

*Each contribution made to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation is an investment in the future of health care for you and your family.*

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Hospital Foundation**  
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*The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation puts your donation dollars to work for you in your own community.*



## FORT ST. JOHN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Spring 2003

Volume 4



*An increasing number of cancer patients are receiving treatment at the Fort St. John Hospital. A cancer detection and treatment program delivered close to home is helping those patients and their families.*

Early detection of cancer is the key to the best possible treatment. Eliminating the stress and cost of long distance travel further helps cancer patients in the community. The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation's goal in 2003 is to provide the equipment currently missing for the best delivery of cancer detection and treatment at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre.

### **"Giving Our Best" Help for Cancer Patients**

The Foundation's fundraising campaign goal of \$315,000 has two phases.

**PHASE I** requires \$115,000: Phase I goal is to obtain the means to provide the following variety of items: colonoscope for OR, IV Cart and orbital shaker for Pharmacy, plasma freezer and blood bank crossmatch system for the Laboratory, 2 PCA pumps, NIBP monitor for Nursing and computer, printer, and resource materials for Education.

**PHASE II** requires \$200,000: Phase II goal is to obtain the means to purchase an ultrasound ATL5000 unit for the diagnostic imaging.

[www.hospitalfoundationfsj.org](http://www.hospitalfoundationfsj.org)

## COMING UP

### Annual General Meeting

May 21, 2003 at 7:00 pm  
Hospital Board Room

Members and guests are invited to learn more about the Hospital Foundation.

### Bluey Day 2003

June 7, 2003 at 11:00 am  
at B.C. Ambulance Building  
on Hospital property at 96 Street

Join us and help support the campaign for cancer detection and treatment equipment at the Fort St. John Hospital.

### 2nd Annual Hospital Foundation Charity Golf Tournament

September 14, 2003  
Lone Wolf Golf Course

Play 18 holes of golf. Eat a steak dinner. Support your local hospital.

"Hole in One" prizes, Live Auction Items, Beautiful Buggy Contest.  
\$75.00 each.

### Angel 2003 Campaign Launch Benefit Buffet

November 1, 2003  
Northern Lights Restaurant

Enjoy a superb buffet and help launch the "Be an Angel, Light a Light" 2003 for the month of November.

### 7th Annual "Be an Angel, Light a Light"

Tree Light Up  
5:00 pm, December 1, 2003

Take part in the tree light up and carolling. Refreshments will be served in the Hospital Lobby.

# Look What's New!

*since the Spring of 2000*

*Thanks to the generosity of the people in the Peace Country*

#### In Medical Surgery Area

- 50 sets of privacy curtains for patient beds
- activities for Alzheimer Patients donated by the Hockney Family

#### In Visiting Specialists Area

- Yag Laser for UBC Eye Clinic
- TV, Video, Toys purchased with Eastern Star Childrens' Funds

#### In Palliative Care

- 2 family chairs purchased with Palliative Care Funds

#### In Maternity/Childrens' Area

- 3 Maternity Bassinets donated by Order of the Eastern Star
- Playpen, Stroller, Swing donated by Williams Energy
- 3rd Floor Childrens' Corner donated by Independent Order of Foresters
- Ice Machine purchased with Eastern Star Childrens' Funds

#### In Emergency

- Blanket and solutions warming closet donated by FSJ Fire Dept. and Telus
- TV, Video, Toys Childrens' Corner purchased with Eastern Star Childrens' Funds
- Total Burn Care Book donated by FSJ Fire Dept.
- Speculum System

#### In Ambulatory Care

- Chemotherapy patient room TV/VCR, rocker, recliner, TV stand

#### In the Operating Room

- Sentinel Node (breast cancer) and Ultrasound Unit (prostate cancer)

#### In Intensive Care Unit

- Patient lifts donated by WL Construction
- 3 Electrical Beds

#### In Cardiac Rehabilitation

2 treadmills	elliptical machine	step machine
exercise mat	scale/dumbbells	ambulatory blood pressure machine
weight system	telemetry monitoring system	computer/programs

#### In Diagnostic Imaging

- patient educational audio-visual machines

#### In the Cafeteria

- 50 chairs purchased with 50/50 draw funds

The total of the Hospital Foundation equipment purchases from September 1996 to March 2003 is

## \$1,268,032

**Thank you for your ongoing support!** The Hospital Foundation would like to thank all donors and members for their continued support.

A special thank you to those who help the Foundation all year long:  
**Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre Employees, CKNL/Energy FM, Alaska Highway News, The Northerner, Shaw Cable TV, and OC Online**

# Hospital Foundation Successful Campaigns

## Yag Laser

The Yag Laser was purchased for the UBC Eye Clinic at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre after a successful fundraising campaign of regional scope. The Yag Laser is used for several treatments to prevent vision loss and to improve visual acuity. Opening the cloudy membrane which may develop following cataract surgery and cutting stitches following cataract and glaucoma surgery are just two of the uses for the laser. In the case of glaucoma, it is essential that treatment be available in the region as delayed treatment often leads to permanent loss of vision. Having these procedures available in Fort St. John has saved patients and their families countless hours of travel, alleviated added stress and eliminated unnecessary costs.

**GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS \$120,000**

## Sentinel Node Biopsy Probe and Ultrasound Transducer Probe

The "Be an Angel, Light a Light" Christmas Tree campaign of 2001 was successful in providing cancer detection equipment for the Hospital. The Sentinel Node Biopsy Probe minimizes the trauma in surgery for breast cancer patients. The probe identifies the precise area affected by cancer cells and surgery can be limited to the exact location. This lessens the trauma in surgery promoting faster healing and better arm mobility. The Ultrasound Transducer Probe detects the areas affected by prostate cancer patients. This procedure can now be accomplished at the Fort St. John Hospital, helping the physicians in a more rapid diagnosis.

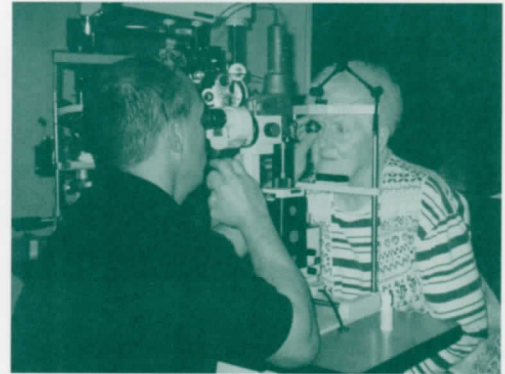
**GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS \$66,000**

## Cardiac Rehabilitation Equipment

The Hospital Foundation was able to provide much needed equipment to complete a comprehensive cardiac rehabilitation program at the Hospital. The program assures the best possible physical, mental and social conditions for cardiac patients so that they may, with their own effort, regain as normal as possible a place in the community and lead an active life. Patients are able to work on the equipment under a doctor's care so they can set realistic goals on strengthening the heart. The equipment includes 2 treadmills, an elliptical machine, step machine, ambulatory blood pressure machine, exercise mat, dumbbells, telemetry monitoring system and a computer with cardiac programs.

**GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS \$136,000**

*The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation puts your donation dollars to work for you in your own community.*



Dr. Patrick Ma of the UBC Eye Clinic is demonstrating the use of the Yag Laser with Ruth Leask, a resident of Fort St. John.



Dr. Coetzer and staff in the operating room at the Fort St. John Hospital are preparing to use the Sentinel Node Biopsy Probe to detect areas affected by breast cancer.



Physiotherapist Louise Boucher helps Wayne Laughren through an exercise to strengthen his heart. Wayne has graduated from the cardiac rehabilitation program and is now working on his own to keep healthy. Wayne is also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star that contributed toward the purchase of the equipment.

## Nurse Agnes Scheck arrived in 1940



The promise of \$10 more pay per month lured Agnes Scheck to Fort St. John from Edmonton in 1940. She was to join the Sisters of Providence and Dr. Kearney in caring for the patients at the Providence Hospital, established in Fort St. John in 1931.

Landing on the gravel airstrip on Steve Chuilli's farm Agnes saw Fort St. John for the first time. She stood no taller than 4 feet 10 inches and weighed 98 lbs. She thought she had left all the jokes about her petite size behind when she graduated from Vegreville General Hospital only to get a few new nicknames like "little britches".

The Providence Hospital staff consisted of Sister Superior Elcibiade RN, Sister Philomena RN and 3 sisters coordinating the laundry, kitchen and office along with 7 other workers. Often the 28 beds in the hospital were all occupied, keeping the sisters and nurses very busy. "We did what had to be done and no one counted hours," said Agnes in a recent interview. Making porridge for breakfast at five o'clock in the morning and firing the steam boiler with 4 foot logs during the night were all part of the job. And all for \$45 per month. "It was a great day when King Gething

opened the coal mine at Hudson Hope. No more firing the boiler with logs."

In the summer time, the native patients who were accustomed to living out-of-doors preferred to stay outside. Two tents on the grounds of the hospital were erected for those patients. A nurse had to check the tents every few hours with flashlight in hand. According to Agnes, before midnight a few patients were usually missing, escaping out the back, and after midnight a few extras often stayed in the tents hoping to remain undetected.

Payments for medical care and medicines were often made with goods, not cash. Vegetables and chickens, half a beef or pork, logs for heating, and sometimes feed for the animals were payment for medical services. The Hospital had 2 horses and chickens, which were housed in the barn behind the hospital, and six cows that stayed at the Steve Chuilli homestead.

The Hospital had a well for water and an icehouse for refrigeration. Big blocks of ice were cut from the ice on Charlie Lake and packed in sawdust in the icehouse. Agnes said that during this time, Ernie Carriere delivered water to homes in a sleigh. Any home which needed its ten gallon crocks filled with fresh water would put a "water" sign in the window.

The hospital was connected to water and sewer lines in 1945 when the Department of Transport installed the water line from Charlie Lake to the Airport.

Life changed for Fort St. John and for Agnes in 1942. The US Army arrived in Fort St. John on Good Friday in a raging blizzard.

They established an army base in Fort St. John in their drive to construct the Alaska Highway.



1940's Hospital Milk Supply

Hospital maintenance man, Val Scheck, milks the cows.

It was "a hill of tents," Agnes recalls. In October 1942, Agnes married Val Scheck, the maintenance man at the hospital. Agnes worked as a nurse in the operating room with army doctors and joined 11 other Canadian nurses when the US Army moved on to Fort Nelson in 1943.

In 1946, Agnes returned to Fort St. John after a short time in Fort Nelson and Dawson Creek. She fondly remembers working with Dr. Cormack. Although Dr. Kearney stands out to her as the first doctor she worked with in Fort St. John, she greatly admired Dr. Jack Temple for his compassion, professionalism and bedside manner.

Agnes was in charge of the Emergency Department for the last 15 years at the hospital before she retired in 1979. Throughout her nursing career, Agnes maintained a high level of professionalism. Dress standards were very important and crisp, clean uniforms were required. "Even when money was short, you did not skimp on footwear. Good duty shoes were expensive, but absolutely necessary for the long hours on your feet", she explained.

Agnes still lives in Fort St. John close to family and friends.

"We did what had to be done and no one counted hours," said Agnes...

# In Honour Of...

Howard and Shirley (Babs) Atkinson lived in Montney from 1942. Howard was the Deputy Returning Officer from 1949 to the time of his death at the age of 74. Howard was a successful entrepreneur, owning three stores in the Pouce Coupe Valley, Rolla, and Dawson Creek.

He turned to farming when his doctor insisted he change his lifestyle after a heart attack in 1942. He put his pioneering spirit to work, raising grain along with cows and pigs on five sections of land. He had attempted to enter politics in 1946 running as a Coalition candidate but was not elected.

Howard and Shirley had three daughters, two of whom still live in western Canada. Bunt (Shirley Nelson) now lives at Charlie Lake and Tod (Beryl Styles) now lives in Medicine Hat with her husband Ken.

The Styles have honoured the memory of Howard and Babs Atkinson through their generous contributions to the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre.



**Howard Atkinson**

October 8, 1888 to November 1, 1962

## Did you know?

The first doctor in Fort St. John was Dr. Hubert Brown.

Dr. Brown and his family moved from Toronto to Fort St. John in 1930. The Sisters of Providence asked Dr. Brown to be the resident doctor for the Providence Hospital. The Sisters required a resident doctor before they had permission to build a hospital.

The land was donated by C.M. Finch and volunteers from the area built the hospital. The cost to build the Hospital was \$25,500, including equipment.

The Providence Hospital officially opened on Sept. 2, 1931.

## Cancer Support Pilot Program

The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation is helping to fund a pilot program at the hospital for cancer patients, their families, and caregivers.

The Hospital Foundation, BC Cancer Agency, NHA, NE Health Services, Hospital Auxiliary, and Community Resources combined resources to deliver support for cancer patients and their caregivers. The Cancer Support Project consists of three programs under the leadership of psychologist Dr. Lorna Sandler.

### **The patient support group**

provides an opportunity for cancer patients to discuss and share feelings, issues and concerns related to cancer. The first patient group has recently completed the 8 week session and participants have organized a television interview on their experiences as group members.

