



381 Church Street, P.O. Box 1800
Markham, Ontario, L3P 7P3
905-472-7000
Visit our site at
www.msh.on.ca

VITALITY



MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

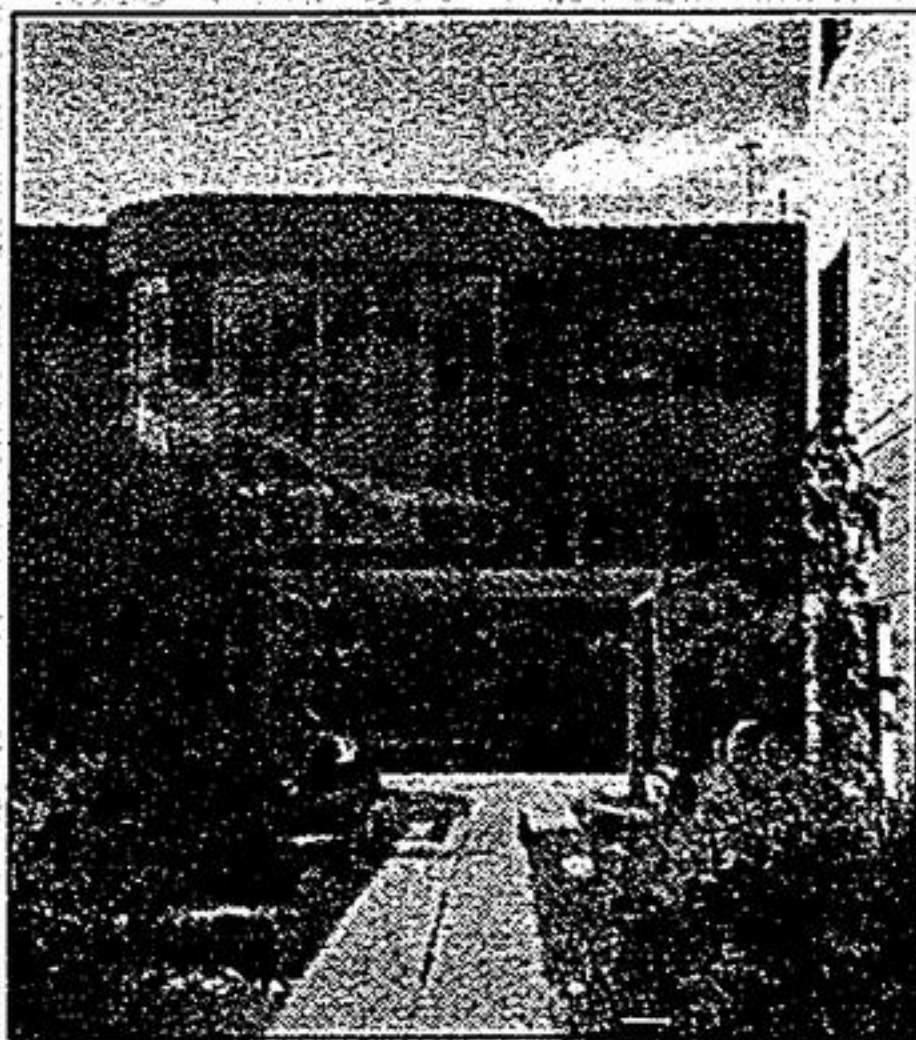
Caring For Our Community; Building For The Future

The 2001 census confirmed that Markham Stouffville is one of the fastest growing areas in Canada. Preparing for the current and future needs of the community is a constant priority for MSH. Renewing equipment, expanding our physical size, opening new services and programs... growing with the community.

Several years ago, the Hospital realized that the population growth would soon exceed our physical capacity to offer needed services. Although it was evident that expansion was required, the Health Services Restructuring Commission established by the Ontario Government, saw things differently. It felt MSH had too many general medical and surgical beds. To meet the HSRC's directives, the Hospital will need to close 34 general medical and surgical beds next year. That is the equivalent of an entire nursing unit.

For over three years, the Hospital has been working cooperatively with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, to design an expansion plan that will allow us to care for our community into the future. Unfortunately, the Ministry has not yet agreed to the Hospital's plans.

Today, MSH is functioning virtually at its full capacity. Many areas, such as diagnostic imaging, are working in very cramped and tight spaces. Some modest bed expansion is possible if other services are moved out of the Hospital. **The bottom line is, we must expand to meet community needs or access to care will decline.** Thanks to the dedication and skill of our physicians and staff, to date our challenges with physical space have not compromised the quality of care provided to our patients.



