And there was a snake in that tree. How long did it take for Eden to go from paradise to devastation? Well, in scriptural terms, about ten sentences.

When many of us who work at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation drive or walk to work, we drive—geographically—up a pleasant hill. We see what is going on in this community: poverty, addiction, crime, violence, racism, oppression, hopelessness, disease. We see every brokenness of the world being lived out in graphic detail.

And we invite those struggles into St. Paul's because we are trying to create a little oasis; a little enclosed garden. In this community, we recognize that there is labour and struggle. There is hard, painful work to be done but this is our mission.

...continued

The SPH LifeLine



**St. Paul's Hospital
& Foundation**

Published for and by the employees of St. Paul's Hospital

1702 - 20th Street West - Saskatoon, SK - S7M 0Z9

www.sphsfk.ca

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What Kind of Paradise is this
Community continued...

St. Paul's Hospital is no paradise but when we look through the lens of mission, we can see that the efforts we make are like the efforts we make in any garden: we nurture, we water, we pull

weeds and scare away birds and gophers so we may prosper.

The first and smallest community was not perfect. Why should we expect this complicated world to be any different?

Blake Sittler
Director of Mission



It's Simple... We Are a Community

It's simple We are a community.

One of the questions I have come to love asking staff is, "Why do you choose to work at St. Paul's?" The answers are never exactly the same, but they often carry the same feeling. People speak about purpose. They speak about relationships. They speak about caring for one another, not only as colleagues, but as people who are part of something larger than themselves. They speak about the Love Cart.

And when visitors come to St. Paul's, I often hear a similar reflection: "It feels different here." They may not always have the words to describe it, but they feel it. They notice the way people greet one another. They notice the care, the warmth, the compassion, and the sense of belonging. They notice that SPH is more than a hospital. It is a community.

That community is not created by a mission statement on a wall. It is created by each of you, every day.

It is created in the way you welcome patients and families. In the way you support a colleague. In the way you pause, listen, explain, comfort, clean, protect, teach, coordinate, advocate, pray, problem-solve, and keep going. These moments may feel small, but together they shape who we are.

We know this work is not easy. Health care is under pressure. The needs of our patients, families, staff, and neighbours in Pleasant Hill are real and

growing. And we also know how much you are already carrying, how much you are already giving, and how often you go above and beyond in ways others may never fully see.

For that, I am deeply grateful.

As we move forward, I invite each of us to keep asking: What do I bring to this community? How do I help others feel welcome, safe, respected, and seen? How can I lead, in my own role, in a way that strengthens who we are together?

The challenge before us is not small. We are being asked to serve in new ways, to lead in new ways, and to continue building trust with one another and with our neighbours. But we do not start from nothing. We start from the strength of this community, and from the commitment you already show every day.

Leadership at SPH does not belong to one person or one position. It lives in how we care, how we speak, how we respond, how we include, and how we choose to show up for one another.

Thank you for the part you play in making St. Paul's different. Thank you for being part of our mission, our workplace, and our neighborhood. SPH is a community because of you — and our future will be shaped by the ways we continue to lead together.

Carrie Dornstauder

Executive Director - St. Paul's Hospital
and The Hospice at Glengarda

Front Entry: Building Community from the First Door

The Front Entry at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation (SPH&F) is more than a doorway. It is often the first place where patients, families, visitors, staff, and community members experience the spirit of our hospital. A greeting, directions, a wheelchair, or a kind word during a stressful moment can make a meaningful difference. In many ways, community begins at the front door.

The Front Entry Program supports wayfinding, safety, hospitality, and connection. Each day, Unit Support Workers (USWs), volunteers, Protective Services, Information and Registration staff, First Nations and Métis Health colleagues, Spiritual Care, Foundation staff, and others work together to help people feel welcomed and supported.

In July alone, USWs assisted 3,422 individuals across the hospital, highlighting their important role in supporting patients, families, and visitors every day.

Under the Front Entry and Community Liaison role, several programs and partnerships come together with a shared focus on community. Front Entry porters assist with wayfinding, wheelchairs, staxis, public washroom checks, patient flow, and support for those leaving appointments, including dialysis patients and others needing extra assistance. Volunteers bring hospitality and warmth to the space, helping patients and visitors navigate

what can often feel like an overwhelming building.

The Healing Centre, *kikâwinaw wiki*, meaning "Our Mother's Home," is also an important part of the community work at SPH&F. It offers space for ceremony, reflection, gathering, and support, reminding us that healing is more than clinical care. At SPH&F, we care for the whole person, recognizing that spiritual, emotional, physical, and mental well-being all contribute to healing. Supports such as art, music, writing, and Indigenous spirituality help foster comfort, connection, and hope.

The Robert Stein Courtyard is another example of community and care in action. It provides a safe outdoor space for patients, families, and visitors, while relying on collaboration, clear communication, and shared responsibility across departments.

Community also means bringing services closer to people. Through partnerships with agencies such as Service Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency, SPH&F has hosted clinics that help patients and community members access important supports. These services reduce barriers for people facing illness, poverty, transportation challenges, or difficulties navigating systems.

The Front Entry also supports seasonal and emerging needs, including the Cold Weather Strategy and PPE Cart. These

initiatives may seem simple, but they demonstrate how small supports can make a meaningful difference for people facing vulnerability.

What makes the Front Entry work meaningful is the number of people who contribute to it. No single department owns community. It is created through relationship: when staff pause to help someone who is lost, when a volunteer offers reassurance, when Protective Services responds with care and professionalism, when First Nations and Métis Health helps a family feel culturally supported, and when teams work together to solve problems before they become barriers.

At SPH&F, the Front Entry is where many stories begin. Some arrive anxious, grieving, unwell, or unsure. Others arrive to visit, to work, to volunteer, or to support someone they love. Our goal is



to meet people with dignity from the moment they come through the door.

Community is not just a theme for Lifeline. It is the heart of this work. At the Front Entry, community is lived every day through welcome, safety, service, compassion, and connection.

Bonnie Marwood

Front Entry Lead & Community Liaison

Smudge Kits

Smudge kits are available for patients who wish to pray or smudge on their own time during their stay at SPH&F.



The smudge kits are prepared here and includes a cloth pouch containing a small bag of sage, a shell for safely burning the sage, matches, and an information sheet explaining the purpose of smudging and how to perform it.

Patients can request a smudge kit through First Nations & Métis Health Services during regular hours or through Protective Services at the Front Entrance after hours. We are honoured to support patients in accessing this important spiritual and cultural practice whenever they need it.

Stronger Together: The Power of Community

One of the things that makes Emmanuel Health unique is that our communities don't simply receive care—they help shape it.

Whether it's at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation in Saskatoon, St. Joseph's Hospital in Estevan, St. Ann's in Saskatoon, or any of the other Emmanuel Health facilities across Saskatchewan, our communities have always been more than the people we serve. They are our partners, our advocates, our volunteers, our donors, and our neighbours. Every one of our organizations has its own story, history, and community, but together they form one Emmanuel Health family. It is those local connections that strengthen our organization and help ensure we remain focused on what matters most: providing compassionate, person-centred care rooted in dignity, compassion, and respect.

That partnership has been at the heart of Catholic healthcare for generations. Long before healthcare systems were centralized, communities came together with religious congregations to establish hospitals, care homes, and health services because they believed everyone deserved access to quality healthcare close to home.



Today, that same spirit lives on through our Local Councils, Foundations, Board members, volunteers, Indigenous partners, patients, residents, families, and staff. Together, they provide invaluable perspectives that strengthen our governance and help shape the future of Emmanuel Health.

Over the past year, we have seen that partnership in action. From the opening of the new front entrance and kikâwinaw wiki (Our Mother's Home) Healing Centre at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation to continued community support for the MRI project in Estevan, long-term care expansion in Ponteix, and Foundation-led initiatives across our facilities, these accomplishments have only been possible because communities continue to invest their time, resources, and ideas in the future of healthcare.

