



Inside RUH's Intensive Care Unit — where every second counts — Drs. Sabira Valiani and Iain Arseneau see first-hand the urgent need for expanded critical care space

Changing the Future of Intensive Care in Saskatchewan

Having a loved one in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) can be one of the hardest times a family will ever face.

Machines beep and whirl as staff move in and out, day and night. In the midst of it all, families often struggle to find rest, privacy or peace of mind.

As Dr. Iain Arseneau, a critical care specialist at Royal University Hospital (RUH) explains: "It is one of the most stressful experiences of their life, if not the most stressful."

Patients from across Saskatchewan come to RUH each day for specialized care. With your support, we can create a dedicated space for their families by upgrading the ICU

Family Room. This work is part of an exciting expansion that will add seven new hospital beds, making RUH home to Saskatchewan's largest ICU, providing care to the sickest patients in the province.

Your generosity will help equip the ICU with new technology and modern features to help patients heal faster and give healthcare teams what they need to provide life-saving care around the clock.

It's an opportunity to make an investment in the future of care in Saskatchewan.

"It's not just about the care that we need to be able to deliver today, it's about putting ourselves in a position so that we can

sustainably deliver access to critical care for the next 20 plus years," says Dr. Arseneau.

Training tomorrow's specialists, advancing care today

Upgrading the ICU will also help train the next generation of doctors. RUH is home to Saskatchewan's largest group of medical residents, and nearly all of them spend time in the ICU learning how to care for very sick patients.

"Residents from all kinds of programs — whether it's internal medicine, all the various surgical sub-specialties, emergency medicine or anesthesia — all rotate through the ICU to

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learn how to resuscitate critically ill patients," says Dr. Arseneau.

Patients also benefit from ongoing international critical care trials directed by specialist Dr. Sabira Valiani. In these studies, the ICU team tests emerging therapies and work to improve existing treatments.

"We're able to bring that cutting-edge care and knowledge to the whole team by participating in these trials," says Dr. Valiani.

Updating the space will make it easier to perform and test these advanced procedures, improving both patient care and staff experience.

More space for teamwork, more support for families

Dr. Valiani chose critical care because of its emphasis on teamwork. In the ICU, physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, nutritionists, social workers and others work together every day at RUH to provide life-saving care.

With so many people involved, the ICU team needs more room to gather at the bedside for medical rounds. These meetings are also a time for families to join in, listen and ask questions — but only if there's enough space.

"Having the right spaces for those conversations, and the ability to come together to support and treat the patient in the best way possible is really important," says Dr. Valiani.

Improving the ICU space will strengthen the connection between families and staff, and help make the ICU a place where patients can heal with dignity — and families can feel supported during life's most difficult moments.

Your donations support the future of intensive care in Saskatchewan. Visit ruh.org or call **306.655.1984**. Together we can change lives.

Dulle's Neurology Fundraiser: Bringing Life-Changing Innovation to RUH

On May 24, generous hearts and determined spirits came together for the third annual Dulle's Neurology Fundraiser — an evening filled with incredible food, engaging speakers, an exciting silent auction, and a community united in support of patients living with neurological conditions.

The event was created by Brennon Dulle, a long-time patient at RUH who has faced a complex journey with neurological illness. Through many challenges, Brennon has experienced first-hand the exceptional skill and compassion of the Neurology team at RUH. His vision for this fundraiser is simple but powerful — to help ensure that patients in Saskatchewan can access the advanced tools and treatments they need without having to leave the province, and to give back to the incredible staff on the unit who have cared for him and continue to support patients every day.

This year's event raised approximately \$24,000 in support of neurology priorities at RUH, adding to nearly \$42,000 from previous years. Thanks to this ongoing support, RUH is closer to acquiring a neurosurgical stereotactic robot — a groundbreaking piece of technology that will allow neurosurgeons to more precisely identify and treat the source of epileptic seizures. This innovation holds the promise of shorter recovery times, improved outcomes, and even the possibility of a seizure-free future for some patients.

Past proceeds from Dulle's Neurology Fundraiser have also made a tangible difference in patient comfort and care — from funding iPads, art supplies, puzzles, and a Netflix membership for the Seizure Investigation Unit, to supporting vital research and providing wellness enhancements for staff.

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Frequently Asked Questions: ICU

1 What is the Intensive Care Unit (ICU)?

The ICU is for the sickest patients. It is staffed by a team of medical professionals who provide 24-hour monitoring and life-supporting therapies.

