

\$100,000 step towards new monitoring unit

Thanks to a generous gift of **\$100,000** from Canadian pharmaceutical company UCB Canada, the epilepsy program at the QEII is one step closer to expanding its epilepsy monitoring unit from the current two beds to four.

The need for an expanded unit is backed by the data – at least 16,000 people are living with epilepsy in the Atlantic region; approximately 16% of those individuals are potential surgery candidates who would benefit from being monitored in the unit.

The epilepsy monitoring unit is the only dedicated adult unit accepting referrals from all Atlantic provinces. The unit is an in-patient hospital

room used to monitor a patient 24 hours a day by video and EEG equipment. EEG recordings show electrical brain signals, or more importantly, abnormal brain signals, which will help pinpoint what part of the brain is causing the seizure so that precise surgery can be performed. Patients are typically monitored for one to three weeks.

“We currently are only able to study 40-42 patients per year given the limited number of beds and the lengthy admission per patient,” explains Dr. Sadler, co-director of the epilepsy program at the QEII. “But we are now on the threshold of a really big opportunity thanks to the generous gift from UCB Canada.” UCB Canada’s \$100,000 gift marks the beginning of a promising long term relationship.



Philip Godwin, electroneurophysiology technologist, observes a patient in the epilepsy monitoring unit from an office down the hall.



Epilepsy patient Tyler Dyke knows what it is like to spend time in the monitoring unit. Read Tyler's story at www.qe2foundation.ca.

Beth Medjuck Heart Rhythm Laboratory Opens

Patients with abnormal heart beats can expect shorter wait times with the opening of second heart rhythm lab, thanks to a **\$1 million** dollar donation by Ralph and Shirlee Medjuck to the QEII Foundation. The Medjucks named the lab in honour of their late daughter, Beth, who passed away in 2004 as a result of congenital health difficulties.

“Heart rhythm problems can strike anybody - from young people with healthy hearts, to those with some of the most severe forms of heart disease,” said Dr. John Sapp, director, Heart Rhythm Service and Laboratory at Capital Health’s Division of Cardiology. “Facilities such as our new heart rhythm lab will help us treat more people, and do it better.”



Dr. Sapp estimates that approximately 2000 patient consultations are seen in the heart rhythm ambulatory clinic each year, and another 7000 pacemaker/defibrillator checks are performed. “Will this have an impact on wait times and quality of life? Definitely,” said Sapp, “our gratitude goes out to the Medjucks for their generosity that made this possible.”

Photo - Dr. Sapp and his team at work in the lab, where procedures can last up to seven hours.

Located at the Halifax Infirmary site of the QEII Health Sciences Centre, the heart rhythm labs service the entire child and adult population in Atlantic Canada who are experiencing an arrhythmia - an abnormal heartbeat.

Heart arrhythmias can vary in their impact from minor to life-threatening. They can be successfully treated with a variety of methods, including medications, pacemakers, and catheter ablation. In some cases, rhythm problems can be cured. In others, significant improvements in quality of life can be achieved.

Curious about our costs?

At the QEII Foundation, we are open about the costs of supporting healthy outcomes at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. In 2010/11, we raised a total of **\$15.7 million**, thanks to the generosity of our donors. Our calculated costs over that time were 25.8 cents for every dollar raised, well below the guidelines supplied by the Canadian Revenue Agency (according to CRA, the acceptable cost ratio for charities is 35 cents or less for every dollar raised). Our cost-per-dollar-raised has averaged 27.6 cents for the last five years (including the 2008 economic downturn). We encourage you to view our 2010 / 2011 Stewardship Report, which is now available online at www.qe2foundation.ca. This report includes a detailed statement of our revenue, expenses, and fund balances. Or feel free to email your questions to fndnew@qe2foundation.ca.



QEII FOUNDATION
15 years of changing lives
STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2010 | 2011

When faced with the threat of losing your ability to talk, you quickly realize just how important this basic function really is.

Ivan Douglas was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx / vocal cord. After two years of failed radiation treatment in Saint John, Ivan was referred to Dr. Mark Taylor at the QEII Health Sciences Centre, who is the section head of Head and Neck Surgery / Reconstructive Surgery in the Division of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.



“Before I saw Dr. Taylor, I was told that it was highly probable that I would lose my ability to talk,” recalls Ivan from his home in Fredericton, New Brunswick (pictured on the right). In December 2008, Dr. Taylor performed laser surgery on Ivan which involved partially removing his right vocal cord and other areas above this. The surgery was a complete success; fast forward almost three years and Ivan’s bi-annual checkups remain positive and his voice remains strong and stable.

But something else remained strong for Ivan – his desire to give back. “Without the surgery and Dr. Taylor’s expertise, I wouldn’t be able to talk today. And who knows what the future holds, I may need help again someday,” explains Ivan. He arranged for a **\$30,000** donation for the Head and Neck/Otolaryngology Division at the QEII – \$2000 from a golf tournament hosted in memory of two individuals who passed away from cancer and \$28,000 from his own company, Taylor Petroleum 1985 Ltd. This generous donation will help purchase new surgical instruments for laser surgery.

New imaging equipment is giving caregivers a deeper look inside the human eye of patients requiring advanced eye care.



Spearheaded by the Freemasons of Nova Scotia’s ‘Believing is Seeing’ fundraising campaign, the new Spectralis OCT equipment for the QEII’s Eye Care Centre is expected to have a dramatic impact on the diagnosis and care for many eye patients.

Grand Master and Most Worshipful Barry Imber of the Freemasons of Nova Scotia, called the ‘Believing is Seeing’ campaign “the largest fundraising project undertaken by the Freemasons of Nova Scotia and the Masonic Charitable Foundation in our 275 year history. It’s gratifying to see what kind

of impact this equipment can have on the over 60,000 patient visits the eye centre receives each year,” said Imber.

Spectralis OCT (pictured above) provides caregivers with unparalleled imagery of the inside of the human eye, capturing 40,000 scans per second and creating 3D, full colour imagery of the retina for detection and assessment. The total project costs for the equipment are estimated at **\$200,000**.

Here is my gift to the QEII Foundation of \$_____

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Please send this completed form and donation to the:

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You may also give on-line at: www.qe2foundation.ca Talk to your employer about matching your gift.

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FOR BREAST HEALTH

HALIFAX

Bust a Move for Breast Health is back for 2012! Take the challenge.... sweat, stretch and lunge

with fellow breast health supporters at the third annual Bust a Move event. The day-long fitness fundraising extravaganza empowers women and men to celebrate and fight for breast health.

Join the movement — Saturday, March 24, 2012 at the Canada Games Centre in Halifax. Sign up for an unforgettable, life-saving day of fun. Visit www.bustamove.org for all the event details.

This is learning



The latest edition of Living Healthy in Atlantic Canada is now available.

This regional health magazine, produced in partnership

with the IWK Health Centre and Saltscapes Publishing Ltd, features stories on a variety of healthy lifestyle and disease prevention topics. Look for copies around the QEII Health Sciences Centre or email fndnew@qe2foundation.ca to request a copy.

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