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.

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Calling all Community Fundraisers

We need your support!

There are many opportunities to make a difference for the Georgetown Hospital and hosting an event is a great way to get involved, meet new people, raise awareness, remember a loved one and fulfill your philanthropic goals.

We have developed a Fundraising Tool Kit to assist you in determining what type of event you would like to host, tips on organizing the event and making it successful.

Visit our website georgetownhospitalfoundation.ca and click 'host your own event' in the event section to download your fundraising tool kit.

If you have any questions regarding an event you would like to organize please contact:

Jackie Fox, Annual Giving and Special Events Coordinator jafox@haltonhealthcare.on.ca or 905-873-0111 ext. 8220



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in loving memory of

Ineke (Nikki) Sanderson



Sunday, August 30, 2010

Just another normal day for my Mom, Nikki.

Mom was helping her neighbour plant a tree when she slipped and hit her head. She was rushed to the Georgetown Hospital. She arrived at the Hospital around 12:30pm. As soon as she arrived, the Doctors and Nurses did their assessments and made

the decision that she needed a CT scan.

This meant she needed to be transferred to another hospital, because the Georgetown Hospital did not have one.

Three hours later, Mom arrived at the other hospital for the CT scan, but by then it was too late. She was unconscious and bleeding internally from the severe head trauma. There was nothing the Doctors and Nurses could do at that hospital, so they transferred her to yet another hospital with a special neurology

team.

A few hours later, we lost her.

Mom was brought back to the Georgetown Hospital. Surrounded by her family and friends, we all said our final goodbyes.

As I reflect back on that day, I consider a few things. If the Georgetown Hospital had a CT scanner, would it have saved my mother's life? Maybe. Maybe not... unfortunately we will ever know. For three crucial hours my Mom had to wait for a CT scan. Could those 3 hours have made a difference? Would she be alive today?

The Doctors and Nurses at the Georgetown Hospital gave my mother the best care possible with the resources that they had available to them. But without the proper equipment, in this case, a CT scanner, their hands were tied.

Join me and my family and support the Campaign for the Georgetown Hospital. Throughout the spring and summer Nikki's Pools (330 Guelph St., Georgetown, 905-877-8433) will be holding draws and a silent auction to raise funds to go towards the Hospitals expansion which includes the redevelopment of the Emergency and Diagnostic Imaging Departments, and most important, acquisition of a CT Scanner.

- Mike Sanderson



