



Health Sciences Centre  
**FOUNDATION**

# Foundation Connection

Delivering Tomorrow's Health Care, Today

SUMMER 2022



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## Wired for Generosity

Stonewall area strawberry farmer benefits from deep brain stimulation



*The Boonstras recently made a significant contribution to the HSC Foundation—an endowed gift in support of neurology research—as an expression of their gratitude for the care Murray Boonstra (pictured) received.*

Murray Boonstra's left side shook and trembled for about eight years. Levodopa and carbidopa—common Parkinson's medications—helped some, but their effect waned over time.

"My condition got progressively worse," says Boonstra, who owns and operates Boonstra Farms near Stonewall with his wife Pauline. "I know I shouldn't have been embarrassed by the shaking, but I was. I didn't like going out anymore and when we did, I'd either sit on my hand or keep it in my pocket."

When your work is physically demanding, like Boonstra's is, living with the stiffness, pain, and tremors of Parkinson's is especially difficult. The Boonstras' farm attracts many thousands of strawberry pickers every July, and the farm also includes animals, a corn maze, and other features that make the farm a desired day trip destination for many Manitoba schools. And when he is not tending to his fields or the field trips, Boonstra also sells RV trailers on his property.

***"I knew that if I didn't do it my condition was just going to get worse. I talked to some people who had it done and they said it was life-changing, so that convinced me."***

— Murray Boonstra

Boonstra's work and his quality of life depended on him finding a new way to keep his worst Parkinson's symptoms under control. He learned that he was a candidate for a brain procedure called "deep brain stimulation (DBS)" that could calm his tremors. The procedure was delayed because of COVID-19, but it was ultimately performed in November 2021.

"I knew that if I didn't do it my condition was just going to get worse," says Boonstra. "I talked to some people who had it done and they said it was life-changing, so that convinced me."

The procedure at HSC involved attaching a halo to Boonstra's skull to keep his head still for the surgery. An electrode was implanted near the part of his brain responsible for motor function. That electrode was then wired to a transmitter implanted in his chest

*Continued on next page...*



Murray Boonstra and his grandchildren tending to the Boonstra family farm: “You can’t keep everything yourself. If you’ve been given a gift, it’s always better to give some back.”

(like a pacemaker). Boonstra then received a handheld transmitter that allows him to control the electronic impulses, depending on what his tremors are doing. And he has been able to reduce his medication.








“It’s a miracle,” says Boonstra. “My tremors are under control. My movement is not 100 percent and I’m stiff a lot, but that’s part and parcel of Parkinson’s. I’m grateful that I can work and I play pickleball three days a week.” (With 10 hockey-playing grandchildren, aged eight to 18, living nearby, he also spends a tremendous amount of time at the arena.)

The Boonstras recently made a significant contribution to the HSC Foundation—an endowed gift in support of neurology research—as an expression of their gratitude for the care Murray received.

“You can’t keep everything yourself. If you’ve been given a gift, it’s always better to give some back,” says Boonstra. “We belong to a church where giving is part of the culture. The more you are blessed, the more you can give. That’s all there is to it.”

# Always Above and Beyond the Call

In celebration of National Nursing Week this past May, we had the honour of recognizing and celebrating these hardworking, passionate, and caring nurses that we are fortunate to have at HSC Winnipeg.

<p><b>Educator</b></p> <p><b>Amber Wiens, BN MN RN</b> Nurse Educator, HSC Women’s Hospital</p>		<p><b>Caregiver</b></p> <p><b>Christine Dyck, RN BN</b> RR4/RS4 Plastics Emergency Decanting Clinic</p>	
<p><b>Leader</b></p> 	<p><b>Brenda Poapst, CRN</b> Head Nurse, Subacute Orthopedic/ Trauma Surgery Unit</p>	<p><b>Companion</b></p> 	<p><b>Jeff Castillo, RN MN</b> Nurse, Virtual COVID-19 Outpatient Program (VCOP); Clinical Resource Nurse, GD3</p>
<p><b>Advocate</b></p> <p><b>Derick Fauni, RN BN</b> Nurse Educator, Renal Program</p>		<p><b>Collaborative teammate</b></p> <p><b>Vickie Manning, RN BN CPN (C)</b> Clinical Resource Nurse, Thoracic Surgery Program</p>	
<p><b>Problem-Solver</b></p> 	<p><b>Leigh Douglas, RN BN</b> Clinical Resource Nurse, Interventional Radiology</p>		