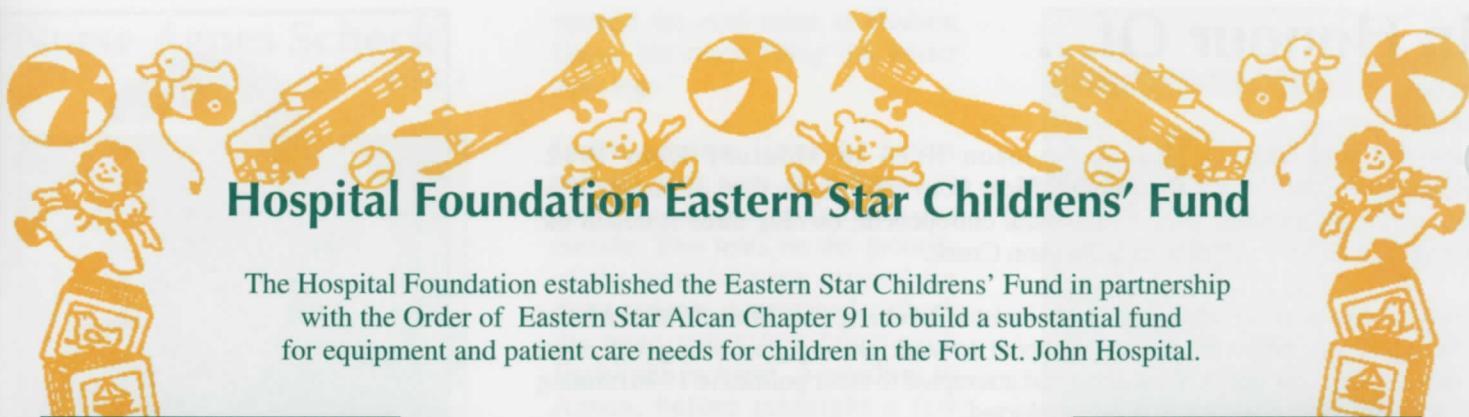
### **The caregiver support group**

provides an opportunity for caregivers to care for themselves and to express their own needs and feelings. The first caregiver group is in mid-session.

Those wishing to attend the patient or caregiver groups can register with the North Peace Community Resource Society at 785-6021.

### **The relaxation and visualization group**

provides the opportunity for participants to learn stress reduction techniques to calm the body and mind. The sessions are open to everyone and meet, the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the Hospital Board Room at 7p.m.



## Hospital Foundation Eastern Star Childrens' Fund

The Hospital Foundation established the Eastern Star Childrens' Fund in partnership with the Order of Eastern Star Alcan Chapter 91 to build a substantial fund for equipment and patient care needs for children in the Fort St. John Hospital.

### *The Caring and The Cared For*



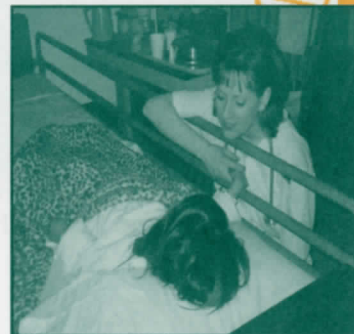
Six year old Osob Mohamed with her grandmother brought in a collection of coins for the Children's Fund. Her father Asilo helps her collect the donation at the M & M Food Store.



Nurse Lise Drschwiski shows Jessica a painless way to measure her oxygen saturation in her blood with a finger probe.



Delisa Attfield was happy to get her cast cut off by Nurse Joy Morrison as sister Katie watched the procedure closely.



Nurse Monique Weber comforts a sick little girl in the children area of the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre.



Chris Malanowich, proud father of his newborn baby boy, and Dr. Richard Moody and nurse Linda Lewis were happy to smile for the camera.



Evelyann Esouloff of the Order of the Eastern Star presented a thermometer for newborns to maternity nurse Louise Heider.

### Contributors

Order of the Eastern Star Alcan  
Chapter 91

Fort St. John Country Quilters Guild

Independent Order of Foresters

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D. Loewen Enterprises Ltd.

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# The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation Donor Recognition Wall

## \$100,000 +

Archie Ferguson- Founder

## \$25,000 - 49,999

Telus Employees' Community Fund

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*"Each contribution to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation is an investment in the future of health care for you and your family"*



## FORT ST. JOHN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Spring 2004

Volume 5

### Fort St. John Hospital Foundation

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A great success



## Patient Safety and Comfort

### A prime concern of hospital staff

The 2004 Fundraising Campaign of the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation targets patient comfort and safety needs at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre. The campaign fund raising goal of \$530,000 is required to assist the following areas of the hospital; Emergency, Nuclear Medicine, Radiology, Medical Surgery, Laboratory and Maternity.

Patient safety and comfort is a prime concern of the hospital staff. The Hospital Foundation endeavors to help the Hospital meet the ever-increasing demand for new equipment and replacement of obsolete equipment.

*Hospital Foundation puts your donation dollars to work for you in your own community.*



**Events  
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## Give a Gift That Keeps On Giving.

### Building an Endowment Fund

The establishment of an Endowment Fund will ensure the longevity of the Hospital Foundation which will continue to provide a vital link for community involvement in the Hospital. The Endowment Fund is made up of gifts that keep on giving. Only the interest is used annually to further the mandate of the Foundation. The donations to the Endowment fund remain in the account to build the interest. The Endowment Fund is managed by the Foundation through careful investment with a planned balanced portfolio.



Rose Fuhr, along with husband Ernie contributed the first \$5000 to the Endowment Fund from The Honey Farm.

The initial goal of building a \$2 million Endowment Fund will allow interest for basic functions of the Foundation. The Endowment Fund will grow with subsequent donations from planned gifts and estate donations. Although the Endowment Fund interest will help in purchasing medical equipment at the Hospital, it will not replace the much-needed contributions generously given each year by the 4000 donors of the Hospital Foundation.

The launch of the FSJ Hospital Foundation Endowment Fund on April 2 is one of the ways to ensure that the Hospital Foundation keeps working for the community well into the future to provide much-needed medical equipment and other patient care needs for the FSJ Hospital and Health Centre.

From May to September 2004

## THE SECOND ROTARY DRIVE FOR CHARITY

12 lucky golfers will drive for \$1,000,000 US  
On September 12th at Lake Point Golf and Country Club

Organized by Sunrise Fort St. John Rotary Club



ENTER AS OFTEN AS YOU WISH

Lone Wolf Golf Course • Links Golf Course • Lake Point Golf Course

### Big Prizes.....Big Winners

Benefits to the Hospital Foundation and other local charities

## COMING UP

### MAY

#### Annual General Meeting

May 19, 2004 at 7:00 pm  
Quality Inn Northern Grand Plaza 1

*Members and guests are invited to learn more about the Hospital Foundation.*

### JUNE

#### Bluey Day 2004

June 12, 2004 at 11:00 am  
BC Ambulance Building  
on Hospital property at  
96 Street - 101 Avenue

*Join us and help provide cancer detection and treatment equipment at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre*

#### Flower Planting Day

with Duke Energy employees

June 12, 2004

All Volunteers Welcome.