Healthcare continues to evolve, bringing both new opportunities and new challenges. As we look ahead, one thing remains constant: the best decisions are made when they are informed by the people closest to the care. Every suggestion from a staff member, every conversation with a patient or resident, every volunteer who gives their time, and every community member who shares their perspective contributes to building a stronger health system.

That is the Emmanuel Health difference.

We believe healthcare is strongest when it is shaped by the communities it serves. By listening, partnering, and walking alongside one another, we honour the rich traditions of Catholic healthcare while ensuring our services continue to meet the needs of future generations. Together, we are building healthier communities and a stronger healthcare system for generations to come.

Corey Miller
President & CEO, Emmanuel Health

The Cookie Cart!

The cookie Cart is a 'sweet' way to say *thank you* to the wonderful staff at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation!

It is always such a good feeling to see people recognize something that stands out as an appreciation for what they do and how valuable their presence is as part of the larger picture of SPH&F.

Dorothy and Irene from Spiritual Care started this project three years ago. Considering they both work the evening shift, they felt it would be a special way to bring a little extra joy and something to smile about during their shift. They often plan cookie cart visits around special occasions and holidays as a way to celebrate and uplift the team.



Beyond the treats, the Cookie Cart helps strengthen the sense of community that makes SPH&F such a special place. It creates moments of connection, gratitude, and belonging, reminding staff that they are part of a caring team working together to support patients, families, and one another.

You are seen. You work hard. We feel blessed to do this as a small way of saying, "You are awesome, appreciated, and so very needed." Your contributions are an essential part of providing holistic care, and the difference you make every day does not go unnoticed.

Community at Hospice: A Place Where Everyone Belongs

Community is often thought of as a place or a group of people who share something in common. At Hospice at Glengarda, community means something even deeper. It is built through relationships, compassion, generosity, and a shared commitment to ensuring that no one walks the end-of-life journey alone.

From the moment patients and families arrive, they become part of a community built on dignity, connection, and compassionate care. Nurses, physicians, care partners, social work, spiritual care, music therapy, volunteers, and support staff each contribute their expertise, creating a welcoming environment where every interaction, whether clinical or non-clinical, helps foster a sense of belonging and support.

Community is also found in the moments between the care we provide. Families gather around the kitchen table to share stories over coffee or a homemade meal. Patients connect through art programs, flower arranging, and music therapy, while volunteers offer companionship, conversation, or quiet presence at the bedside. Children's laughter during family visits and the comfort of beloved pets add to the warmth of Hospice. These everyday moments remind us that Hospice is not only a place of care, but a place where life continues, relationships deepen, and meaningful memories are made.

One of the unique strengths of our Hospice community is the generosity that surrounds it. Many programs and experiences that enrich the lives of patients and families are made possible through the support of donors and community partners who believe in compassionate end-of-life care. Their generosity helps provide therapeutic programs, family supports, volunteer initiatives, and other enhancements that bring comfort and connection throughout the hospice journey. Although many donors never meet those they support, their kindness is felt every day.

Volunteers are a remarkable expression of community in action. By sharing their time, talents, and compassion, whether at the bedside, through our Family Fridge program, or at special events, they extend the reach of our care and remind patients and families that they are supported not only by healthcare professionals, but also by neighbours who have chosen to give back.



<https://sphfsk.ca/hospice>



Community extends well beyond the walls of Hospice. We are strengthened through partnerships with St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation, healthcare providers across the province, local businesses, faith communities and organizations that share our commitment to compassionate care. These relationships allow us to continue growing, learning, and responding to the changing needs of the patients and families we serve.

One of the greatest gifts within our Hospice community is that everyone has something meaningful to contribute. Patients and families share stories, wisdom, and resilience. Staff bring knowledge and compassion. Volunteers offer their time and presence. Donors make opportunities possible. Together, these contributions help create a community where people feel seen, valued, and cared for.

At its heart, community at Hospice is built through everyday acts of kindness. It is found in a warm welcome at the front door, a comforting hand held during a difficult moment, or simply sitting quietly beside someone who needs to know they are not alone. These moments remind us that compassionate care is never the work of one individual but the work of an entire community.

Hospice at Glengarda is more than a place where compassionate end-of-life care is provided. It is a community where people come together to support one another through life's most vulnerable moments. Through compassion, generosity, collaboration, and human connection, we create a place where every patient, family member, volunteer, donor, community partner, and staff member knows they belong. Together, we remind one another that no one has to face this journey alone.

The Mosaic of Care: Faith Based Advanced Health Care Directives Are a Blessing

Peter Oliver
Executive Director: Catholic Health Association of Saskatchewan (CHAS)



The most beautiful sound you will ever hear is the voice of God. That stands to reason because God is beauty itself, and all that is beautiful has been created by God. In light of this grace, Catholicism sees community as received and each member of our community as a beautiful gift.

There are milestone moments in life when it is important to recognize people as gifts within our families and communities, such as birthdays, weddings, baptisms, Christmas, and Easter. One of the most meaningful times to offer this affirmation is during a serious health crisis.

The beautiful gift of persons in the community—how threatened it is by illness, suffering, and death! W.H. Auden's poem "Funeral Blues" speaks of the heartache of loss that is both personally and universally understood:

"He was my North, my South, my East and West,
My working week and my Sunday rest,
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
I thought that love would last forever: I was wrong.
The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
For nothing now can ever come to any good."

The pain of it is enough to make a very courageous person quake, something we prefer to ignore. Let me ask this: is there a way we can engage these realities and clearly recognize the gift of persons in community? It would need to be firm, well thought out, and respectful of all the complexities a health crisis generates. It would need to be beautiful.

In June of 2021, my mother died in the palliative care ward of SPH. Years before she died, she named me as the proxy in her Faith-Based Advance Health Care Directive. It was a beautiful gift—a sacrament—it touched my heart and continues to lift my spirit years after her death.

The Faith-Based Advance Health Care Directive, published by CHAS, is a legally binding document that allows you to outline your treatment wishes and appoint trusted individuals (proxies) to speak on your behalf if needed. Rooted in the belief that life is sacred, it helps ensure your values, faith traditions, and dignity are respected. The directive describes life as "a gift of a loving God," encourages sharing your wishes with loved ones, and highlights palliative care's role in relieving suffering and supporting relationships and spirituality, while recognizing that some may wish to prepare for death through the practices and sacraments of their faith tradition.

Completing a Faith-Based Advance Care Directive is an outward-looking act. It helps us share our wishes so others can better support and care for us. Grounded in Catholic ethics, it reminds us that we are part of a network of relationships and that end-of-life decisions are supported by a loving community.

Facing illness and death takes courage, but we do not have to face these challenges alone. With the support of family, friends, community, and thoughtful planning, what we fear most can become a meaningful blessing.

To access the care directive go to:
<https://chassk.ca/faithbasedcare/>

Retirement Celebrations



Amanda (Mandy) Orban (4th from the left), RN, Pre- and Post-Operative Day Surgery

After a valued career at St. Paul's Hospital, Mandy Orban is retiring! Reflecting on her time at SPH, she shared, "This is absolutely the best place to work." Mandy will miss her team and wishes them all the best.

Know someone who is retiring?

Help us celebrate their contributions in an upcoming edition of Lifeline. Send Ashley a photo and short write-up.

For submissions and article inquiries:

Ashley Drayton
Mission Office Coordinator
ashley.drayton@emmanuelhealth.ca
306-655-5808

Message from Bishop Mark Hagemoen for St. Paul's Hospital



Summer offers us the opportunity for rest and renewal. It is a time to connect with family, loved ones, and friends and acquaintances. In Saskatoon, it is also a time to thank God for the

gift of community. During summer our neighbourhoods seem to come alive, families and friends make time to gather, and we are reminded that some of life's most meaningful moments are found simply by sharing time together.

