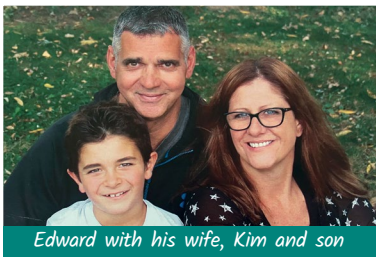


YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

NEWSLETTER



“You can’t ask for anything better. They came through with flying colours.”



Edward with his wife, Kim and son

Edward Johnston had no idea that something was wrong.

It was evening, and he had just settled down for a nap — later that night he was due to drive to Detroit to

pick up his son from the airport.

But about 20 minutes after he lay down, he started feeling the chills. Like the flu.

Not long after, he began getting sick. That continued for hours.

By the time his wife and son got back from the airport, Edward knew something was really wrong. He called 911 and paramedics showed up within five minutes.

It wasn’t long before they knew they had to get him to a hospital right away.

“They told me that I was having an episode with my heart. But that I shouldn’t worry, because they were already in contact with the hospital and the doctors would be all ready for me when we arrived.”

You can imagine what it’s like to hear those words. On the one hand, deeply worrying. On the other, immensely reassuring.

As Edward says now ...

“If you’re ever in an emergency like I was — and you don’t know if you’re going to live or die, it’s the reassurance, and the care that’s provided to you, and the quality of the care, that’s truly exceptional.”

Within five minutes of arriving at Windsor Regional Hospital, he was in the OR where surgeons put stents in his heart.

Edward calls it “perfectly orchestrated.”

“It was a seamless transition from the call, to the diagnosis, to the stents they put in my heart, and then to recovery. You can’t ask for anything better. They were excellent there, the whole staff. You feel like you’re in good hands.”

Edward has also seen firsthand how important donor support is to the hospital.

“I would like to thank donors, from the bottom of my heart, for the donations that let our hospital get the equipment they need. And all the aftercare and the programs that they provide for people.

I want people to know that the signs of a heart attack can be very different than you think. But I also want people to know that Windsor Regional Hospital is there for you. They will come through with flying colours.”

From Patient to Advocate

Three years ago, in his own words, Rob Chaykoski's brain "decided to stop functioning the way that I wanted it to."

He became depressed, and suicidal.

Rob came to the Windsor Regional Hospital Emergency Room and was admitted into our mental health unit.

He still remembers one particular mental health worker who helped him immensely.

"She sat me down, and she said 'This is not you. This is not the place that you're meant to be. This is a place where you're going to recover. This is a stepping stone.'

It made a huge difference to me. Because when you're having that kind of mental health crisis, you can think that this is going to go on forever.

But the brain, like everything else, is a muscle that can heal. There may be scars, but you just have to stay aware.

She was like a wave that crashed on the beach at the exact time I needed that wave in that moment. She popped into my life for maybe only a week, but she made more of an impact than I can say."



Rob witnessed how hard everybody in the mental health unit was working to make that kind of impact on their patients – and to bring about that healing.

"The nurses cared so much. They have so much to do all day, every day. So, when the nurses told me something, I listened."

Now Rob has joined our Patient Advisory Committee, helping bring about great progress for patients.

"Everybody deserves care. If we had the ability for people to have the help and the care they need, imagine ... society would be so much better off. People would have the chance to live happily, support ourselves, support others, and then if we need, when we get to the hospital, have a great support system like I had."

Mental Health Lounge

As many of us have experienced, there is a critical shortage of mental health supports in our communities.

That's why the Mental Health Post-Discharge Clinic exists. This Clinic cares for those patients who are being discharged from the hospital, but who don't have psychiatry care available to them in the community.

At the clinic, our teams support people for three months after they are discharged. Last year, we served over 1,200 people.

Right now, we are actively fundraising for a clinic refurbishment, particularly of the furniture. Our goal is to make this space as comforting and warming an experience for our patients as possible, in a time when it is needed the most.