Call: (250) 262-5299

### OCTOBER

#### Pumpkin Carving

October 27, 2004 11am - 2pm

*Tickets required in advance  
Pumpkin Auction in the evening  
at the White Spot Restaurant.*

*Proceeds to the Hospital Foundation*

#### Halloween Party

October 29, 2004

Sponsored by

Quality Inn Northern Grand

*Proceeds to the Hospital Foundation*

### NOVEMBER

#### Angel 2004 Launch Dinner

Monday, November 1, 2004

Quality Inn Northern Grand

*Enjoy a superb dinner  
and help launch the*

*"Be an Angel, Light a Light" 2004  
the month of November*

#### 8th Annual

**"Be an Angel, Light a Light"**

Tree Light Up

Wednesday, December 1, 2004 5 pm

*A Fort St. John Christmas Tradition  
Refreshments will be served in the  
Hospital Lobby.*

# The Story of Jeanne Clelland



*Jeanne Clelland worked for Dr. George Cormack as a receptionist and lab assistant in the 50's*

Jeanne. Apparently, the strong fresh fumes could be overpowering. The image of Sister Agatha trying to free a stuck chicken from the mud will always stay with Jeanne.

Jeanne remembers that Father Botsy always drank postum, a grain drink that was “very special”. Jeanne would serve him a pot of postum as he sat at the table in the kitchen and watched closely for any left in the pot. “I drank what was left and felt guilty but it was so good,” she said.

“The Hospital was a City, my city.”  
said Jeanne...

Three-year-old Frank Laboucane was recuperating from severe burns. His crib was in the kitchen to keep him warm since he could not have clothes on his skin. Jeanne said that everyone was amazed at how still Frank got so as not to be noticed when he knew Dr. Brown was in the Hospital. It hurt to be touched. “Maybe by being still he could remain unnoticed and get a reprieve from an examination,” explained Jeanne.

Jeanne recalled some of the not-so-pleasant times. Saviard and Delphos, two little native boys from Moberly Lake, did not want to learn math and reading. They only wanted to play. She felt bad that she could not get them to focus. When she got the communion wafers stuck to the top of her mouth after sneaking a taste, she was convince she was a sinner. Jeanne questioned her plan to become a nurse when Sister Catherine developed blood poisoning after help from Jeanne in getting out a sliver with a pin.

While working for Dr. James as a dental assistant in 1950, Jeanne contracted polio and spent many months in the Providence Hospital

## LIVING AT THE FORT ST. JOHN PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL

The windows were frosted on the inside and the bedroom was cold upstairs in the original Providence Hospital in 1932 where Jeanne Johnston (Taylor-Clelland) came to live as a twelve-year-old schoolgirl. “It was like a city, my city,” said Jeanne in a recent interview. She ate her meals, lived among the Sisters of Providence, and did routine chores everyday before and after school.

Jeanne’s family paid \$12 a month for Jeanne to live at the Hospital so she could go to school in Fort St. John. The homestead at 8 Mile Creek, south of the Peace River was too far to travel each day. Jeanne got back \$2 each month for doing daily chores at the Hospital. Among her many duties, she ground the coffee with a hand grinder attached to the wall, replaced the flowers on the altar in the Chapel, and tutored some of the long-term young patients.

Jeanne has fond memories of the Sisters of Providence. “Sister Agatha used to say ‘stand back’ before pulling ammonia cookies from the oven,” laughed

# Jeanne Clelland

*The Story of Jeanne Clelland continued*

in isolation. During the polio epidemic, Dr. Cormack designed a polio tank and Bradin Herron and friends constructed it. Jeanne refused to go into the tub due to an irrational fear of the harness lift breaking. All the medical signs indicated she would not walk again but determination and hard work won out after she saw that she could move a toe. She recovered completely by 1970 when, as Manager of the Fort St. John Chamber of Commerce, she took part in the Walk-A-Thon to Pave the Alaska Highway starting 100 miles north of Fort Nelson back to Fort Nelson.



*At 83, Jeanne still keeps in touch with people she knew from the Providence Hospital days.*

Jeanne married Fred Taylor of Rolla in 1940 and gave birth to her son Garry in 1941. She spent the war years in Dundurn, Saskatchewan and Otter Point, BC where Fred was stationed. After they separated, Jeanne returned to work in Fort St. John. She was working as an assistant to Dr. Cormack in 1957, when he relinquished his practice to Dr. G. Westover and Dr. K Dixon. After training a new staff Jeanne left for Vancouver where son Garry was attending Vancouver College. Jeanne enrolled in the first dental assistance course in BC and graduated as a Certified Dental Assistant in 1960 before returning to Fort St. John.

She married George Clelland in 1971 and travelled to many foreign countries. Jeanne has worked as a camp cook, restaurant owner, Chamber of Commerce manager, dental assistant, receptionist and lab assistance for Dr. Cormack. At 83, Jeanne Taylor-Clelland still keeps in touch with many of Dr. Cormack's patients and Barry Morrow, who was a 14-year-old orderly at the Providence Hospital in the 1950's.

Jeanne was the driving force in placing "In Honour of Dr. Cormack" on the Recognition Wall in the lobby of the Hospital by encouraging Dr. Cormack's patients to contribute in his memory to the campaign of the Hospital Foundation. Jeanne lives in Fort St. John and is active in the community voicing her concerns about social issues.

Jeanne was the driving force in adding Dr. Cormack's name on the Recognition Wall

## DID YOU KNOW

### TIMMY BEARS COMFORT CHILDREN

Children who are treated at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre receive special teddy bears. Tim Horton's and the Fort St. John Liquor Store supply special bears to the Hospital each year. Over 5000 bears have brought a smile and comfort to many sick children in the past few years.

### TWELVE MONTHS OF FUN!

Comical Medical Calendars 2005 will include fun photos from six Hospitals in the Peace Region. The first comical calendar for 2004 proved to be a great success. Hospitals from Fort St. John, Dawson Creek and Chetwynd will be joined by Tumbler Ridge, Fort Nelson and Hudson's Hope in the new calendar scheduled for distribution in November 2005. The calendars are published by Hill Computing. See below for contact information.

### BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

A children's activity book in 2005 will feature six regional Hospital Foundations. 8000 books will be produced in the Peace Region for Hospitals in the Peace Region. 25% of advertising revenue from Fort St. John and area is donated back to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation.

Contact Information:  
Hill Computing  
908 102 Avenue  
Dawson Creek, B.C.  
Phone toll free: 866 782-7972  
email: s.hill@shaw.ca

# HUMOROUS INCIDENTS OVER THE YEARS

The Hospital Foundation is collecting anecdotes of humorous incidents at the Fort St. John Hospital. In preparation for the 2006 celebration of 75th Anniversary of the Building of the Providence Hospital in 1931, the Hospital Foundation is planning a publication about the people of the Hospital.

Many staff and patients have had memorable funny situations at the Hospital, some of which can be retold. Write them down in whatever form you can. No names or dates are necessary. Attach your name and phone number for verification of the story but not for publication. Be concise and descriptive. Mail them or drop them off at the Foundation office in the Hospital.

The project is inspired by a short tale by Marie Allard about the dietary staff attempting to convince the four male patients in Room 214 that skim milk came from anemic cows. Another staff member recalls being stunned by the student who walked into emergency with a cactus stuck in his head. Reception received an inquiry from a mother who wanted to know where her son could get his learner's license. After the answer was given the mother was asked why she called the hospital. The mother replied, "Well, you always answer all my questions?"