**Please join us in thanking our nurses for all that they do!**

To read their stories, please visit [hscfoundation.mb.ca/stories/national-nursing-week-2022/](https://hscfoundation.mb.ca/stories/national-nursing-week-2022/)

# HSC Foundation Launches “Operation Excellence”—A \$100 Million Capital Campaign

## Foundation donors poised to tackle surgical backlog

On June 22, the HSC Foundation unveiled plans to revitalize and refocus HSC Winnipeg as a surgical centre of excellence and innovation and end surgical wait times. The \$100 million, six-year capital plan—developed over the past three years by the HSC Foundation in collaboration with HSC and Shared Health—will have an almost immediate impact on the province’s diagnostic and surgical wait list while enhancing the province’s diagnostic and surgical infrastructure for the long term.

The Province of Manitoba has committed \$50 million to the capital plan while the HSC Foundation has launched the “Operation Excellence” campaign to raise the remaining \$50 million. The Foundation has raised approximately \$25 million to date, including a generous initial donation from Gerry and Barb Price.

“With endless demands for government spending and limited funds available, I think it’s appropriate for individuals to step up and contribute along with the government, to help ease the pain and suffering of those waiting endlessly for tests and surgeries,” said Gerry Price. “When Barb and I heard about Operation Excellence, we were all in. It’s a good plan, and we encourage all Manitobans to contribute to the best of their ability.”

“First and foremost, this innovative and exciting plan will have an almost immediate impact on the troubling surgical and diagnostic wait list in Manitoba. Our goal is to reduce and ultimately eradicate wait times. We estimate that the plan will ultimately increase surgical and diagnostic capacities at HSC by 25% per year over pre-pandemic levels,” said Jonathon Lyon, the HSC Foundation’s President and Chief Executive Officer. “We believe that philanthropy has an essential role to play in helping Manitobans face our health care challenges as we emerge from the pandemic. Along with the government and provincial health care leaders, our donors will play a significant role. HSC is Manitoba’s hospital and we must all rally to support it.”

The first phase of the capital plan, which is already underway, features the development of new operating room capacity along with new software systems for more efficient surgical referrals and wait list management. Later phases will include a high-acuity surgical step-down unit,



*Operation Excellence campaign launch (L-R: The Honourable Cliff Cullen, Deputy Premier; Tina Jones, O.M., Board Chair, HSC Foundation; Jonathon Lyon, President and Chief Executive Officer, HSC Foundation; The Honourable Audrey Gordon, Minister of Health; Dr. Ed Buchel, Surgery Site Director, HSC Winnipeg; Dr. Biniyam Kidane, Thoracic Surgeon, HSC Winnipeg).*

an enhanced pain clinic, an expanded Emergency Room, and a new HSC Outpatient Imaging Facility.

“The COVID-19 pandemic did not create the surgical backlog in Manitoba, but it did exacerbate the situation,” said Dr. Ed Buchel, Surgery Site Director at HSC.

“Starting in Phase 1, we will be able to get more patients in sooner, treat them more safely, and discharge them more quickly because we will be using minimally invasive surgical techniques and new high-end equipment. When you perform minimally invasive surgery as opposed to conventional open surgery, people recover faster and with fewer complications. They don’t need to be in hospital for very long.”

“For years I have witnessed the power of philanthropy at the HSC Foundation. You can draw a straight line from a gift given to a life saved. And Operation Excellence is an opportunity for our donors to have an even greater impact than ever before,” said Tina Jones, O.M., Chair of the Health Sciences Centre Board of Directors.

“I know that Manitobans will respond favourably to this campaign. In fact, they already are. I think people understand that to tackle the wait lists and ensure a brighter future, we need to rally together.”