Yet community is more than proximity. It is the assurance that we belong and the knowledge that, especially in times of need, we do not walk alone.

For us as Christians, this call to community runs deeper still. Christ reminds us that in caring for one another, particularly those who are most vulnerable, we encounter Him: **"Just as you did it to one of the least of these... you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).**

This spirit of faithful and compassionate care is deeply woven into the life and mission of St. Paul's Hospital. Each day, community takes visible shape through people caring for people: through the dedication of those who serve, the generosity of those who give, and the countless quiet acts of kindness

extended to patients and families during some of life's most vulnerable moments.

Individually, these acts may seem small. But the little things matter! Together, they create something powerful. They remind us that a truly compassionate community is built when we recognize the God-given dignity of every person and choose to be present to one another.

As we enjoy these summer months, may we take time to appreciate the communities that surround us - and to consider how we might 'bless' and strengthen them. A visit, a conversation, an act of generosity, or simply making room for someone who feels alone can become a profound expression of love and care.

May God continue to bless the St. Paul's Hospital community, and all those whose compassion and generosity help continue to make it a place where people experience excellent care: which features dignity, hope, and belonging.

Thank you and God bless you all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
+ Mark Hagemoen

Most Reverend Mark A. Hagemoen
Bishop of Saskatoon



<https://rcdos.ca/our-diocese/bishop-mark-hagemoen/>

Palliative Care Week - May 2026 Community at the Heart of Palliative Care



Community is a group of people who belong together in some way and support each other. It can be built in subtle ways like a kind word, a listening ear, or the steady presence of someone who chooses to walk alongside another person during a difficult time.

Palliative Care Week reminded us that palliative care is about people. Palliative care is about community, our interconnectedness and interdependence as people beyond departments, organizations and roles. For the first time we gathered patients, families, volunteers, partners like Prairie Hospice, Sanctum, Medavie, along with leaders, physicians and staff from Palliative Home Care, St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation Palliative Care Unit and Hospice at Glengarda to develop and share the meaning of palliative services. It is about helping patients and families feel supported, heard, and cared for as they face serious illness. It is about tending to the whole person including

the body, mind, and spirit. It is community that ensures care through dignity, comfort, and connection.

Through listening, engagement, education, and measurement, we are learning and responding to what matters to people. We are learning what is working well and where more support is needed. We are asking important questions so that we can continue to improve our community of service.

This work reminds us that palliative care belongs to all of us. It is strengthened by relationships, by community, and by the shared belief that no one should face serious illness alone.

Together, we continue to build a community of care rooted in compassion, dignity, hope, and love.

Michael MacFadden
Project Lead - Hospice Clinical Framework



Truth and Reconciliation Committee: Walking Forward Together at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation

Bonnie Marwood
TRC Committee Member
Front Entry Lead & Community Liaison



At St. Pauls Hospital & Foundation (SPH&F), Truth and Reconciliation is more than a statement. It is a commitment to learning, listening, relationship-building, and taking meaningful action in the daily life of the hospital.

The Truth and Reconciliation Committee helps guide this work by supporting projects and conversations that strengthen cultural safety, deepen understanding, and honour the experiences of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis patients, families, staff, and community members. The committee's work is rooted in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, particularly those connected to health care, education, equity, and respectful relationships.

Through its work, the committee encourages staff to consider how reconciliation can be lived out in practical ways. This includes supporting education and awareness, creating opportunities for cultural learning, strengthening relationships with First Nations and Métis Health, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and community partners, and helping ensure Indigenous patients and families feel seen, respected, and welcomed within the hospital.

One important example of this commitment is kikâwinaw wiki, Our Mother's Home, the Indigenous Healing Centre at SPH&F. This dedicated space supports ceremony, smudging, prayer,

teaching, family gathering, and cultural connection. It provides patients, families, staff, and community partners with a place where Indigenous ways of knowing, healing, and being are respected and welcomed within the hospital environment.

The TRC Committee continued the Reconcile with Action Speaker Series, a lecture series designed to deepen staff understanding of systemic health disparities experienced by First Nations communities. The series explores how our hospital can support reconciliation and improve health outcomes by recognizing the impacts of historic trauma and ongoing inequities. Our most recent speaker was Senator Solomon Sanderson, a member of the Chakastaypasin Band of the Cree Nation. Senator Sanderson discussed the many historic nation-to-nation agreements between First Nations and Canada, their enduring significance, and what these agreements mean in Canada today.

Another meaningful example of this work was the Red Dress Pin beading workshop facilitated by local Métis beadwork artist Madison Marwood. The workshop created space for staff and community members to learn through art, conversation, and reflection. The red dress is a powerful symbol honouring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people. Through beading, participants were invited to slow down, listen, and reflect on the importance of

remembrance, justice, and collective responsibility.

These projects remind us that reconciliation is not completed through one event, one training session, or one space. It is built through many small and meaningful actions over time. It happens when staff take the time to listen, when patients and families are treated with dignity, when ceremony is respected, when cultural identity is honoured, and when difficult conversations are approached with humility and care.

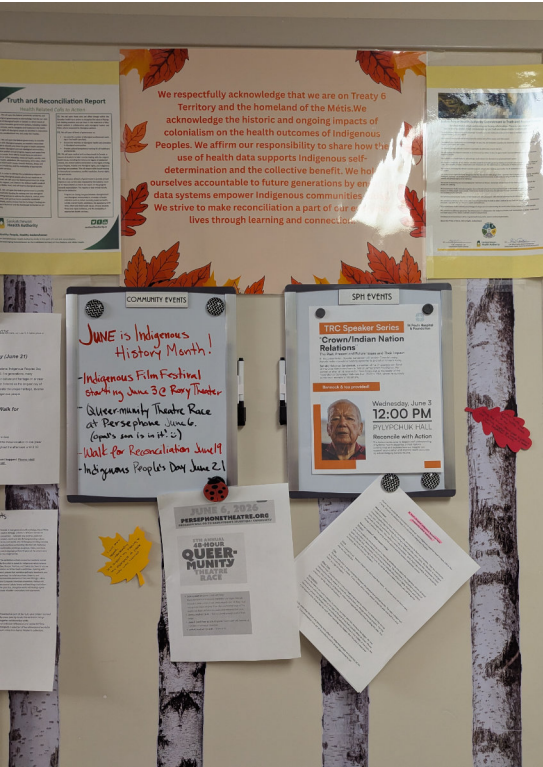
The Truth and Reconciliation Committee continues to help SPH&F move forward with intention. Its work invites all of us to reflect on our own roles in reconciliation and to ask how we can contribute to a safer, more respectful, and more compassionate hospital environment.

As this work continues, SPH&F remains committed to walking alongside Indigenous patients, families, staff, and community partners in a spirit of respect, humility, and shared responsibility.



Bonnie Marwood, Tinaya Entz, Ashley Drayton & Blake Sittler at the St. Mary's Powwow

Health Records Reconciliation Display



The Health Records Department created a reconciliation display board to promote learning, awareness, and engagement. Located in a common hallway, it features a birch tree design displaying educational resources, event information, and a reconciliation statement acknowledging Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis.

The board highlights the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, Indigenous health initiatives, and opportunities for ongoing learning. It is regularly updated with information on community events such as Indigenous film screenings, Indigenous Peoples Day activities, and Walks for Reconciliation.

Through meaningful visuals and educational content, the display inspires reflection, learning, and support for reconciliation through everyday actions and connections.

Clothing Room Donation!

When Chirag Patel with Giant Tiger in Market Mall learned that some patients at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation lacked proper footwear, he knew he wanted to help. We're so grateful for this generous in-kind donation of shoes to help those in need! The Mission Office added these shoes to the St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation clothing room and helped get them to the people in most need.

You can help too by donating clean items to the clothing room! Drop donations off at the Mission Office.



