

Holmes adds muscle to hospital campaign

HGTV personality Mike Holmes is lending his celebrity muscle to the Georgetown Hospital Foundation's Investing in Care—Close to Home campaign.

Holmes, a resident of Halton Hills, best known for his work as creator and host of television shows *Holmes on Homes* and *Holmes Inspection*, has joined the Honorary Campaign Cabinet that will assist in funding the construction of a new 14,000 square foot Emergency Department. Featured in the expansion will be the acquisition of a CT scanner—the first in Halton Hills.

The Cabinet is a small group of leaders who represent the fundraising campaign to the community.

"I am here to help Georgetown Hospital," said Holmes. "It's my local hospital after all, I look forward to helping make this project a reality."

The other members of the Cabinet are Mayor Rick Bonnette, Josey Bonnette and Fred Helson.

Holmes, who has lived in the community for more than 10 years, enjoys private time on his property when he's not busy filming or working to promote skills training for youth through the Holmes Foundation.

Holmes' decision to get involved is inspired by his first-hand experience of the importance of CT scanning technology—a key piece of the Campaign.

Several years ago his daughter Sherry had a brain tumour, which was discovered

through a CT scan. Within a week she underwent life-saving surgery to remove the potentially deadly tumour.

"Without question the doctors did their jobs well, but as far as I'm concerned it was the CT scan that saved her life," said Holmes.

Holmes toured the hospital late last year with Chief Operating Officer Cindy McDonell who gave him an up-close view of the challenges associated with the Hospital's small size and 50-year-old structure.

"As I toured Mike through the hospital he could immediately see the difficulties we have in our existing space and the need we have to construct a new Emergency Department," said McDonell. "He already had very personal reasons to support our goal to acquire a CT scanner, and it is terrific to also have his appreciation of our vision of better healthcare for our community."

Along with doubling the size of the ER department and adding a CT scanner, funds from the campaign will be used to transform the hospital's Diagnostic Imaging Department into a larger space.

To date, the Foundation has announced \$2.2 million in pledged donations. The total cost is anticipated to be \$12.2 million. The Town of Halton Hills has pledged \$2.6 million along with up to \$2.6 million from the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care. In addition, Halton Healthcare Services is contributing \$2.5 million.



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\$320,000	1,215.05	560.79
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