*You can help end surgical wait lists. To donate, please call 204-515-5612, or 1-800-679-8493 (toll-free), or visit [OperationExcellence.ca](https://www.operationexcellence.ca)*



# Swift Action to Benefit 100 Manitobans Annually at HSC

## Matching gift from HSC Foundation Board member ignites donations for those at risk of MS diagnosis

The diagnosis of a chronic disease is hard to understand at any age—especially at age 21.

What Hilary Kaufman Lerner did understand as a young adult diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS)—a disabling disease of the central nervous system that causes life-altering, lifelong symptoms—was that she wouldn't let this discovery dictate her life for as long as possible.

Kaufman Lerner filled the next 30 years of her life with steadfast ambition, adventure, and love. At 27, Kaufman Lerner married Brian Lerner, and gave birth to their two children shortly after.

Despite the challenges of MS, Kaufman Lerner never missed a family outing or her children's extracurricular activities. Her determination never wavered, even when she could no longer walk.

Kaufman Lerner and her husband spent a significant amount of time at HSC Winnipeg under the care of Dr. Ruth Ann Marrie, HSC's MS Clinic Director, until Kaufman Lerner passed in 2016.

"Dr. Marrie was always positive even when things were very difficult. Dr. Marrie and staff at the MS Clinic are very professional, caring, and treat their patients with respect," says Brian Lerner.

Lerner's interest in health care and his desire to make a difference led him to chair the Manitoba Division of the MS Society of Canada in 2009 and be part of the national MS Society Board. Later, he joined the HSC Foundation Board of Directors. "The HSC Foundation is incredibly well-run and focused on fulfilling its vision. I am very proud of my



*After her MS diagnosis, Hilary Kaufman Lerner and husband Brian Lerner supported ongoing MS care. Brian Lerner continues to support the cause in honour of his late wife and all Manitobans.*

involvement with the Foundation," says Lerner. The vision of the HSC Foundation is to enable HSC to deliver tomorrow's health care, today. And the future of MS prognosis and treatment strategies lies in part in ocular coherence tomograph (OCT) machines.

The OCT machine performs a simple, non-invasive procedure—like a camera taking a picture—that allows doctors to analyze the optic nerve to see if there is swelling or inflammation, called optic neuritis. Signs and symptoms of optic neuritis can be the first indication of MS. In addition to other benefits, researchers hope that OCT will ultimately shorten the amount of time it takes to diagnose MS and allow for earlier and better tailoring of treatment strategies for MS patients. The OCT machine, which is less costly than brain MRIs, is fast and could potentially enable more frequent monitoring of disease activity in MS patients.



*The OCT machines will provide health care teams with insight-rich, multi-dimensional data.*

Upon hearing about the need for an OCT machine at HSC—and upon learning that it will benefit approximately 100 Manitobans annually—Lerner stepped forward with a significant matching donation. In less than a month, over \$100,000 was raised. "I witnessed how difficult MS is to deal with. Supporting Dr. Marrie, who is known world-wide, and the MS Clinic means the best care is being done here, and we need it here," says Lerner.

Canada has among the highest rates of MS in the world, and the Prairie Provinces are hit particularly hard.

"On behalf of the entire team, I am truly grateful for Brian Lerner and the fellow donors who supported this equipment so we can expand our MS program capacity. Information from an OCT will ultimately be useful for predicting MS, and we now have an opportunity to be well-positioned and engage in an area that I think will be highly relevant to clinical practice in the future," says Dr. Marrie.

# New Urologic Centre at HSC Winnipeg to Improve Patient Care

Shortened wait times expected as up to 10,000 patients per year to be cared for at new centre

A new, world-class urologic centre that provides care for up to 10,000 Manitobans per year will be developed at Health Sciences Centre, shortening wait times and improving patient care. The announcement was made in early 2022 by the HSC Foundation and the Manitoba government. A request for proposals on construction of the new centre was issued earlier this year, and the new centre is expected to open by the end of 2023.

The Manitoba Urologic Centre will provide timely, leading-edge care to patients requiring transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP), kidney stone removal, and treatment for certain types of bladder cancer, among other conditions. Wait times are expected to drop from up to a year to weeks and days for many procedures. For rural and northern patients, the new centre will be able to work toward performing the required procedure on the same day they receive their diagnosis.

