

IMPACT NEWSLETTER

Stories of outstanding care you make possible with your support of Sault Area Hospital Foundation.

YOU MAKE IT POSSIBLE:

Mystery infection leads to *lifesaving care*

What Rod Goodall thought was a typical flu turned into a 3-week stay at Sault Area Hospital. Thanks to your donations, he was able to receive lifesaving care, right here at home.



Rod Goodall sits in the SAH Front Lobby

Rod Goodall loves to travel. He and his wife, Laura, often visit the same sunny spots year after year. This spring, just after one of these vacations, he started to feel “odd”.

At first, he assumed it was the flu. He left work early, went home, and laid down to rest. He warned Laura he was sick so she could keep her distance. Laura is a nurse at Sault Area Hospital, and Rod didn't want her to catch what he had.

Rod figured after a few days rest he'd be fine – but his symptoms didn't go away. In fact, they got worse. He was violently shaking in his sleep when Laura went in to check on him. She found him drenched in sweat, and she rushed him to the hospital immediately.

“Dr. Phil Evans and the emergency nurses were terrific,” Rod shared. “He told me that I was sick, but they we're going to get to the bottom of it, and get me better.”

Rod's care team suspected infection. His blood pressure was hardly registering when he arrived. He was immediately connected to IVs in both arms, vital signs monitors, and oxygen. **All of this critical equipment was there to help care for him because of you and so many generous donors.**

“I was admitted and quarantined. The team on 3C that took care of me was fantastic. I started off with, I think, 5 blood tests a day to determine the cause. As they started to rule certain things out, it was less and less.”

The blood tests pointed to Rod's liver. A CT scan helped his care team find the source: an abscess. **Critical equipment in Medical Imaging and the Laboratory helped determine Rod's care plan, and it wouldn't be here without your support.**

A few days later, Rod had a surgical procedure to remove some of the abscess, and place a tube into his liver. For a few months after, Nurses would have to insert a syringe into the tube, and flush fluid through to help clear the infection. He needed IV antibiotics, and he stayed in hospital until his team determined he was stable enough to go home.

Had Rod not gone to the emergency room when he did, he might have been days from death. Today, his liver is healing and life is getting back to normal. The source of Rod's infection was never determined, although his care team suspected something he ate on vacation. “One thing I know now, more than ever, is to appreciate the body and its own internal defense mechanisms,” he said.

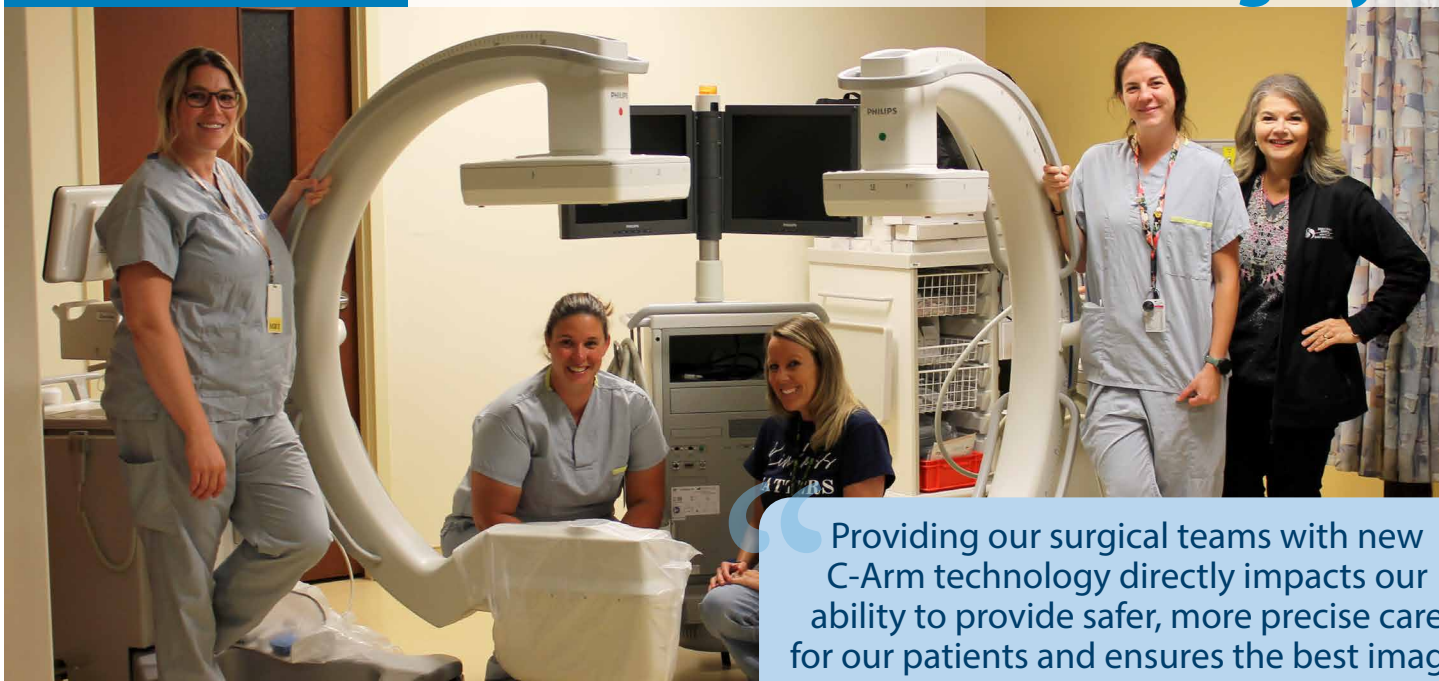
Until this year, Rod had never spent a day in the hospital. He now has a new appreciation for how important supporting local healthcare is.

