

Have faith and carry an umbrella

There's been a lot of hubbub about the renovations at Georgetown Hospital, and several generous individuals and businesses have stepped forward to open their cheque books.

I covered the official groundbreaking Tuesday morning, where the movers and shakers on the hospital board and foundation saw the kick-off of the project.

As a life-long resident of this town, it gives me a warm fuzzy feeling to see our 'little' hospital receiving all this attention, making it better able to serve the needs of the town.

Over the years, that same hospital has taken abuse; some people questioning the level of care, and others downright bad-mouthing it.

But to me and members of my family, there's always been a tender place in my heart for that place—the bricks and mortar of the facility, and more importantly, the wonderful people who work there.

I saw my four daughters born there, my family and I rushed my dad there, sometimes in the middle of the night, for numerous heart attacks.

My mother was a patient there and the Bennett Centre during the final days of her life. I have nothing but praise for all those who cared for her.

Back in June 12, 1960, the day after my ninth birthday, the first sod turning ceremony took place. Almost a year later, June 27, 1961 Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital opened its doors to accept patients.

That new hospital boasted 64 beds. Now, 52 years later, I was seeing a major project moving on to the next stage.

So, as I stood there and photographed the ceremonial groundbreaking, I had a pretty good feeling.

During his speech, contractor and TV celebrity Mike Holmes, Honourary Campaign Cabinet Member, announced that, to date, Georgetown Hospital Foundation now has \$4.5 million committed to the project.

There is another \$2 million needed.

Ted Brown



I know it can be a daunting experience to be a member of a group given the task of raising funds—seven figure funds—for any given project.

But I also know we live in one of the most generous communities in Ontario.

It takes a little faith.

I recently heard a story about a farming community out west, where, like us, the weather had been much too dry.

The farmers asked the local minister to hold a special service, to pray for rain.

The people turned out in droves, filling the church to capacity, as the preacher stood in front of all those hoping for rain.

Looking out over the crowd, he told them they could pray all they wanted, but unless they had faith, nothing was going to happen.

"Who says we don't have faith?" asked one of the parishioners.

"Well," said the minister, "you're all here to pray for rain—but not one of you brought along an umbrella."

So that's the key—having faith in our Foundation, and helping them in any way we can. If you or your company has a means of making a donation, think of it as an investment in the future—your future.

Help make our 'little' hospital even bigger and more able to serve our needs.

Looking around as I left the ceremony Tuesday morning, I realized that those who planned the groundbreaking did indeed have faith.

In spite of an overcast day and forecasts of rain—not one of them carried an umbrella.

Have faith and give generously.

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Trisha Luty & Chris Monteath

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