*The original Providence Hospital was built in 1931 on land donated by CM Finch to the Village of Fort St. John. The total construction cost, plus equipment was \$25,500.*

# TEN YEARS OF GROWTH

## The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation in Progress



*The 2003 - 04 Hospital Foundation Board of Directors at a regular monthly meeting*

The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation provides patients at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre with necessary medical equipment and other care needs that are not provided for in the annual hospital budget. The Foundation was established in 1994 with a generous gift from the Estate of Archie Ferguson.

A volunteer Board of directors has guided the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation through 10 years of growth. Developing policies, managing the office, pursuing fundraising opportunities and conducting special events has resulted in beneficial returns for the patients at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre.

Patients rely on the Fort St. John Hospital for medical procedures, surgeries, emergency treatment, routine laboratory tests and more. Replacement of worn out or dysfunctional equipment is vital to the quality of medical care for our patients. New technological advances require that our Hospital keep current with purchases of new equipment and replacement of obsolete equipment.

The Hospital Foundation has proven that consistent communication with the community about the needs of the patients and the Hospital allows citizens to have an impact on the quality of their own health care. The Hospital Foundation, with the help of community donations has purchased over \$1.5 million in medical equipment at the Hospital since 1994. A display inside the front entrance of the Hospital features all the equipment added to the Hospital by the Foundation in the past 10 years.

## 2003 CANCER CAMPAIGN

A Successful Year of Fundraising



### Diagnostic Imaging

#### Ultrasound Equipment

The ultrasound unit in Diagnostic Imaging Department cost \$224,000. The Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward Foundation contributed \$170,000, matching community contributions to the Cancer Campaign.

*More cancer patients are now being treated at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre in our own community, alleviating travel time, eliminating extra stress, and decreasing personal costs.*

The Hospital Foundation's Cancer Equipment campaign raised \$335,000 through community support for cancer detection and treatment equipment.

Hospital departments are now better equipped to serve patients with cancer through the purchase of the following:

- Laboratory cross match system and plasma freezer
- Colonoscope for the Operating Room
- Pharmacy orbital shaker and IV solutions cart for chemotherapy agents
- Chemotherapy room treatment chair, resource materials and computer
- Medical Surgery flogard pumps and blood monitors
- Diagnostic Imaging ultrasound upgrade unit.



Connor Hynes is prepared to receive the last I.V. chemotherapy through his central line while his siblings Justin and Emily look on.

## THANK YOU

to the following contributors for the success of the Cancer Equipment campaign in 2003:

Talisman Energy Inc.

Desa Holdings Inc.

Taylor Gas Liquids Ltd.

Petro-Canada Oil and Gas

Arctic Construction Ltd

Canadian Natural Resources Ltd

The Cabinet Gallery

Bertha and Spencer Hadland

Zellers Hudson's Bay Company

Knight's of Columbus #4866

Devon Canada

RBC Foundation (Royal Bank)

Mr. and Mrs. P.A.  
Woodward's Foundation

All the contributors of  
Bluey Day 2003 and the  
Golf Tournament

## THANK YOU

for your ongoing support.

A special thank you to those who help the Foundation all year long:

Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre, Energy FM/The Bear, NTV, Alaska Highway News, The Northerner, Shaw Cable TV, Chris Cavenaile, Northeast Weekly, Hamilton Stationers and OC Online, Sheh TV, The Moose 100.1

**YES! I SUPPORT THE FORT ST. JOHN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION**

*Please print*  
 Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 I prefer to use my credit card. Please charge my  VISA  MASTERCARD DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*We respect your privacy. We do not exchange or trade our donor's information.*

A tax-deductible receipt will be sent to you.

Please make cheques payable to the:  
**Fort St. John Hospital Foundation**

**Please return to:**

Fort St. John Hospital Foundation  
 #6 9711 101 Avenue  
 Fort St. John, BC V1J 4P6  
 Telephone: (250) 262-5299 Fax: (250) 262-5238  
 fsjhf@northernhealth.ca

[www.hospitalfoundationfsj.org](http://www.hospitalfoundationfsj.org)

**There are many ways to give...**

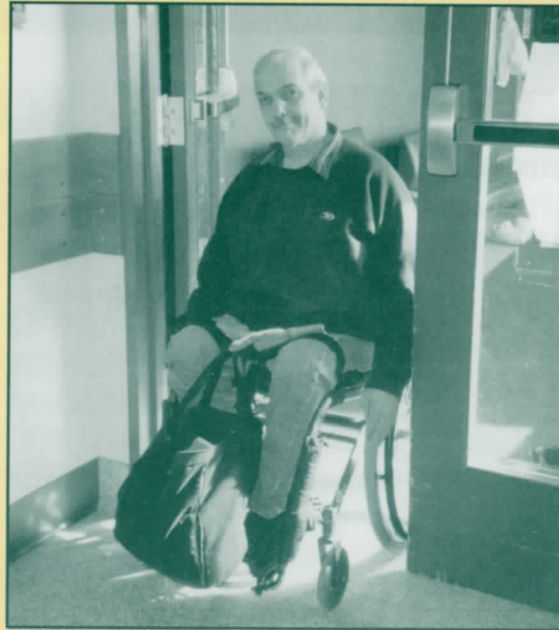
Cash Donations for equipment purchases

Major Gifts to the Endowment Fund

Wills and Bequests

Gifts in Honour of a Friend or Family Member

Planned Giving monthly or annually



**SPOT LIGHT**

**On the Campaign for Patient Safety and Comfort**

Front door wheelchair access

Ray demonstrates the need to replace the existing inside lobby doors that are too narrow to accommodate wheelchair access.

*The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation celebrates 10 years of support for the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre*

**ABOUT THE FOUNDATION**

*The Fort St. John Hospital Foundation is dedicated to building a strong foundation for continued community support for the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre. The Foundation was established in 1994 to receive and manage donations and bequests for the Fort St. John Hospital.*

**Board of Directors**

The Foundation's Board of Directors consists of eight volunteers elected or appointed to represent the Foundation's members and the hospital medical staff and employees.

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Gordon Gentles, Chairman               | Ken Rimbey, Past Chairman  |
| Marilyn Campbell, Vice Chairman        | Jean Gardner, Treasurer    |
| Shelley Ouellette, Secretary           | Jacqueline Carew, Director |
| Stan MacKenzie, Hospital Employee Rep. | Sherri Collins, Director   |
| Dr. Lang, Hospital Medical Rep.        |                            |

**The Foundation Employees**

- Sue Popesku, Resource Development Officer  
 Jamie Allard, Office Administrator

*Hospital Foundation puts your donation dollars to work for you in your own community.*

*"Consider each contribution to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation as an investment in the future of health care for you and your family"*

**Fort St. John Hospital Foundation**  
9636 - 100 Avenue  
Fort St. John, BC V1J 1Y3

Tel: 250-262-5299  
Fax: 250-262-5238

fsjhf@northernhealth.ca

www.hospitalfoundationfsj.org

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Looking for \$230,000 in 2005 for a new procedural room.