SPH&F Clothing Room: Supporting Patients Beyond Care



Did you know that St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation has a Clothing Room? The Clothing Room, supported by the Mission Office and dedicated volunteers, provides clean, donated clothing to patients in need, particularly those whose belongings have been lost, damaged, or are unavailable. Whether someone arrives without appropriate attire, is experiencing financial hardship, or requires weather-appropriate clothing for discharge, this resource ensures that every patient can leave the hospital with dignity.

This initiative plays an important role in enabling safe and timely discharges by ensuring patients have suitable clothing, allowing staff to support smoother transitions back into the community.

The Clothing Room is a practical service and a reflection of our mission and values. It embodies compassion, care and respect.

How You Can Help: The Clothing Room relies on the generosity of staff. Donations of freshly laundered, appropriate items including:

- Sweatpants and lounge pants
- Plain t-shirts (long & short sleeve)
- Sweatshirts, sweaters, hoodies
- Coats and jackets
- Socks
- Flat shoes & boots (low-heel)
- Sports bras

- Winter accessories such as toques, scarves, and mittens
- New, packaged underwear only

All donations can be dropped off at the Mission Office.

Items We Cannot Accept

- Any patients' clothing
- Shorts
- Tank tops or crop tops
- Dresses or bathing suits
- Underwire bras
- Children's clothing
- Blouses, dress shirts, formal wear
- Unclean, stained, or damaged items
- Clothing with holes or inappropriate language/graphics

We appreciate your understanding in helping us maintain a respectful and functional resource.

When visiting the Clothing Room:

Take the items you need and fill out the metrics paper. Tracking usage helps identify which items are most needed, ensuring donations are targeted and readily available for future patients. Make sure to close the door tightly when you leave.

For more information about the SPH&F Clothing Room contact the Mission Office:

ashley.drayton@emmanuelhealth.ca
306.655.5808

Professional Development: Learning That Strengthens Care

Every day at St. Paul's Hospital, our teams bring knowledge, skill and compassion to the people in our care. But learning does not stop when we begin our careers. Continuing to grow as professionals helps us strengthen the care we provide today and imagine what care could look like tomorrow.

That is the spirit behind the St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation Professional Development Fund and Professional Development Awards.

Professional Development Fund

The Professional Development Fund supports Nurses, Interprofessional Staff and Operational Leaders who want to build advanced skills, explore new approaches to care or bring new knowledge back to St. Paul's Hospital and our province.

Funding can support opportunities such as advanced competency training, conferences, workshops, site visits, national networks and training connected to new programs or approaches to care.

Applications are reviewed monthly, with funding available on a first-come basis until Jan. 31, 2027.

Professional Development Awards

The Professional Development Awards offer a different range of opportunities for St. Paul's Hospital employees. Supported through the St. Marguerite d'Youville Endowment, the annual awards include education and scholarship opportunities, support for in-hospital programs, innovation funding and continuing education in Mental Health and Addictions.



For 2026, awards include the Les Dubé Scholarship, LPN Education Award, In-Hospital Program Assistance, Urban and Rod Donlevy Innovation Award and Ian Buckwold Mental Health and Addictions Continuing Education Award. Each award has its own eligibility requirements and application criteria, with applications due **Sept. 18, 2026**.

Tips for a strong application

Whether you are applying for the Fund or an Award, take some time to think about the impact of your opportunity before you begin.

Connect your learning to care.

Be specific about how the opportunity will strengthen patient outcomes, experience or safety, or benefit your colleagues and workplace.

Think about what comes next.

Consider how you will share your learning with your team and translate new knowledge into practice.

Choose the right opportunity.

Review the eligibility and requirements carefully. The Fund and Awards support different types of professional development.

Talk with your leader.

Your Manager, Director or Supervisor can help you identify the right opportunity and provide guidance through the application process.

Ready to apply?

Full information, eligibility requirements, application forms and instructions for both the Professional Development

Fund and Professional Development Awards are available on the St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation website.

To learn more and apply, visit:
sphfsk.ca/empowering-our-people



When we invest in our own learning, we strengthen the knowledge and skills we bring to one another and to the people we serve. Together, we can keep learning, growing and building on the compassionate care that defines St. Paul's Hospital.



The Statue of the Sacred Heart

This article is based on information from the “St. Paul’s Hospital, Our Story: 75 Years of Caring” Anniversary Booklet and other St. Paul’s Hospital archive documents.



https://www.chac.ca/documents/375/Saskatoon_St._Pauls_Hospital_75th.pdf



Current location of the Statue outside the front entrance of St. Paul’s Hospital

For over 100 years, the Statue of the Sacred Heart has served Saskatoon. From its first location atop the original 1912 building to the 20th Street garden, the Avenue R entrance, and now the main entrance, it has remained a constant reminder of our mission to radiate God’s love into the world.

The Statue of the Sacred Heart was designed and cast in bronze by a commissioned sculptor in France, and is an exact replica of the statue in front of the famous Cathedral de Montmartre in Paris. Depicting Jesus with outstretched arms, it symbolizes solace and comfort for the sick and infirm. The statue stands 8 feet high and weighs 1,000lbs.



The statue above the Main Entrance of the original SPH building 1924-1963

Following its journey by transatlantic steamship and transcontinental freight train, the Statue arrived in Saskatoon on October 30, 1924. Less than a month later, on November 26, it was placed

atop the original St. Paul’s Hospital, above the front entrance facing Avenue P and overlooking downtown Saskatoon. Illuminated by lights on the hospital grounds, the Statue could be seen by everyone.



The Sacred Heart statue once stood at the center of the park, in the area that is now used for emergency parking.

The Statue of the Sacred Heart had long been a hope of the Grey Nuns who served at St. Paul’s Hospital since its opening in 1907. It remained atop the original hospital building until its demolition in 1964, after the opening of the new hospital, now known as B-Wing. The Statue was then placed on the 1912 cornerstone and installed in a park area at the corner of 20th Street and Avenue P.

The Statue was later moved in front of the B-wing main entrance (c. mid-1960’s) where it stayed until being relocated to the side lawn of the C-wing entrance in November 2023 during the Front Entryway Construction Project. In 2024, a discernment process was undertaken to determine the Statue’s next home following the reopening of the hospital’s front entrance. The process brought together Catholic



The Statue in front of the B-wing Main entrance mid 1960’s - November 2023

health care leaders, community members, and Grey Nuns still actively serving in Pleasant Hill. Three locations were considered for the Statue’s permanent home: the C-Wing entrance, the vehicle roundabout at the main entrance, and the garden beside the main entrance.

As the discernment process unfolded, a fresh snowfall revealed an unexpected discovery. Footprints and a well-worn path showed that the Statue, standing alone on the hospital grounds, was regularly visited by people entering St. Paul’s Hospital. To ensure it remained accessible, the discernment group unanimously chose the garden beside the Front Entrance as its new home, where it continues to welcome all who enter into a healing relationship.



Staff Giving: Caring for Our Community

Staff often describe St. Paul’s Hospital as a special place to work.

The spirit of this hospital is found in the way we greet each other in the hallways, support one another through difficult days, celebrate together and show up for our colleagues when they need us most.

That spirit doesn’t happen by accident. It is built intentionally and sustained through programs that strengthen our community.

Many of the programs that make this a special place to work and receive care are funded in whole or in part through donor generosity. Programs like the Love Cart, Schwartz Rounds, Feast Days, music and art therapy, and professional development opportunities all help create the compassionate, connected environment we value so deeply.

Every day, our teams do extraordinary work for patients and families. But we know that great healthcare requires more than dedication alone. It requires innovation, education, equipment and the programs that support both patients and staff.

That’s where donor support makes a difference. It also supports something equally important: the culture of our hospital.

We recognize that you already give of yourselves every day. We see you. We see the impact you have on patients,

families, and on one another. And for that, we thank you.

As healthcare professionals, we also know that you see firsthand what our patients need and what makes our hospital unique. And you can also see what makes our colleagues and friends truly special. We can support each other.