***“We will now have the capacity to treat people more quickly—sometimes within days—with the best technology available.”***

***— Dr. Jeff Saranchuk***

“This is a very important development for HSC and our patients,” says Dr. Jeff Saranchuk, urologist at HSC. “Under the status quo, rural and remote patients often have to make several trips over many months to get the complete care they need. Other patients experience discomfort while waiting for their kidney stones to be treated. We will now have the capacity to treat people more quickly—sometimes within days—with the best technology available.”

Jason K. is just one of the many Manitobans who will benefit from the new space. In 2021, Jason was diagnosed with urethral stricture disease, a scarring of the tube that carries urine from the body. The scarring restricts the flow of urine and can cause many problems in the urinary tract, including inflammation and infection.

Currently, HSC Urologist Dr. Eric Saltel performs a urethral dilation on Jason every one to two months while he awaits reconstructive urethral surgery which would allow Dr. Saltel to remove the scar tissue.



*HSC Urologist Dr. Jeff Saranchuk: “We will now have the capacity to treat people more quickly—sometimes within days—with the best technology available.”*

“This situation is very stressful and taxing—it causes anxiety. This is on my mind from when I wake up in morning until I go to sleep at night,” says Jason. “When I heard about the plans for the new urologic centre, I was relieved to hear that there will be a dedicated space, with much greater efficiencies, for patients like me.”

Reduced wait times at the centre are expected to lead to better outcomes for patients by reducing the risk of future health complications. Additionally, with many procedures moving from operating rooms to the new centre, space will be freed up elsewhere in the province’s health care system for additional surgical capacity.

The centre will be housed on the HSC campus at 735 Notre Dame, formerly known as the Women’s Pavilion. Construction costs and equipment acquisition will be funded by the HSC Foundation and its donors. The province, through Shared Health, will pay for ongoing operating costs at the centre. The current urology space, located within HSC’s main hospital building, will be redeveloped for other high-priority acute care needs.

# Cheers to Health Care

Over \$630,000 raised at twelfth-annual Savour: Wine & Food Experience



Guests enjoying Savour Manitoba: Wine & Food Experience.

On February 26, 2022, people all over the province raised a glass of wine and toasted from the comfort of their homes as over \$630,000 was raised during the Health Sciences Centre Foundation's annual fundraising gala, Savour Manitoba: Wine & Food Experience. This included over \$176,000 specifically raised for our Fund-A-Need initiative—\$35,000 of which was raised by Auction Partner ADESA Auctions.

Presented by Jones & Company Wine Merchants, attendees enjoyed a delicious charcuterie spread from De Luca's & WOW Catering and sipped and learned about some remarkable wines from Jones & Company Wine Merchants, all of which was delivered courtesy of our Delivery and Event Partner, SkipTheDishes. While enjoying their meal, guests bid on over 50 incredible auction prizes and danced in their living rooms to hits by the sensational Big City All Star Band and Canadian singer/songwriter Keith Macpherson, who were presented by our Entertainment Partner and Lead Supporter, TD Bank Group.

Funds raised supported the purchase of two laparoscopic towers and scopes among other initiatives at HSC Winnipeg. These high-tech systems allow surgeons to perform minimally invasive surgeries with remarkable precision.

“On behalf of the HSC Foundation Board, staff, and Savour Committee, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all Savour supporters,” says Tina Jones, O.M., Chair, HSC Foundation Board of Directors and Chair of the Savour Committee. “New equipment and technology, such as these towers and scopes, are a cornerstone of a new and promising future for the delivery of care in Manitoba, and we couldn't be more grateful to those who helped fund this critical purchase.”

We couldn't have made this event such a success without the generous support of our corporate partners, donors, and guests. Thank you to everyone who joined together for Savour Manitoba: Wine & Food Experience, and in turn made a difference in the lives of the thousands of people who are treated by HSC Winnipeg annually. THANK YOU!

***Save the date—Savour 2023 will take place on Saturday, February 25, at the RBC Convention Centre!***

# Innovation and Generosity Hit the Airwaves

Almost \$212,000 raised during the HSC Foundation's annual Radiothon

Brimming with inspiring patient stories, updates on ground-breaking research, and countless Manitobans calling and texting to donate—the 2022 Innovation HSC Radiothon was a day to remember.

