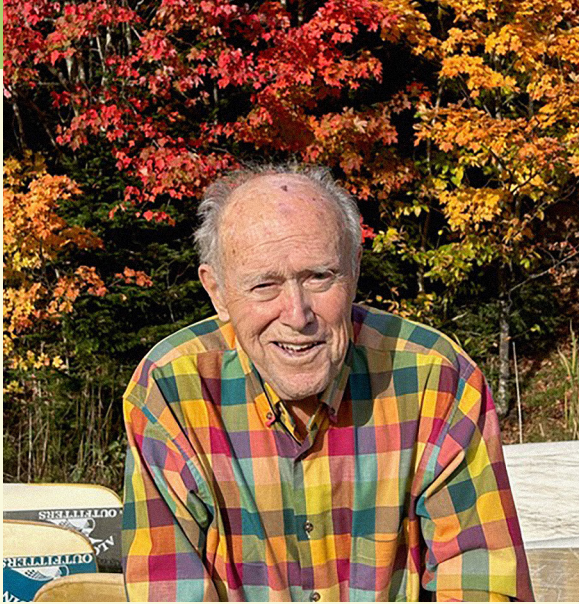




Inspired by and in celebration of long-time local resident Bob Hutcheson, we are thrilled to announce a transformative gift of \$20 million by a partnership of families who, like Bob, love Huntsville "into their bones" and do everything they can to support our hospital and healthcare throughout the region. The donation includes \$17.5 million as a matching program that will double the impact of every other donation we receive for hospital redevelopment. The balance, \$2.5 million, will go

toward a scholarship to recruit and train local care teams. Please take a few minutes to visit huntsvillehospitalfoundation.ca/matching to learn more about this late-breaking and exciting news.

Now I Can At Least Smell a Peanut Without My Throat Closing and Gasping For Air.

You might be surprised to learn that Kaitlyn Belfry of Fairy Lake and Huntsville, has visited Huntsville Hospital's emergency department about 15 times in her 25 years — often with only minutes to spare. A severe peanut allergy can do that to you.

"My medical professionals have me on Oral Immune Therapy for my allergy," says Kaitlyn. "That means gradually introducing peanuts in super small amounts; I'm at 8 milligrams now. So, I can maybe touch or smell a peanut without blowing up. Blowing up means breaking out in hives, my throat closing, and not being able to breathe — imminent death without treatment."

When she isn't — in her words — 'blowing up,' Kaitlyn coaches the Huntsville Sting U11B girls' hockey team, is a synchronized figure skater and works as a part-time teacher with two education boards in the region. To say she is active is an

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understatement — Kaitlyn is healthy and full of life. Until it comes to peanuts and her extreme reactions to contact.

"I went into emergency one time and the emergency nurse said: Hi. You look better than last time. That's how well I'm known at Huntsville Hospital," laughs Kaitlyn. "One time while driving and snacking on a bar that was supposed to be peanut free, I found myself gasping for air. Thankfully, I was only a minute or two from the hospital. I got myself to the emergency entrance and the team leapt into action. They were so amazing — they saved my life that day."

"Having a hospital so close is critical to me," says Kaitlyn. "If I had to go to North Bay or Orillia, I wouldn't be alive now."

Kaitlyn and her family know the importance of well-staffed emergency care close to home. For them, the difference it makes is life and death. Without community support, we wouldn't have a community hospital — it's that simple. Huntsville Hospital keeps our entire community safe, from full-time residents to seasonal visitors. That's why we should all support Huntsville Hospital.

Huntsville Has Entered a New Era: We're Building Hospitals and a Healthcare System to Fit.

Why does Muskoka need new hospitals? There are so many answers to that question, it's hard to know where to start. So what better way to find answers than to speak with the people who provide local healthcare — who take care of us when we're ill or hurt.

"Our hospitals were built for a different era, and our physical infrastructure is very stretched as a result," says Dr. Heather Sawula, Emergency Department Physician in both Huntsville and Bracebridge. "While the care and skill provided at both MAHC hospitals is excellent, our aging population adds complexity, new technologies are harder to deploy, and our capacity to treat patients locally is increasingly limited. We have the skills, we have the team — what we need are facilities that match, so we can unleash those skills."

Dr. Sawula trained at University of Toronto and Queens University in Kingston. She and husband Derek, an anesthesiologist at MAHC, have lived in Huntsville for seven years and started their family here.

"We love this community," says Heather. "It's active, it's built around the outdoors, and everyone here is so welcoming. It feels young — people want to move forward, and a new hospital is central to that feeling and reality. The lines between full time and seasonal residents are blurring, and more people are enjoying Muskoka year-round."

Unlike before, winters no longer bring the same dramatic slowdown. More and more, Huntsville is becoming a truly integrated community."



The new interconnected healthcare system and two new hospitals will reflect that community integration and expansion.

"We're doubling emergency capacity in both locations — that's huge," says Heather. "We'll have larger trauma and resuscitation bays with room for the entire team at the bedside."

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promise.

ISSUE 5.0 FALL, 2025

Impact stories that inspire stewardship today, transparency always and fact-based updates on what the future promises.

We'll also have spaces designed for privacy and to better support patients experiencing mental health crises. It's about more space, the ability to deploy new technology, and giving our physicians, nurses and allied health teams the tools they need to deliver outstanding care as the communities evolve."

Why new hospitals? Dr. Sawula has so many good answers:

- The new hospitals will allow us to treat more people locally, while ensuring seamless connections to specialized care across the province when required
- Having a complete, up-to-date diagnostics and imaging department will help us make faster, better decisions for patient care in real time.
- Investing in two new hospitals is more cost-effective than patching aging facilities, and ensures our region has the care it needs for generations to come.
- Modern facilities also strengthen recruitment and retention, helping nurses, doctors, and allied health professionals picture building long-term careers here.

"It's very difficult to deliver 21st century healthcare in a hospital built for the 20th," concludes Heather. "It's time to give our teams the facilities they need to do our best work — modern hospitals and an integrated healthcare system for Muskoka. This hospital is the heart of this amazing community. It's a necessity — for our patients, our children and our future. And we can't do any of it without our donors."



Thank You For Helping Us Keep an Eye On You.

We're excited to announce that, thanks to donor generosity, your foundation has provided Huntsville Hospital with the funds required to purchase its Central Patient Monitoring system. This is great news for every patient who visits our emergency department or ICU and every physician, nurse and allied health worker who provides care. Thank you to every donor who made this possible!

What Your Donations Have Recently Made Possible.

- MRI
- Biological Safety Cabinet
- Scopes for the OR
- 2 OR Tables
- 3 Lead Cardiac Monitors
- 3 New Patient Beds



Future State Update

Stay informed and learn more about Muskoka's multi-site regional hospital redevelopment. Visit [MadelnMuskokaHealthcare.ca](https://www.madelnmuskokahealthcare.ca) for details.

Help us keep our promise to ensure and pay for continuing hospital improvements in Muskoka. Please give today!

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