That’s why many of your colleagues are choosing to become monthly donors to St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation.

When someone makes a monthly gift, they’re doing more than donating. They’re helping create a reliable source of funding that allows the Foundation to plan ahead, identify emerging needs and respond more quickly when opportunities arise to improve patient care.

Monthly giving helps us close innovation gaps in acute care. It gives us the flexibility to invest in new equipment, support new ideas, and fund projects that might otherwise have to wait.

And it directly supports all those initiatives that make St. Paul’s Hospital such a special place to work.

By becoming monthly donors, we’re investing not only in better care, but in the culture, innovation, and compassion that define who we are.

Even small monthly gifts can make a meaningful difference every single day.

Consider the beloved Love Cart. If our

Hospital employees each contributed just \$5 a month, that would be enough to help sustain the Love Cart while supporting other initiatives that strengthen our hospital community.

Staff giving is not about how much one person can contribute; it’s about participation. It’s a small way to invest in the community we share and the culture of caring we want to sustain.

We already give so much to one another every day. Staff giving is simply another way to care — together, for good.

Daniel Crawshaw
St. Paul’s Hospital Foundation
Manager of Annual Giving
daniel.crawshaw@sphfoundation.org



Scan to donate
or go to:

sphfsk.ca/donate/



Interventional Radiology Supervisor
Renée Smith & the Love Cart

Music in The Front Entrance



Are you a St. Paul’s Hospital & Foundation staff member interested in bringing music and joy to patients, families, visitors, and colleagues during your shift? Share your musical talents and come play for us!

For more information contact one of our Music Therapists:

Lisa Wutch: 0560 or
Tinaya Entz: 5857

The Healing Arts Mobile Book Cart

The Mobile Book Cart at St. Paul's Hospital brings the gift of reading directly to patients and families with a rotating selection of books, magazines, and other reading materials delivered right to the wards. Whether someone is looking for a comforting novel during a long stay, a light read while waiting for an appointment, or a distraction from pain or anxiety, the Book Cart offers a quiet, portable refuge.

By offering a chance to read and reflect, the Book Cart supports emotional and mental well-being, complementing the physical care provided. It's a simple but meaningful way to foster comfort, hope, and connection among everyone who walks through the hospital's doors.



Dan Macdonald
Writer-in-Residence

Our Healing Arts writer-in-residence, Dan Macdonald is always on a mission to collect book donations to provide patients at St. Paul's Hospital with reading materials through our mobile book cart. If you have books and other reading materials you're willing to part with, we're happy to take them off your hands.

Our reading materials needs in descending order (soft cover preferred):

- Crime/Detective novels
- Thriller/Horror (Stephen King, etc.)
- Fantasy and Sci-Fi novels
- Biography or autobiography novels
- Chicken Soup Books and other story collections
- Easy reading magazines (People, US, Time, McLeans, (etc) Sports, Fashion, Home/crafts)
- Graphic novels and comic books
- National Geographic
- Large Print books

If you have any books/magazines, etc., you'd like to donate please contact:

Healing Arts at the Mission Office
306-655-5808

Dan Macdonald at 306-655-5873
daniel.macdonald@emmanuelhealth.ca

We and our patients thank you!



St. Paul's Hospital
& Foundation

DID YOU KNOW?

St. Paul's Hospital Foundation funds more than just acute care equipment?

Programs such as Foundation Draws, Schwartz Rounds, Feast Day, the Love Cart, Professional Development, Spiritual Care, and Healing Arts & Music Therapy, just to name a few, are funded in whole or in part through donor generosity.

*By becoming a **monthly donor**, you can help provide ongoing care, staff support, and patient programs throughout the year for as little as **\$5 a month**.*

Sign up for monthly giving by visiting sphfsk.ca/donate



Questions? We'd be happy to help. Call 306.655.5000

Summer Students at St. Paul's Hospital

A Full Circle Story



Tahmina — Former Volunteer and Summer Student Volunteer

Did you know that St. Paul's Hospital has summer student volunteers?

The Saskatoon Volunteer Services Summer Student program has been running since 2024. During July and August, high school students volunteer a minimum of 42 hours building experiences and connections within health care. Facilities that participate vary from year to year, but this year students served at Royal University Hospital, Jim Pattison Children's Hospital, Parkridge Community Centre and St. Paul's Hospital.

Tahmina started volunteering at St. Paul's Hospital as a summer student in 2024. She started out as a Hospitality volunteer, then continued after the program finished as a Book Cart volunteer and later volunteer on the Hemodialysis unit.

Tamina concluded her volunteering this June and has moved to Alberta to pursue a degree in Community Rehabilitation at the University of Calgary and then go into nursing. Tamina commented that, "volunteering influenced me to choose a career in healthcare. St. Paul's Hospital has been a really positive place to volunteer. I have learned from my interactions with patients on the Hemodialysis Unit that even though we may come from different backgrounds or circumstances, we are all the same at the core".



Scan to learn more about volunteering at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation

As Tahmina was moving on, the next group of summer student volunteers was just getting started. This summer the Book Cart was fortunate enough to have two students, Batool and Brynn. They have enjoyed handing out reading material as well as visiting with patients and families.



Brynn and Batool 2026 Summer Students at St. Paul's Hospital



Volunteer Spotlight: Afolake

Since May 29, 2025, Afolake has been volunteering in the Hemodialysis Unit at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation through the IMG Support Program. She is now taking the next step in her career, beginning a Family Medicine residency at Western University in Ontario.

While we will miss her warm presence and dedication, we are excited for her future and wish her every success.

"I sincerely want to thank Volunteer Services, St. Paul's Hospital, Saskatoon, and the entire Hemodialysis Unit for the opportunity to volunteer with you. It has been a very meaningful experience, and I truly appreciate the kindness, support, and knowledge shared with me during my time with the unit." - Afolake



Afolake and Melanie Sadler (SPH&F Volunteer Coordinator)
To volunteer at SPH&F contact: melanie.sadler@saskhealthauthority.ca

By Your Side Kidney Care Campaign Celebrated with Closing Event and Transformational Gift

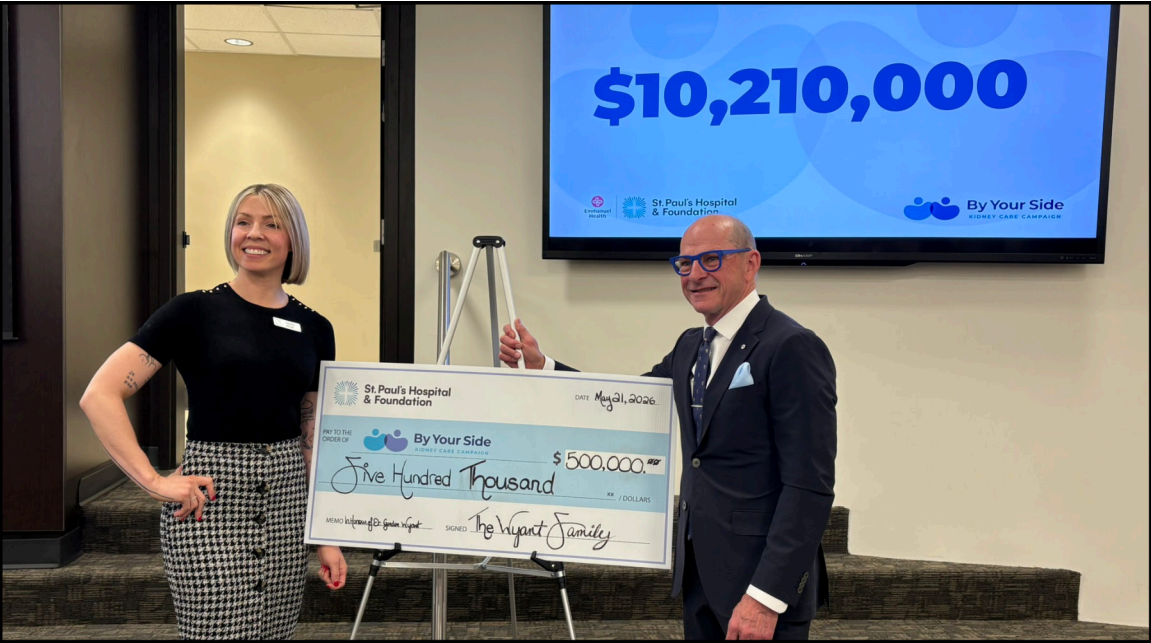
St. Paul's Hospital Foundation recently marked the successful conclusion of the By Your Side Kidney Care Campaign, celebrating the collective efforts of donors, healthcare leaders, clinicians, patient advocates, and community partners who came together to improve kidney care for patients across Saskatchewan.

