Betz Pools of Stouffville received 27 national awards at the 2013 Pool Design and Construction Awards in Niagara Falls this month.

Their seven gold, eight silver and 12 bronze awards were the largest number awarded to a single builder across Canada, said company president Marvin Betz.

The annual competition by the Pool and Hot Tub Council of Canada is open to pool designers and builders from across the country.

A judging panel of lead-

ing industry designers and builders ranks the entries which are submitted to them anonymously.

Betz Pools, which serves the Greater Toronto Area and employs 120 people, is celebrating its 73rd year of continuous operation in Stouffville.

The company designs and builds complete outdoor environments including custom swimming pools, spas, water features, outdoor structures, patios, decks, full landscaping and

pool renovation.

The Betz name has become synonymous with quality, thanks in large part to the experience of its staff, Mr. Betz said.

Many Betz employees have been with the company for 20 to 40 years.

To win this number of awards is truly an honour," he said

"But for us the most important measure of success is satisfying our customers."

Another moving day during hospital expansion

Another milestone was achieved in the Markham Stouffville Hospital expansion journey.

This past weekend, about 80 patients were moved into rooms in the newly renovated centre tower in the original building.

The patients were from a number of different departments, including inpatient rehabilitation, palliative care and surgery.

Earlier this year, the hospital moved more than 100 patients from the old building into the newly expanded building – labelled building B.

Hospital staff have worked for a couple of years, planning and coordinating patient move and transfer logistics.

The hospital used the move in March as a learning tool to make this move successful, hospital CEO Janet Beed said.

"The recent move was a tremendous success," she said. "Teams from across the hospital worked together to move

our patients safely and quickly."

In March, patients from various departments, including maternal child, pediatrics, surgery, neonatal intensive care unit, critical care, and inpatient mental health moved into their new rooms.

Teams of hospital staff and volunteers helped with that move, with a different role allocated to each team, such as transfer nurses, patient transport and cleaning and sterilization.

Patient transfers are part of the hospital's multi-year expansion and renovation plan.

Renovations have already started in the old section - building A - and areexpected to be completed by August 2014.

Renovations include adding more sinks and toilets in rooms, computer alcoves and larger drug distribution areas.

The former emergency room will also be transformed into an oncology centre that will overlook a garden. which will open in the beginning of the new year.

- Amanda Persico



We'd like to thank Stouffville -for a wonderful 2013.

Wishing You all the Joys of the Season and Every Happiness, Throughout the Coming Year.

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