Markham Stouffville Hospital believes the expansion plan we have prepared is the right one for our community. The plan puts the Hospital at the forefront of innovation in health care delivery. One innovation is the inclusion of a state of the art health and wellness centre. As well, to address the growing number of elderly, a unique seniors' centre will provide a continuum of care from residential to specialized geriatric services. The seniors' centre will be developed through a partnership with the Region of York and Participation House. **If begun today, the redevelopment plan will take about 4 years to fully complete.**

Our vision and mission drive us to ensure the community is served by providing accessible and high quality medical care. Our ability to do so will be considerably compromised over the next few years without expansion. This is a serious issue for our Board and staff, our physicians, our community, our elected provincial representatives, and our local businesses.

Over the next few weeks, we will be meeting with our elected Provincial representatives for the Hospital's catchment area, as well as key community and business leaders, and local and regional council representatives to stress upon them the need for immediate action. Most of all, we will need your help and support so that we can continue to serve you. Watch this column for continuing updates about our plans.

EQUIPMENT CLUB PURCHASES ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF CARE

In an effort to further recognize the generosity of our donors we have developed the "Friends of the Foundation Equipment Club".

The "Equipment Club" is an opportunity to be part of a small group of Foundation friends whose donations are able to purchase a specific, much-needed piece of equipment for the Hospital.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the generosity of the following "Friends of the Foundation" whose donations went towards purchasing the following pieces of equipment:

Sonosite 180 Portable Ultrasound

The Sonosite Ultrasound is a breakthrough in traditional ultrasound technology which is used in our Maternal Child System.

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Newman
Judge & Mrs. Russell Pearce
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Christian
Mrs. Bernice Bowers
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Farwell
Mr. & Mrs. Jean Joubert

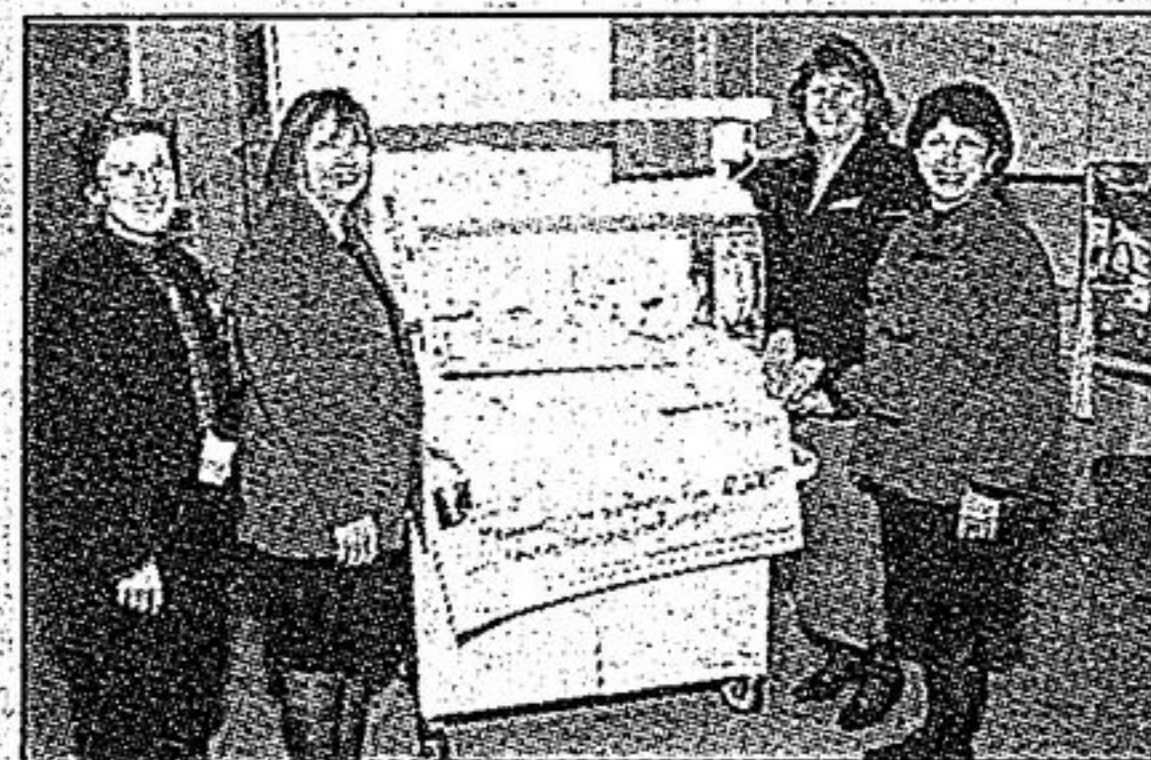
Digital EEG System

The EEG is used in our Diagnostic Imaging area to recording and analysis of electrical signals generated by the brain.

Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Glanzmann
Mr. John Baird
Mrs. Bernice Bowers

For more information call Jan Black,
Manager Major Gifts & Administration at (905) 472-7394

THE IMPORTANCE OF DONOR DOLLARS



The success of the fundraising activities by the Foundation and the community enabled the Foundation to give the Hospital \$2 million toward capital purchases in 2001/02.

Over the past year, the Economist & Sun has featured many pictures of these donations. An Emergency Call System, an

Isolette, Equipment for the Fast Track Clinic, and Arthroscopy Instruments are all examples of medical and diagnostic equipment that were purchased through donations from individuals, corporations, businesses, service clubs, private foundations and organizations.



While the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care funds hospital operating costs, it does not fund purchases of equipment. Therefore, Markham Stouffville Hospital, like all Hospitals, relies on donations to fund the purchase of equipment for patient care. That's why your donations are so important!

Electronic Documentation "Goes Live" at Markham Stouffville Hospital



In March of 2000 Markham Stouffville Hospital (MSH) created an Information Technology Strategic Plan. One of the key initiatives outlined in the Strategic Plan was to further develop an electronic health record for MSH.

The electronic documentation of clinical observations and assessments is a critical step towards the development of an electronic health record for Markham Stouffville. Over the past few years, the Hospital has invested a great deal of time and energy in the planning for this large-scale project. A very detailed and thorough implementation plan was developed that encompassed an approach that minimized risk, focused on best practices and incorporated "lessons learned" from other organizations.

At MSH, the electronic documentation project has been called the "ED Project". This initiative encompasses both a change in clinical practice and the introduction of new technology. The project is co-sponsored by the

Information Technology Department and the Professional Practice Department. The implementation of the new documentation system has been identified as an opportunity to review current processes and to look at ways to streamline documentation, eliminate duplication and enhance communication within the clinical teams.

In appreciation of the magnitude of change that this represents for staff, the project team designed 2 full days of training on the charting methodology and the computer screens for nursing staff. Allied health professionals (Physiotherapists, Social Workers, etc.) received one full day of training. In addition, special sessions were held with Clinical Managers, Directors, Physicians, and others. Extensive on-site support during the "go-live" weeks includes scheduling additional clinical staff, 24 hour ED Team support, daily debriefing meetings, and posted information to communicate with patients and families.

On Tuesday April 2nd, nurses and allied health professionals in the Medicine and Surgical Systems began documenting patient information electronically. Some staff used the desk-top computers in the unit stations, while others used Computers-on-Wheels (COWS) at the bedside. Physicians continue to document on paper during this phase of the project but will have the opportunity to access and view patient information entered on the electronic chart from various access points. The Maternal Child System's "go-live" date was Wednesday May 22nd, while the Mental Health System and Ambulatory Care Areas will go-live Tuesday June 11th.

The Hospital would like to acknowledge and thank staff, physicians, patients and families for their tremendous patience and goodwill. The success of this project is directly attributable to everyone's support and enthusiasm.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation Annual Golf Tournament Committee is looking for a few volunteers to assist their Silent Auction Committee. Individuals who are interested would be required to assist with securing silent auction items and meeting with the committee on a monthly basis. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call Kathy Little, Special Event Co-ordinator at 905-472-7395 or email: klittle@msh.on.ca.

Upcoming Events

- **Mediatric Diabetes Clinic Program Begins with Diabetes:** May 28, 2002, 9:00-9:00pm, MSH Auditorium, Presenter: Peter Atkins, Fire Fighter, Toronto Fire Services
- **2002 York Region Hip/Hip Hoopay Walk for Markham Stouffville and York Central Hospitals:** Sunday, May 26, 2002, Registration: 9:00 a.m., Phyllis Rawlinson Park, Leslie Street, northeast side of Elgin Mills, Richmond Hill
- **MSH Annual General Meeting:** June 20, 2002, at 7:00 p.m., MSH Auditorium
- **MSH Foundation Annual Golf Tournament:** August 12, 2002 at York Downs Golf and Country Club
- **Milliken Children's Festival:** September 7, 2002, 9:30 a.m., Milliken Mills Community Centre
- **Fashions For Life Fashion Show:** October 30, 2002
- **Body & Soul Joint Fundraising Dinner & Show:** November 21, 2002