“Whether it's upgrading equipment or bringing something new in - **donors like us are making sure that our hospital has access to the equipment we all need!**”

- Rod Goodall, former patient, proud Rotarian and Sault Area Hospital Foundation Donor

THANKS TO YOU:

A Clearer Picture for Surgery



Medical Imaging team members pose with the two C-Arms!
L-R: Lauren Christian MRT(R), Meggan McLeod MRT(R),
Jill Kennedy, Chanel Fall MRT(R), Nancy Chapman

Providing our surgical teams with new C-Arm technology directly impacts our ability to provide safer, more precise care for our patients and ensures the best image quality. **Thank you to all donors who supported this new equipment.**

- Jill Kennedy, Manager, Medical Imaging

Because of your generosity, two brand-new C-Arms arrived at Sault Area Hospital this spring.

When you look at the picture above, it's easy to see why these special pieces of equipment are called "C-Arms". These x-ray imaging devices are shaped like the letter "C"! A C-Arm lets care providers see inside the body, showing real-time x-ray images during surgeries and procedures.

This isn't just a regular x-ray though: this technology turns the x-ray into a moving image. The live images are displayed on a screen in the operating room.

The "C" shape is a key part of how this tool works – it lets the equipment move around the patient

while they are on the procedure table. Once the position is set, the C-Arm can take images from different angles.

While surgeons depend on the images from the C-Arm to make decisions, they often don't operate this equipment themselves. The C-Arm is usually operated by a Medical Radiation Technologist (MRT). MRTs work together with the surgeon; their job is to position the C-Arm and ensure safe, accurate, high-quality imaging. With the help of MRTs, surgeons can see their progress during surgery, and guide instruments and tools.

When fundraising for the C-Arms started in Spring 2023, doctors at SAH had this to say...



"When it comes to repairing broken bones with plates, screws, and rods – **we can't do this work without the C-Arm**".

Dr. Graham Elder,
Orthopedic Surgeon



"If we didn't have a C-Arm, most endo-urological surgeries wouldn't be possible at our hospital. **It's a vital tool.**"

Dr. Anis Aziz, *Urologist*

Because of your support, Sault Area Hospital has two new C-Arms!

The two C-Arms are different sizes, and each is useful for different purposes. The smaller one is great for orthopedic (bone) procedures. The larger one produces a bigger image, which is ideal for urology (kidney, bladder) procedures. Both C-Arms also support cardiac (heart) and pain management procedures.

The new C-Arms are already making a difference in our operating rooms. They **provide sharper, more detailed images at lower radiation doses**, reducing exposure for both patients and staff.

We asked the MRTs what they like most about the new C-Arms, and it's the little enhancements. Both systems have a laser light that helps position the C-Arm quickly and easily. They also like having a dedicated touch screen to view and manipulate images. All these little enhancements let MRTs work faster – which can reduce procedure times and radiation dosage.

It's because of you that we can continue to provide our teams with new equipment, and provide patients with the best possible care at Sault Area Hospital. Thank you!