A highlight of the closing celebration on May 21, 2026, was the recognition of Vaughn Wyant and family for their extraordinary \$500,000 gift in honour of Dr. Gordon Wyant, a pioneer in Saskatchewan kidney care and one of the early leaders in kidney

transplantation in the province.

The gift honours Dr. Wyant's legacy of innovation, leadership, and patient-centred care. Although medicine has evolved significantly since Dr. Wyant helped shape Saskatchewan's kidney transplant program, the values that guided his work remain central to healthcare today: treating every patient with compassion, dignity and respect.

The Wyant family's generosity will help strengthen kidney care services and support patients and families for years to come, ensuring Dr. Wyant's legacy continues to make a difference for future generations.



The closing event served as both a celebration of a successful campaign and a reminder of what can be achieved when philanthropy and healthcare work together. Every gift, whether large or small, contributed to a shared vision of better care for kidney patients across Saskatchewan.

A Campaign to Enhance Care

The campaign was built around a simple but important goal: enhancing the care experience for people living with kidney disease. A diagnosis can be sudden and life-changing, bringing complex treatment decisions, lifestyle changes, and uncertainty. The By Your Side campaign focused on ensuring patients and families have the support they need throughout their care journey.

Thanks to donor support, patients are already seeing changes. The pilot Patient Porter program evolved into

Front Entry Attendants, helping people feel safe and supported as they navigate the Hospital. Since the front entrance opened in January, the Indigenous Healing Centre has provided a welcoming space for ceremony and healing. Beyond the Hospital, the Early Screening team is working with northern communities to share kidney health knowledge and help people feel safe, connected, and supported throughout their health care journey.

The campaign also marked a shift in how we approach kidney care. Moving forward, the goal is to bring together healthcare professionals, hospital and Foundation leadership, community organizations, the SHA, and supporters across the province to build care systems that are not only clinically excellent, but also compassionate, coordinated, and responsive to patients' needs.

Upcoming Events at SPHF

Tuesday September 22, 2026

Fall Seasonal Feast Celebration
11:30am - 1:00pm
Healing Center - The Healing Centre, kikâwînow wiki, "Our Mother's Home"

Saturday September 26, 2026

Memorial Service
2:00pm - 3:00pm
3rd Floor Chapel

Thursday October 8, 2026

Schwartz Rounds - "Beyond the Individual: The Collateral Damage of Substance Use"
12:00pm - 1:00pm
Pylypchuk Auditorium

Tuesday October 13 - 16, 2026

Mission Week
Tuesday October 13 - Mission Awards
12:00pm in the Cafeteria
Wednesday October 14 - Mission Feast
Lunch Hour in the Cafeteria
Thursday October 15 - Healing Center
Art Installation Ceremony
Details to come

Fall 2026

Reconcile with Action Speaker Series, hosted by the SPHF Truth & Reconciliation Committee
Location: Pylypchuk Auditorium

Sacred Shears - More than a Haircut

Sacred Shears is an Indigenous-owned mobile salon that generously donates their time and skills at St. Paul's Hospital by offering free haircuts to patients. They strive to create an experience for their clients that is grounded in compassion, discretion, and professionalism.



They believe that personal care should never come with judgment, discomfort, or barriers, and SPH&F are so grateful for their partnership and their commitment to community well-being.

For more information about Sacred Shears and its schedule at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation, please contact Angela Caron at First Nation & Metis Health Services (5475). Angela would be happy to answer any questions and provide additional details about upcoming visits and services.

For more information on Sacred Shears check out their website: www.sacredshearsltd.ca/about



Nature-Based Arts in Healthcare

During her School of Public Health practicum with the Healing Arts Program, MPH student Claudia Estrada Jimenez partnered with Artist-in-Residence, Marlessa Wesolowski, to explore the role of nature-based arts in community-led, holistic care.

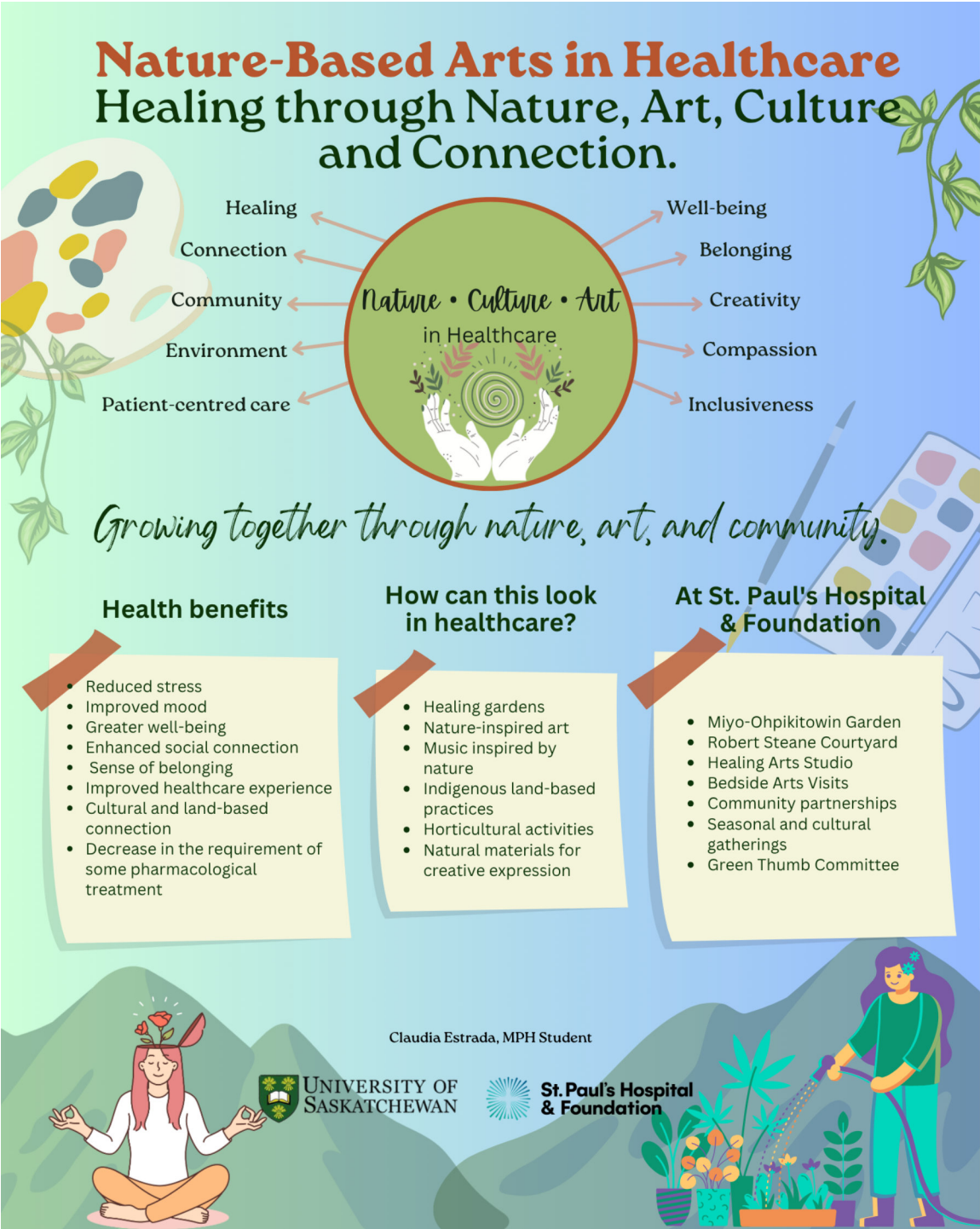
Her research shows that healing gardens, nature-inspired art, and Indigenous land-based practices foster connection, well-being, and healing for patients and families, staff, and the community.