Thanks to your generosity, this year's event—which took place on January 21 and aired on 680 CJOB, 99.1 Peggy, and Power 97—raised \$211,933 in support of Health Sciences Centre, Manitoba's hospital.

“On behalf of the Board, staff, and volunteers of the HSC Foundation, I want to thank every donor and partner whose generosity will have an impact for many years to come,” says Jonathon Lyon, President & CEO of the HSC Foundation. “In health care, every second counts; for Radiothon, every minute counts; and in philanthropy, every dollar counts. We are grateful.”

The Innovation HSC Radiothon, which celebrated its 16th anniversary in 2022, was presented by long-term partner, Maric Homes. Any donations made to this year's Innovation HSC Radiothon had quadruple the impact. Thanks to Lead-Up Supporters Johnston Group Inc. and Arbor Memorial, as well as Matching Partners Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company and Access Credit Union, all donations were matched by \$12,000 each for a total of \$48,000! We would also like to thank our Text-To-Donate Matching Partner, Manitoba Pork, and our Feature Partners, The Keg Steakhouse + Bar and Superior Asphalt and Paving.



The 2022 Innovation HSC Radiothon raised \$211,933 for Manitoba's hospital.

On this memorable day we also welcomed Medallion Milk to our community of corporate donors. We are grateful for their \$25,000 donation to the Innovation HSC Radiothon.

On behalf of the staff and Board of the HSC Foundation, along with the countless Manitobans who will benefit from your donations, THANK YOU! We could not be more grateful for the overwhelming generosity and show of support from our partners and donors.

**Save the date—the 2023 Innovation HSC Radiothon will take place on Friday, January 20.**



**Make your gift now at  
hscfoundation.mb.ca  
or by calling 204-515-5612 or  
1-800-679-8493 (toll-free).**

**Option 1: Enclosed is my one-time gift of:**

\$250  \$150  \$50  \$25  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Receipts will be issued for donations of \$15 or more.

**Option 2: I wish to make a monthly donation of:**

\$50  \$25  \$15  \$10  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I have included the HSC Foundation in my will.

NLSUM2022

**Save The Date!**

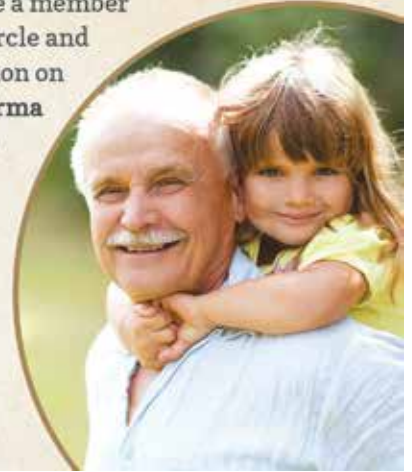
Health Sciences Centre  
FOUNDATION

**Bannatyne**  
LEGACY CIRCLE  
CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 15, 2022

Please join us as we celebrate the newest members of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle. The Bannatyne Legacy Circle is a community of supporters committed to supporting HSC by endowing a final gift to the Foundation.

There is still time to become a member of the Bannatyne Legacy Circle and be honoured at our celebration on October 15. Please contact Irma McKenzie, HSC Foundation Director of Gift Planning, at 204-515-5624 or 1-800-679-8493 (toll-free) by July 18 to learn more.



To make your donation today, visit [www.hscfoundation.mb.ca](http://www.hscfoundation.mb.ca) or call 204-515-5612 or 1-800-679-8493 (toll-free).

At the HSC Foundation, we prioritize reducing our environmental footprint. To receive our newsletter in your inbox instead of your mailbox, please email [info@hscfoundation.mb.ca](mailto:info@hscfoundation.mb.ca).

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 Email

**How should your support be recognized on donor lists?**

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 Name(s)

I would like my support to remain anonymous.

**If you have opted to become a monthly donor, please fill in the following:**

I authorize the HSC Foundation to deduct from my chequing account the following amount per month. I have enclosed a cheque marked "VOID"

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the HSC Foundation to charge the following account per month to my credit card.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_