If you are interested in making a donation, please donate online at www.wrh.on.ca/Support or call (519) 985-2656.



A Legacy of Quiet Generosity



John Fancsy

Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation is deeply honoured to announce an extraordinary bequest, which will transform healthcare in this community for generations to come.

John Thomas Fancsy was a brilliant engineer and entrepreneur. You may know him from the Viewpointe Estate Winery that he co-founded, which put Essex County on the map as a destination for wine enthusiasts.

But even more so than these achievements, we celebrate the life of a man who cared deeply about his community. It was a dedication to Windsor-Essex that he had learned from his parents.

Now John Fancsy has bequeathed the tremendous sum of \$40 million to support the new Windsor Regional Hospital.

It is the largest known gift in Windsor-Essex history, and one of the largest estate gifts made to a single organization in all of Canada.

The truth is, bequests of all sizes have enormous meaning. It's a way of saying that we care about the place we call home and the people who live there — not just right now, but far into the future.

That's the definition of being a visionary. And that is exactly what John Fancsy was — he and his family.

Cristina Naccarato, our Executive Director, expressed the sincere thanks of everyone at Windsor Regional Hospital — our staff, medical teams, and the patients cared for here.

"This extraordinary act of philanthropy is a testament to John's vision for the community he loved so deeply. As a pivotal milestone in the realization of the new hospital, it is also a powerful demonstration of the impact of planned giving. John's legacy gift will help ensure the health and well-being of our community for generations to come."

If you would like to speak to us about organizing a bequest in your own Will, please contact Cristina Naccarato at 519-995-2392 or cristina.naccarato@wrh.on.ca.

Your Gifts Support Essential Equipment

Your gift to the Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation helps your hospital to provide the best care possible for our patients.

Rigid Endoscope

Allows for clearer and brighter images and is used to investigate infertility and other female health concerns with procedures that require a lesser degree of risk and easier recovery.

*OR – Gynecology
Cost: \$4,800 (12)*



BX53 Pathology Microscope

Used for studying disease causes in cells, offering high-quality imaging and true-to-life colours. Ideal for teaching.

*Surgical/Pathology
Cost: \$29,925*



CCU Hospital Bed Electric Smart

These specialized beds are equipped with sensors, wireless, and alerts for conditions like arrhythmia, respiratory failure, or the risk of falls.

*Cardiac Care Unit (CCU)
Cost: \$66,666*



Odette Business School Students Join in Hats On Fun and Fundraising

The Odette School of Business, University of Windsor, brought their entrepreneurial acumen



to support this year's Hats on for Healthcare campaign — nearly tripling last year's fundraising!

Led by learning specialist, and WRH Foundation Board Member, Sandra Neposlan, each group organized

its own unique fundraising project: the Commerce Society donated the proceeds from their annual gala, the MBA Society contributed a tasty donation from their bake sale, and the Master of Management Society raised their funds through a raffle.

Hats on for Healthcare has contributed more than \$700,000 to support healthcare in this community.

Congratulations and thank you, Odette and the University of Windsor — our next generation of business leaders leading the way!

It's here: the Grand Opening of the Stephanie & Barry Zekelman Atrium on 4 West!

We are excited to announce the Stephanie & Barry Zekelman Atrium on 4 West is open! This beautiful space is open daily for patients and families to relax outside of their rooms during their



stay. We know that support and activity are key to healing — and that a patient's environment can have a tremendous impact on their recovery.

The redevelopment of this space was made possible thanks to the generous support from Transition 2 Betterness (T2B) and their amazing donors, the Stephanie & Barry Zekelman Foundation. The design and furnishings were done by Shift

Interiors and finally the beautiful mural by Derkz.

Thank you to the hardworking staff in Security & Housekeeping for their support.

We are deeply grateful for our community of supporters who always keep the care of their neighbours in mind.

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TIS THE SEASON
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GIFT OF GIVING 50/50

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A WIN FOR HEALTHCARE IN OUR COMMUNITY
GRAND PRIZE DRAW DECEMBER 18 @ NOON



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