



**OUR MISSION**

The St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation (SCGHF) is a non-profit, fundraising organization that supports the St. Catharines General Hospital site of the NHS in securing innovative health care equipment and state-of-the-art technology in modern facilities.

**One does not often think about their Local Hospital...  
until they are required to use it.**

Dear Friend,

Imagine that you, a resident of Niagara, pass through the doors of the General at the most fragile time in your life only to realize that the equipment you require is aging and needs to be replaced. As technology continues to evolve at an alarming rate, the sad reality is that much of our current equipment is no longer able to meet the needs of our community members.

The St. Catharines General Hospital is committed to providing you with the very best care and treatment possible – but to do that, we must ensure that our healthcare providers have the finest equipment for the job.

We are thrilled that construction is now underway for the new Niagara Health System Health-Care Complex. The new, state-of-the-art health care complex will accommodate new regional services that have not been available locally in Niagara, including comprehensive cancer care at the Walker Family Cancer Centre, along with facilities to support cardiac catheterization and longer-term mental health beds. When the project is completed, Niagara will be home to one of the most up-to-date health-care facilities in the province, establishing infrastructure to care for and treat the health needs of the Niagara region. While this is wonderful news for Niagara residences; it is important to note that patients are here, their conditions are real and their needs are urgent.

You may be surprised to hear that the Ministry of Health does not provide the funds necessary for patient care equipment; we rely solely on the support of our generous community members. We must help ensure that the St. Catharines General Hospital is in a position to respond to our community’s evolving health care needs by continuing to provide the newest and most innovative equipment available.

*It is important to note than any equipment purchased today for our hospital will be transferred and used at the new healthcare facility.*

In order to provide the highest level of care to our patients, the St. Catharines General Hospital Site is in urgent need of BiPAP Machines and Electric Beds. The purchase of these vital pieces of equipment will increase the safety to both our patients and healthcare providers. Please take a moment to learn more about the benefits that BiPAP Machines and Electric Beds offer to our patients.



**YES, I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT MY LOCAL HOSPITAL**

PLEASE USE MY GIFT TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF:  BiPAP Machine  Electric Beds

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:  Visa  Mastercard  American Express  Cheque

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for supporting the SCGH Foundation. All donations of \$10 or more will be acknowledged with a tax receipt.  
Charitable Registration # 11925 7059 RR0001*

### BiPAP Machine: 3 @ \$24,000

BiPAP machines are used as a non-invasive measure to aide patients who are in respiratory distress. These machines improve gas exchange thereby decreasing the work of breathing.

This machine is greatly beneficial to patients as it provides a viable option for respiratory support, thereby preventing the need for invasive treatment (intubation and ventilator care) and decreasing their hospital length of stay. For patients who suffer from sleep apnea, this machine provides a backup rate of breath as required.

The BiPAP machines currently in our hospital are over 12 years old and are obsolete. Two of the BiPAP machines lack monitoring capabilities and one is no longer serviceable; if something were to malfunction, it would be removed from service. None of the machines have a built in oxygen blender, like the modern version. Oxygen blenders are key in that they monitor exactly how much oxygen is provided to the patient.

Respiratory Therapists will benefit greatly as the new machines allow them to monitor and record patient data and receive actual feedback. Additionally, they have integrated alarms that will notify staff if the patient has not obtained a proper seal around the mask or if their wellbeing is compromised.

### Electric Beds: 16 @ \$7,500

Electric Beds are the foundation of comfort for our patients who spend the majority of their hospitalization in bed; it is an essential part of their care. Currently, outdated beds at the St. Catharines General have poor brakes, uncomfortable mattresses and are now obsolete.

Electric Beds provide great independence for our patients allowing them ease of access to position controls thereby enabling them to adjust the head of the bed to maximize their comfort. As well, the low bed height eases patient's comfort in entering and exiting the bed. The mattresses have improved greatly in comfort and help to decrease skin breakdown. If patients lie upon a surface that is not supportive or causes increased pressure, the skin can breakdown and they are more susceptible to Staph infections. Staph infections are very serious and can cause: boils, blood infection, infection of the valves of the heart, bone infection and infection of a joint.

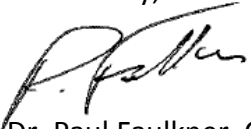
The design of these beds allows for ease of patient care. Caregivers can adjust the position of the bed by the touch of a button, rather than the manual adjustment (cranking) required by our current beds, thereby reducing the potential for workplace injuries. Caregivers can change the positioning of the bed quickly and smoothly in case of emergency. The efficient steering system makes transfer of patients easier and safer for healthcare providers and patients.

Your decision to support the St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation in purchasing the BiPAP Machines and Electric Beds that are urgently needed for our hospital will have an enormous impact on the lives of many people in our community. The standards of care we can offer today will immediately increase and will benefit you and your loved ones in our future Healthcare Complex.

As Chief of Staff of the hospital, I know that the physicians and staff of the St. Catharines General Hospital understand first hand the difference that new and innovative equipment can make to patient care. With your help, we will be able to provide our dedicate teams of healthcare professionals with the state-of-the-art equipment we all need and deserve.

**Thank you for supporting your local community hospital**

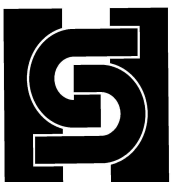
Yours Truly,



Dr. Paul Faulkner, Chief of Staff  
St. Catharines General Hospital



Sandra Sabo, Chief Operating Officer  
St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation



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Birthdays, Anniversaries, Thanksgiving, Weddings, Christmas or ANY special day you want to remember a loved one, consider an alternative to traditional gift giving and make a donation to the SCGH Foundation.

A donation to The St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation is a fitting way to remember a special person, while at the same time helping others. We will notify your Special Person that a gift was made in their honour by you.

My gift is in honour of:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_