## FORT ST. JOHN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Spring 2005

Volume 6

### The Fabric Of Our Community



*Maternity nurse Joanne Harris is prepared to add names of babies born in the Fort St. John Hospital to the quilts on the mural in the Maternity Ward.*

The fabric of the community is best exemplified in the people who were born in Fort St. John. The quilts hanging in the mural on the Maternity Ward will depict the fabric of the Peace Country with the names of those born here.

Names on the quilts of babies born in the Fort St. John Hospital in the past 75 years will help to raise funds for medical equipment at the Hospital.

Everyone born in the Fort St. John Hospital since 1931 can donate \$100 to have his/her name and birth date on a permanent plaque on one of the three quilts in the mural.

One quilt is for newcomers, one quilt for those born in the original Provincial Hospital and one for those born in the Hospital between 1963-2005.

The mural was designed and painted by Peter Vogelaar, professional artist and sculptor. Peter painted the mural while he was in Fort St. John for the Ice Carving Competition in February. The members of the Ice Sculpting team from Russia helped Peter to complete the mural. Local artist Margaret May painted the quilts that look so textured, they appear to be real fabric. Contact the Hospital Foundation for further information.

*The Hospital Foundation puts your donation dollars to work for you in your own community.*

# Endowment Fund

## The Care and Feeding of the Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund of the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation has taken root since last April with the first year's contributions totaling \$350,000. The Endowment Fund will ensure the longevity of the Hospital Foundation to continue to provide a vital link for community involvement in the Hospital. The initial goal of "growing" the Fund to \$2 million will allow enough interest to sustain the basic functions of the Foundation and provide a source of funds for much needed equipment at the Hospital.

Donations feed the Endowment Fund with gifts that keep on giving. These gifts nourish the growth of the fund. Only the interest is used annually to further the mandate of the Foundation. The donations to the Endowment Fund remain in the account to build the interest.

Nurturing the Endowment Fund is necessary for the safekeeping and maximum return from the accumulated donations. The Fund is managed by the Foundation through careful investment with a planned balanced portfolio. The Foundation is working with Chrenek Investment Advisors who have had success experience with the charitable funds of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Regional College Foundations in Grande Prairie.

### WAYS TO GIVE TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND:

- **Identify** the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation as the recipient of donations in lieu of flowers for a loved one. Donations in lieu of flowers for a loved one are attributed into the Endowment Fund, which was created in April 2004, unless otherwise designated by the Family for equipment.

*In Honour of Evelyne and Stuart (son) Zoerb, In Honour of Harry Kary, In Honour of Gary Frances Wall, In Honour of Pauline Frawley, In Honour of Metro Solodan, In Honour of Clifford Green, In Honour of Ann Hoffmann, In Honour of Christopher Fraser, In Honour of Vi Merwin, In Honour of Ray Levac*

- **Leave** a legacy in your will from your estate after you have made provisions for your family and friends.

*The Estate of Hazel Olson, The Estate of Archie Ferguson*

- **Donate** directly to the Endowment Fund by writing a cheque to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation.

*Jeannie Clelland, Rose and Ernie Fuhr, Lyle Carlstrom, Mary and Joe Bell*



*Rose Goodfellow proudly displays her birth certificate. She was the first baby born in the Providence Hospital on September 6, 1931.*

### *Were You Born in the Fort St. John Hospital?*

*Register your name, address and date of birth  
with the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation.  
fsjhf@northernhealth.ca*

**We will keep you informed of  
the 75th Anniversary  
Celebration of the Building of the Hospital  
planned for July 22, 2006**



## Did you know?



1931  
The Providence Hospital was officially opened September 1, 1931.

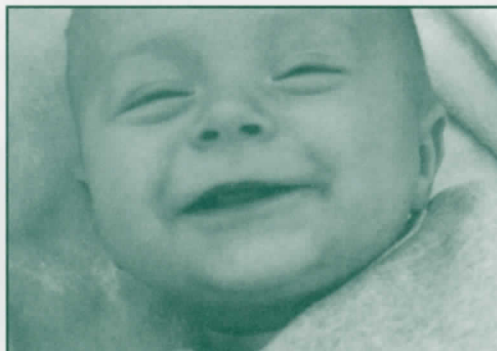
1997  
The flower garden was established at the entrance of the Hospital.



## A Special THANK YOU for your Support all year long.

Hamilton Stationers and OC Online, Energy FM/The Bear, Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre, Alaska Highway News, the Moose 100.1 Radio, NTV, The Northerner, Northeast NEWS, Shaw Cable TV, Northeast Weekly, IKON Office Solutions

## Energy FM Radio Marathon For NewBorns



*Jaydon received a good start to a healthy life at the Fort St. John Hospital.*

Twelve hours of radio broadcasting by Energy FM at the Totem Mall on April 22, raised \$7,161.00 for bili-lights for newborns. The Drive-By Breakfast and Dine Out For Children added to the overall funds raised. Thanks to Tracy Gard, Angie Clowry, Mike Sadavoy and the staff for the long and successful day.

The Radio-thon is the second fundraising marathon for medical equipment to help children at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre. In February, 2004, Fort St. John Standard Radio joined with their sister stations all across Canada for the first radio-thon in our community. They raised \$19,000 for a new birthing bed in the Fort St. John Hospital.

The new bili-lights are the latest technology that is non-invasive and, therefore, safer for newborns. In the past, blood was taken from a newborn's heel to gauge the amount of treatment required. With the new meters and light exposures, newborns will not have to suffer the heel puncture.

## COMING UP...

### MAY

**Annual General Meeting**  
May 25, 2005 at 7pm  
Hospital Board Room  
*Members and guests are invited to learn more about the Hospital Foundation.*

### JUNE

**3rd Annual Hospital Grounds Clean Up**  
With Duke Energy Volunteers  
June 4, 2005  
*All volunteers are welcome to Paint, Plant and Pitch In*

**Blue Day 2005**  
June 11, 2005 at 11am  
B.C. Ambulance Building On the Hospital property at 96 St. - 101 Ave.  
*Join us to help provide cancer detection and treatment equipment at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre.*

### AUGUST

**3rd Rotary Drive for Charity**  
August 7, 2005 at Links Golf Course  
*Organized by Sunrise  
Fort St. John Rotary Club.  
Big Prizes and Big Winners  
Benefits to the  
FSJ Hospital Foundation*

### OCTOBER

**Pumpkin Carving**  
October 29, 2005 11am - 2pm  
*Tickets are required in advance.  
Pumpkin Auction in the evening  
at the White Spot Restaurant.  
Proceeds to the Hospital Foundation*

**Halloween Party**  
October 28, 2005  
*Sponsored by the  
Quality Inn Northern Grand  
Proceeds to the Hospital Foundation*

### NOVEMBER

**Angel 2005 Launch Dinner**  
Tuesday, November 1, 2005  
Quality Inn Northern Grand  
*Dinner and auction to launch the  
"Be An Angel, Light a Light" 2005  
Christmas campaign*

**9th Annual**  
*"Be An Angel, Light a Light"*  
Hospital Tree Light Up  
Thursday, December 1, 2005 5pm  
*A Fort St. John Christmas Tradition  
Choir singing and refreshments served  
in the Hospital Lobby.*

## A Salute to Shauna and Don Hill

Hats off to Hill Computing who has donated over \$5500 to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation from the sale of ads in a children's activity book and 2005 medical calendar. Shauna and Don Hill have given a percentage of each ad sold in the North Peace to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation for the Playful Patient Children's Activity Book and the Medical Mania Calendars. Their booth at the Trade Show collects toonies for Spin The Wheel for prizes. Thanks to the Hill's for outstanding support of the Hospital Foundation.