The infographic (right) highlights these findings and showcases how they come

to life at SPH&F through initiatives such as the miyo-opikhtowin Garden, bedside arts visits, and the SPH&F Green Thumb Committee.



Marlessa & Claudia



Arts-Based Spiritual Support in Nursing:

Creatively Nursing the Spirit by Terri Styles - MacKinnon

“Nursing is an art: and if it is to be made an art, it requires an exclusive devotion as hard a preparation as any painter’s or sculptor’s work; for what is the having to do with dead canvas or dead marble, compared with having to do with the living body, the temple of God’s spirit? It is one of the Fine Arts: I had almost said, the finest of Fine Arts.” Florence Nightingale (1860)

Historically, art and spirituality have been closely intertwined, and they can both evoke a sense of beauty, awe, and transcendence. The interdisciplinary Arts for Equity research project led by Dr. Kendra Rieger, Trinity Western University, explores how arts-based spiritual support in healthcare creates a space for diverse patients to experience healing and can be a way of addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s (2015) Calls to Action to integrate Indigenous ways of knowing and healing practices into the healthcare system. I was grateful for the opportunity to complete my final Master of Science in Nursing knowledge translation project through a studentship with Dr. Rieger under the Arts for Equity project with a focus specifically on nursing.

A literature review and synthesis showed various ways art and spirituality can be integrated into nursing — arts-based learning to teach spirituality in nursing education, engaging in spiritual / meditative art forms (mandalas and Illumination art) to promote spiritual

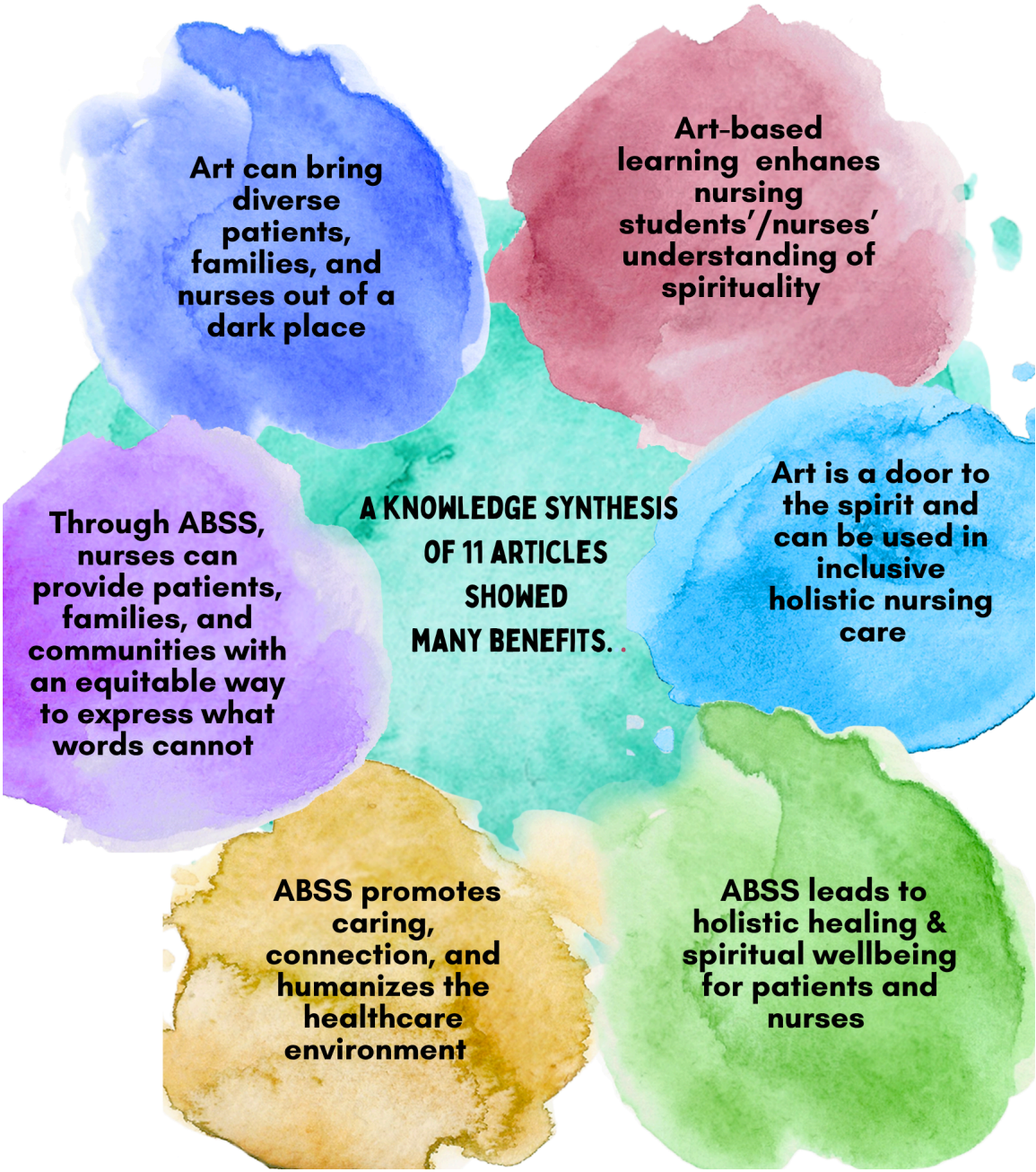
well-being in nurses/nursing students; exploring the benefits of live music to ease stress, and enhance caring and connections for nurses, patients, and families in clinical settings; using photography to reflect on what spirituality means to nurses; demonstrating the benefits of arts-based spiritual care with children; and delving into how providing a space for creativity and the arts can heal mind, body, and spirit and humanize the healthcare setting.

Through the knowledge synthesis I learned about the amazing benefits of integrating arts and spirituality, but what made it really come to life, was spending 2 days shadowing the Healing Arts/ Spiritual Care staff at St. Paul’s Hospital. I was able to witness and experience the power of music, singing, art, storytelling, and spiritual care to lift the spirits of patients, provide a sense of hope, peace, and a sense of community. I am so grateful to Blake Sittler and the staff for allowing me to join them amid their busy schedules. Their wisdom, dedication, and expertise are greatly appreciated.

For more details on the project and on my shadowing experience with the Healing Arts / Spiritual Care team please scan this qr code to go to a blog post.



WHAT IS KNOWN ABOUT ART-BASED SPIRITUAL SUPPORT (ABSS) IN NURSING?



SaskEthics Newsletter

An Ethics Newsletter for Catholic Healthcare Organizations in Saskatchewan

Sex, privacy, and care environments



Dear SaskEthics Readers, over the past year, the Emmanuel Health Ethics Committee has been hard at work creating a new conversation guide to support our

teams through issues related to expressions of intimacy and sexuality. These expressions could be anything from how a resident dresses, to who they spend time with, to intimate sexual relationships. One thing these situations all have in common is that they concern something that would likely have remained private if our residents were not living in a communal setting.

As we have rolled out this guide to our hospitals and care homes, I have had many opportunities to discuss these issues with our team members. In our conversations, I started to notice a recurring question: When is it appropriate to become involved in the personal lives of our residents?