Celebrating Medical Radiation Technologists at SAH

MRT Week is an annual celebration of Medical Radiation Technologists across Canada. This year, MRT week takes place from November 2 - 8, 2025.

MRTs are the experts who make advanced medical imaging possible, like the images taken by our brand-new C-Arms.

If you have ever had an X-Ray, CT Scan, MRI, Mammogram, Interventional Radiology procedure, Nuclear Medicine procedure or Radiation Therapy, you've been in contact with an MRT. They're the people who operate our sophisticated imaging equipment to give clearest pictures possible while keeping patients safe and comfortable.

MRTs are a vital part of our care team. Thank you for helping give them the tools they need to provide outstanding care at Sault Area Hospital!



In the last 5 years...

Your support has helped bring over \$11 million in medical imaging equipment to Sault Area Hospital!

Some of these critical projects have included...

- A brand-new \$3.2 million MRI (2022)
- All 3 Radiology (X-Ray) Rooms (2024)
- Interventional Radiology Suite (2024)
- Fluoroscopy Equipment (2023)
- Nuclear Medicine Gamma Camera (2021)
- Mammography (Breast Screening) Unit (2021)

Plus ultrasound units, stress testing equipment, echocardiography units, and so much more!

Thanks to you, our care providers are getting clearer pictures – critical to finding and fixing problems for patients. ***Your support makes it possible! Thank you!***

UPCOMING NEED:

Scoping Out New Surgical Tools



Many pieces of hospital equipment use the word “scope” in their name. Whether they’re an “endoscope” or a “microscope”, these tools help our care teams get a closer look.

Each tool comes in a different size and shape for a specific purpose, and this year our surgical department needs to replace a few of them.

Endoscopes – like the duodenal scope and gastroscope – are long, thin tubes with a light and a camera attached to their tip. These scopes are used to see inside of the body, and are often used in combination with other tools to perform minimally invasive surgeries.

Duodenal Scope

The duodenal scope helps doctors view and access the top of the small intestine (duodenum). SAH has 4 of them, and they are used multiple times a day, every day. This scope helps diagnose and treat issues in the pancreas and bile ducts (in the liver) such as cancer or gall stones.

Pediatric Gastroscope

Designed for smaller patients, the pediatric gastroscope helps doctors see the throat, stomach, and small intestine. It can be used to look for the cause of heartburn, vomiting, difficulty swallowing and bleeding. It can also check for ulcers and cancer. Although it was made to be used on children, its thin structure can come in handy for some adult patients too! SAH only has one pediatric gastroscope – without it, patients might have to go elsewhere for care.

Colposcope

A colposcope is a special type of microscope used for women’s health – it’s a key part of a Gynecologist’s tool set. It is one of the main tools used when testing for cervical cancer, helping the gynecologist see and biopsy the cervix. With new Gynecologists in our community, the colposcope at SAH is getting a necessary upgrade this year to ensure our care teams have the tools they need to provide the best possible care.

Each scope can cost \$30,000 to \$50,000, but all are critical to care.

THANK YOU!

Since April 1st,
you have helped bring
\$3.1+ MILLION
in equipment to
Sault Area Hospital!

Thanks to you, we have already been able to provide over \$3.1 million to Sault Area Hospital for critical medical equipment, including \$137,552 toward a low temperature sterilizer for our Medical Device Reprocessing Department (MDRD).

The low temperature sterilizer helps prepare delicate equipment – like our flexible ureteroscopes, cystoscopes and bronchoscopes – to be reused. The new sterilizer has a higher capacity, allowing more tools to be sterilized at once. This allows us to support sterilization of tools for other providers in our community.

We would not have equipment if it wasn’t for your generosity.

THANK YOU!

Stop by and visit!

We are happy to be on site at Sault Area Hospital to assist patients, visitors and staff.

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday,
8:00am - 4:30pm

In the main lobby, turn right and you’ll see our “Foundation” sign!

When you give, you make outstanding care possible.



Visit our website:
sahfoundation.com

Make a secure gift, or find more information about our programs.



Call our main line:
705-759-3848

We’re always glad to chat, or you can leave a message for a call back.



Can’t us send mail?

We’ll pick it up!

During the postal strike, please give us a call to let us know you have mail for us. We’re happy to pick up from local addresses.

We look forward to the next time we see each other!