## Committed to Support

Suncor Energy Foundation recently donated \$5,000 to the Endoscopy Campaign as part of a three year commitment to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation. Long-term commitments of support are beneficial to both the donor and the Foundation since they allow for longer term planning.

## Golf Tournaments Impact Foundation

The golf season in 2004 supplied the Fort St. John Hospital with portable suction units, helped fund the ICU bed, and added to the Eastern Star Children's Fund of the Hospital Foundation. Thanks to the Sunrise Rotary Roto-Drive, Northern Metallic Pro Am Golf Tournament, Hazco/Baker Petrolite, Suncor Energy, Pengrowth, and Canadian Natural Resources. Over \$25,000 was donated to support the Hospital Foundation. Just "par for the course" for these community-minded companies and organizations.



Rocky Patterson, representing Suncor Energy Foundation, presented the second of a three year commitment to Fort St. John Hospital Foundation. Sue Popesku, Executive Director, received the donation.

## Cookies and Bears

Tim Hortons takes the cake for their yummy cookie blitz in September when they raised \$2000 by selling Smile Cookies along with their famous coffee. Julia and Ron Bowie of Tim's also donate 500 bears each year to comfort sick children in the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre. Thanks for the comfort and the contribution, Julia and Ron.

## The Stamp of Approval for the Foundation's Philanthropic Philatelist Club

### Members of the Spring Stamp Club for this Newsletter in 2005:

- B.C. Hydro (1000 stamps)
- Canadian Natural Resources
- McElhanney Associates
- R.W. Daneluk
- Schlumberger
- North Peace Savings and Credit Union
- North Cariboo Air

### Members of the Winter Stamp Club for the Christmas campaign mailed in Nov. 2004:

- Fort St. John Coop
- HL Powell
- Waberski/Darrow Survey Group
- Longstaff Land Surveying Ltd.
- Surerus Pipeline
- Unocal
- Canadian Forest Products
- Trojan Safety Service
- Embleton Construction Ltd.
- Fedderly Transportation



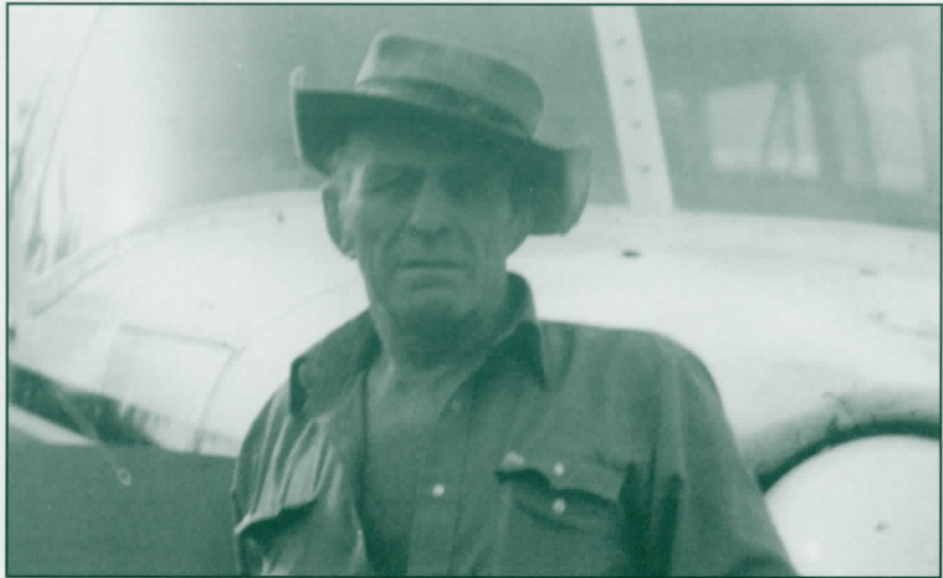
**THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING THE POSTAGE FOR FOUNDATION MAILOUTS.**

**Your support in stamp costs saves \$5000 for purchases of medical equipment for the Hospital.**

### Fort St. John has the “best doctors going” ...says Jimmy

*Jimmy Anderson, long time resident of Pink Mountain, thinks Fort St. John has “top rate” medical service.*

Jimmy Anderson is a living legend in the Peace Country for his famous escapades as a bush pilot and trailblazer. He has been in the Fort St. John Hospital often during his seventy-nine years, but, oddly enough, not due to any flying mishap. He claims he never crashed a plane, he merely maneuvered a few “uncontrolled landings”. Jimmy said in a recent interview, “I never walked away from one (bad landing) - I was always on a dead run.”



*Legendary bush pilot and long time resident, Jimmy Anderson, credits the doctors at the Hospital for patching him together.*

#### **Jimmy Remembers**

Although he was born in Milbern, Saskatchewan, Jimmy has lived in Northern BC since he was 5 years old. His first recollection of the hospital was watching a plane land in the field not far from his hospital window while he was recuperating from a tonsillectomy.

He says the Hospital is “the best place in the world when you need it.” Jimmy still has a splint in his leg from a broken femur he got in a fall. He has had operations on his vocal cords. He has had open heart surgery. He has had a bout with cancer. He no longer has a gall bladder. He has almost lost his leg but Dr. M. Wright was quick in referring him to a specialist. “Sometimes when I was serious, the doctors here diagnosed the problem right away and sent me out if they knew they couldn’t fix me,” said Jimmy.

#### **Very Personal Stories**

But the most amazing situation happened to Jimmy when he nearly lost his right hand on a buzz saw. With his fingers detached and his hand bound tightly, he walked part way to the Hospital before his friends George Broadhurst and Bob Fell drove by and picked him up. Dr. Komar at the Fort St. John Hospital opted to sew his fingers back on instead of cutting off his hand. The doctor made no promises about the outcome of the procedure. Jimmy claims that Dr. Komar’s service in the war in the Polish army gave the doctor the experience to attempt to save his hand. He was sent to Edmonton after the operation to get further treatment. Jimmy said, “The doctors in the big city said the trip was unnecessary since Dr. Komar did such a good job in patching me together.”