Underlying this question is a profound respect for privacy. Regardless of personal beliefs or backgrounds, our team members recognize that respecting the privacy of another person is a critical component of respecting their dignity.

Before it was ever enshrined in law, privacy was recognized by philosophers

as essential to living a moral life. Privacy gives people the space they need to reflect on what is right or wrong and to commit to acting ethically. It follows then that if we want to respect another person, we need to honour the space they need for personal discernment.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church echoes the importance of privacy when it refers to the human conscience as “man's most secret core and his sanctuary” (1776). From a Christian perspective, finding a space to be alone with God is a critical component of ethical decision-making.

Given the importance of privacy, it is heartening to hear that so many of our team members are hesitant to breach it. However, although sexual expressions are deeply personal, they also have a relational dimension. They are shared and lived out in community, which means there are times when the privacy of one person may be in tension with the needs of others.

The new conversation guide identifies three key areas that can lead us to become more involved in the normally private sexual dimension of a resident's life: (1) when there are questions concerning the **capacity** of the resident; (2) when we are concerned about the **safety** of the resident or others; or (3) when the resident's behaviour has an impact on the **community**.

For example, consider the case of a resident who is engaging in a relationship with someone he met online. The team members who care for him are worried that he is being taken advantage of, but they are unsure how to respond. Before approaching the resident, it would be important for the team to consider why breaching the resident's privacy may or may not be appropriate. Are they concerned that the resident does not understand the nature of the relationship? Are they concerned that he is emotionally, physically or financially vulnerable? Are they concerned about the impact the relationship is having on other residents, e.g., if this new friend begins visiting other vulnerable people in the care home?

Our conversations regarding these questions must be rooted in our respect for the dignity of the resident. This includes respecting the need for connection that we all share, which I have written about previously ("Connection is needed at any age").

How does your team approach issues related to intimacy and sexuality? How does your team ensure respect for the privacy of those in your care? How do you support each other to engage in these challenging conversations?

Dr. Mary Heilman,
Bioethicist, St. Paul's Hospital &
Foudnation & CHAS
(306)655-5197
mary@chassk.ca
mary.heilman@emmanuelhealth.ca

2026 W.F. Mitchell Bioethics Seminar

Exploring the Power of AI in Health Care Through a Relational Lens

Part of SHA's Ethics Week (November 2 - 6, 2026)

Tuesday, November 03 in Pylypchuk Hall 12:00pm



Dr. Anita Ho is a bioethics faculty member at UBC and UCSF and Vice President of Ethics at CommonSpirit Health. Her work focuses on AI ethics, supported decision-making, and end-of-life care. She authored *Live Like Nobody is Watching* (Oxford University Press, 2023).

This presentation will explore how power relations manifest at the individual,

Contact: mary.heilman@emmanuelhealth.ca

Annual conference funding supported by the William F. Mitchell Endowment Fund

professional, institutional, and societal levels in connection with AI implementation in health care. Utilizing a relational lens, it will propose ethical strategies to intentionally balance power asymmetry and other systemic inadequacies in the evolving biotechnological landscape.

FREE LUNCH

Available for the first **80** participants
in-person in Pylypchuk Hall
No registration required!



SPH HEALING ARTS PROGRAM



About the Program

- Integrates music and other creative arts into the healthcare environment to support the emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing of patients, family, and staff which, in turn, enhances physical health
- Helps create a more compassionate and holistic hospital experience that supports healing beyond medical treatment alone

Why Art Matters in Medicine

- Healing involves more than just treating physical illness
- Music and the arts can reduce stress, improve mood, enhance pain management, foster connection and conversation, and provide comfort during difficult medical experiences
- Incorporating creative expression into care can have positive impacts on physical health outcomes and helps address emotional and social wellbeing, supporting a more holistic approach to medicine

Integrating Art Into Care

- Healthcare professionals can integrate the arts into care by playing calming music at the bedside and during procedures, encouraging creative expression by providing art or creativity “prescriptions,” and promoting welcoming and supportive spaces, such as healing arts programs to patients in need

During my placement with the SPH&F Healing Arts Program, I had the opportunity to participate in healing arts sessions alongside classmates, patients, families, and hospital staff. These sessions included drawing, painting, colouring, and music therapy and they created a space within the hospital where people could come together in a way that felt different from the typical clinical environment. My classmates and I also organized and promoted our own healing arts event that involved rock painting and music therapy. After painting the rocks, we placed them in the miyo-ohpikítowin garden and gathered in a circle to share our perspectives and reflections on what we had experienced and learned throughout our placement.

One of the most impactful aspects of these sessions was the sense of joy and lightness that filled the room. For patients and their families, these activities offered a brief escape from the stress, uncertainty, and emotional burden that can come with illness and hospitalization. While the art itself created an opportunity for creativity and expression, what stood out most was the human connection that developed through these shared experiences.

Many people began to share parts of their life stories and these conversations created moments of genuine connection between patients, families, students, and staff that they would not have had otherwise. I realized that although art was the activity bringing people together, the deeper impact came from the opportunity to listen,

interact, and acknowledge each others experiences.

This experience made me reflect on how isolating hospital environments can be for patients. Illness often removes people from their normal social networks and routines and the hospital setting can reinforce feelings of loneliness or loss of identity. Seeing how healing arts sessions created opportunities for conversation, laughter, and storytelling made me more aware of how important human connection is to well-being and healing. It highlighted that caring for patients involves more than addressing physical symptoms and also requires recognizing emotional and social needs.

This placement has strengthened my belief that creativity and connection have an important role in medical care. I am increasingly curious about the long-term impact that healing arts programs may have on patient and family well-being, recovery, and overall hospital experience. As I move forward in my medical training, I hope to continue exploring how artistic expression and opportunities for social interaction can be incorporated into patient care. More importantly, this experience reminded me that sometimes the most meaningful form of care is simply creating space for people to share their stories and feel heard. As a future physician, I hope to carry this perspective into my practice and advocate for greater awareness of the role that the arts and human connection can play in healing.

Grace Braaten
UofS CLE module



Community Day at St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation

On May 27, 2026
St. Paul's Hospital &

Foundation was proud to welcome more than 400 students from six community schools to our annual Community Day .

The event would not have been possible without the financial partnership of the St. Paul's Hospital Foundation as well as a generous donation from the Saskatoon Coop and Culligan water. We had an amazing committee and over 40 volunteers from the hospital. Each person served with such dedication and helped create a welcoming and engaging environment.

Throughout the day, students enjoyed a wide variety of activities including face-

painting, planting seeds, yard games, Indigenous dancing, drumming, and storytelling with Elder Nora. Entertainer Zhe the Free captivated the crowd with an energetic and engaging performance, keeping the students smiling, laughing, and actively involved throughout the event.

Community partnerships played a significant role in the day's success. Thank you to the Saskatoon Fire Department, Medavie Ambulance & Paramedics, and the Saskatoon Police Service for their participation and for providing students with opportunities to learn and explore their work vehicles!



The fun continued with balloon animals, the Remail Art cart, a visit from the Saskatoon City Police mascot, and a special appearance by Batman and Batgirl, who quickly became fan favorites among the students.

No Community Day would be complete without great food, and our incredible Nutrition Services team assured everyone was fed by preparing and serving hundreds of hot dogs throughout the day to students, the community and staff members!

St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation extends a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed their time, energy, and support. Together, we created a truly remarkable day that celebrated community, inclusion, and the spirit of caring that defines St. Paul's Hospital & Foundation.



We are already looking forward to
Community Day in May 2027!
If you want to be involved contact:
Ashley Drayton
ashley.drayton@emmanuelhealth.ca
306.655.5808



Healing Arts Creative Corner

Patient-Created Colouring Page

Take a mindful pause with this patient-created colouring page. It was created by patient Karen, as part of a colouring page collection.