Jimmy claims “we have some of the best doctors going here”. He related the story about flying Al Scobie from the Halfway to Fort St. John to get him to the Hospital. He called in to have Bill Tompkins meet them at the dock on Charlie Lake since Al was in great pain. While Al was seeing a doctor in the emergency, Jimmy went to do a few errands and have a cup of coffee. He returned to the hospital to take Al home. He asked the doctor how Al was and the doctor said the operation went well. Jimmy discovered that the doctors had already operated on Al’s appendices.

Jimmy has many personal stories of adventures to tell about his life in the Peace Country. In the many years Jimmy has flown people around the country he says there is one thing he knows for sure. “I never left any of them up there yet.” He has been described as a colourful character with a quick wit and a friendly greeting. Books written about Jimmy can be purchased at the Peace Arts Gallery in the North Peace Cultural Centre.

# All New Hospital Beds



*During a recent stay, Coleen Achla was a lucky patient who had one of the few electric beds that the hospital already owns. Breanna Field and Shania Davis are leaning over one of the safety rails that keeps the push buttons close at hand. All the beds at the Fort St. John Hospital will soon be patient friendly.*

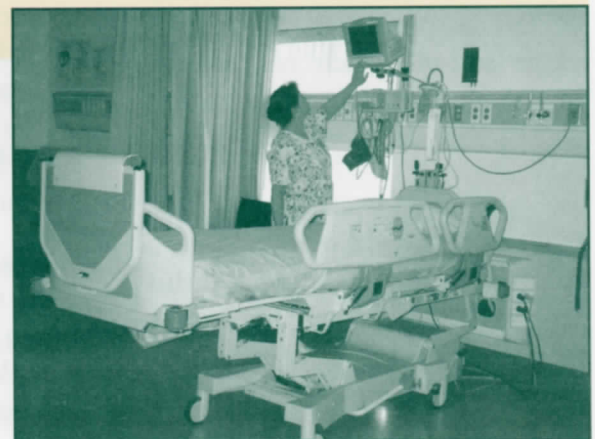
Electric beds will replace the old, crank-up beds in the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre.

Thirty-six beds are on order, thanks to the success of the 2003 and 2004 Christmas fundraising campaigns. The "Be an Angel, Light a Light" Christmas campaigns raised \$120,000 in 2003 and \$130,000 in 2004.

The new beds have patient controlled buttons to allow maximum comfort. Patients will no longer require a nurse's attention to adjust the head or foot of the bed. Call buttons are easier to reach. Four hand and foot rails can be adjusted to various levels. The beds are more maneuverable and have other features for the safety and comfort of the patient and the caregiver.

## 2004 Patient Safety and Comfort Campaign Raised \$515,000 for Equipment:

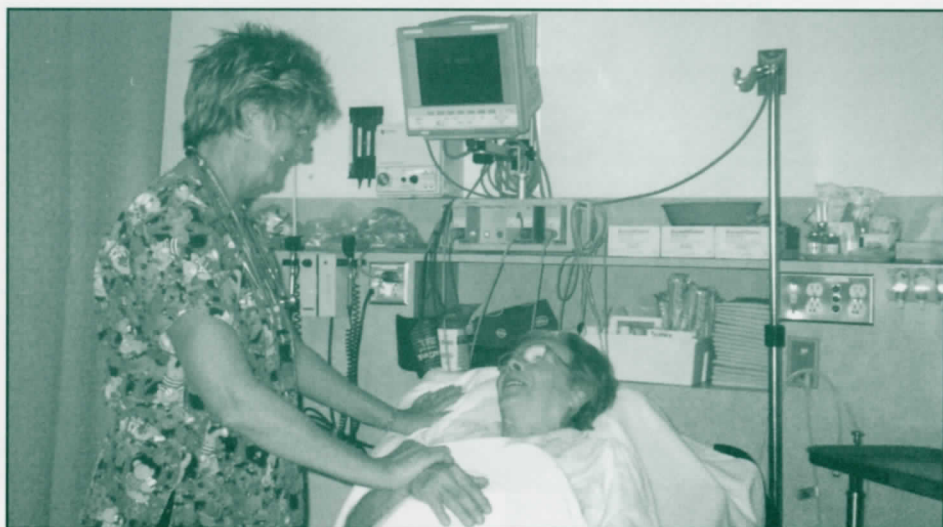
- 30 Medical surgery beds
- 4 ICU Beds
- 2 birthing beds
- 3 stretchers and a gynecology table
- 5 rooms of ceiling lifts
- Portable lift
- NIBP machine
- Radioactive tracking system
- Nuclear imaging chair
- Phlebotomy chair
- BIPAP Machine
- Adult scale and Pediatric scale
- 2 broda chairs
- Portable suction units
- Bladder scanner
- Entrance door wheelchair access
- 2 commodes



*Lynn Smiley, RN prepares ICU units with one of the beds provided by the Patient Safety and Comfort Campaign.*

**Thank you to all the individuals and groups who donated and organized fundraising events for the Patient Safety and Comfort Campaign. The patients benefit the most from your generous gifts and kind thoughts.**

### Looking for \$230,000 in 2005 for a New Procedural Room



*Emergency nurse, Lynn Adair will be retiring this year after 29 years of caring for patients at the Fort St. John Hospital. Lynn is one of the many nurses who has committed her life's work to helping patients at the Hospital.*

Moving detection and treatment procedures out of the operating room at the Fort St. John Hospital and Health Centre will alleviate the backlog of patients waiting for appointments in both areas. The Hospital will have a new Endoscopy Suite with equipment purchased by donations to the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation.

The demand for time in the operating room has limited the number of endoscopies and other diagnostic procedures at the Fort St. John Hospital. Since the Endoscopy program was initiated in 2002, an increasing number of diagnostic scope procedures has created a waiting list of up to 2 months.

Endoscopies are becoming a standard diagnostic test for diagnosing certain diseases such as cancer. Colonoscopies, gastroscopies and rigid sigmoidoscopies can be performed in designated areas that do not require a resource intense area, henceforth, allowing more time for booking operations in the Operating Room.

A specific area on the main floor of the Fort St. John Hospital is being considered for renovation to accommodate an Endoscopy Suite and recovery area. The medical equipment required in the suite will include a Valley Lab cautery machine, portable suction unit, defibrillator, intubation equipment and crash cart, 3 stretchers, NIBP machines, medication cart, video endoscopy cart, warming closet, narcotic box, refrigerator, rigid sigmoidoscope, and protoscope.

Donations can be made at the Fort St. John Hospital Foundation.



FORT ST. JOHN HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

### ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

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**Gordon Gentles:** Chairman

**Marilyn Campbell:** Vice Chairman

**Brenda Dymond:** Director

**Sherri Collins:** Director

**Rob Munroe:** Director

**Jean Gardner:** Treasurer

**Stan Mackenzie:** Hospital Staff Rep.

**Dr. Greg Lang:** Medical Staff Rep.

#### **The Hospital Foundation Executive Director**

Sue Popesku