2 Who needs the ICU?

The ICU cares for critically ill patients from all over the province and those recovering from major surgeries, such as heart or brain operations, or any procedure that requires life support and close monitoring.

3 What makes RUH's ICU special?

As a Level One Trauma Centre, RUH accepts patients from across Saskatchewan. Specialists here provide 24/7 care, including advanced procedures such as neurovascular surgeries that can only be performed at RUH.

4 How can you help?

When you support RUH Foundation, you help build the future of care in Saskatchewan. Your gift to the ICU expansion project will ensure patients receive the best care today while preparing our hospital to face the challenges of tomorrow.

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To Brennan, his family and friends, Gillian Dulle, the event sponsors (special thanks to the Presenting Sponsor Sherwood Chevrolet), and every attendee who bid, donated, or shared their support: thank you. Your commitment is helping transform neurology care at RUH and bringing hope to patients across the province.

Brennon's leadership is a reminder that one person's determination can inspire an entire community to make a difference. If you've ever thought about hosting your own third-party fundraising event, let this be your sign. With your creativity and passion — whether it's a dinner, a golf tournament, a garage sale, or something entirely unique — you can help drive innovation and excellence in care at RUH.

Together, we can keep more patients close to home, with access to the world-class care they need and deserve.



Neurosurgeon Dr. Amit Persad with Brennan Dulle at the second annual Dulle's Neurology Fundraiser in 2024

Wild Rose 4-H Beef Club Gives Back in a Big Way

The Wild Rose 4-H Beef Club knows how to turn hard work into big results. Their Charity Steer Project raised an incredible \$55,830

from the sale of "Erin" at the Prince Albert Regional Show and Sale! With a matching gift from the Merlis Belsher Family, that total

doubled — helping RUH Foundation reach our \$1.2 million goal to bring the cutting-edge Stereotactic Seizure Robot to Royal University Hospital.



Meet Erin — a very special steer with a heartwarming mission — and Owen, a proud Wild Rose 4-H Club member who lives with epilepsy

Chosen in honour of club member Owen Beulac, who lives with epilepsy, this fundraiser will help transform care for patients across Saskatchewan — with more precise, less invasive surgeries and faster recovery times.

Thank you to the Club and all those who supported this event.

Inspired? We'd love to help you bring your own creative fundraising idea to life. Connect with our office to see how your event can help change and save more lives at RUH.

Supersize the Tax Benefits of Your Donation of Shares

Most people know that when you donate to a registered charity, you receive a tax credit — saving you money at tax time. But there's a way to make your generosity go even further while keeping more money in your own pocket.

If you own investments such as mutual funds, publicly traded stocks, or other qualifying securities that have grown in value, you can donate them in-kind directly to Royal University Hospital Foundation. By doing so, you may avoid paying any capital gains tax on those investments — while still receiving the full charitable donation tax credit.

Here's how it works: normally, if you sell investments and donate the cash, you pay capital gains tax on the increase in value. But if you transfer those investments directly to RUH Foundation's brokerage account, you bypass the capital gains tax altogether. It's a simple change that can result in significant tax savings, and a bigger impact for patient care at RUH.

This strategy can be especially powerful if you:

- Want to donate investments with large unrealized gains.

- Plan to buy back the same investments after donating to "reset" your cost base.
- Are making a large family gift and want to consolidate it on one person's tax return.

You can even make a pledge of shares. For example, some donors commit to giving a set amount each year — such as \$6,000 annually for five years — to support health care priorities. Pledging through shares is easy, flexible, and can make a huge, lasting difference.

Making a gift of shares is straightforward: speak with your financial advisor, complete our Securities Transfer Form, and instruct your broker to transfer the shares directly to us.

For full details — and to learn how a gift of securities could work for you — visit ruh.org/gift-of-shares or scan the QR code.

Your gift can change lives at RUH, and with this tax-smart approach, it's truly a win-win for you and those we serve.



Learn more:
ruh.org/gift-of-shares

Quick Facts: Giving Shares

- Avoid capital gains tax when you donate qualifying securities directly.
- Receive a full charitable tax credit for the fair market value of your gift.
- Eligible securities include publicly traded stocks, mutual funds and bonds.
- You can buy back the same investment after donating to "reset" its cost base.
- Consolidate family donations on one tax return for greater impact.
- Gifts must be completed by December 31 to count for this tax year.
- Carry unused donation credits forward up to five years.
- Make gifts during your lifetime or through your Will for estate tax savings.

Fall CEO Message

As we head into fall, I want to share my deepest gratitude for the remarkable impact your generosity is making at Royal University Hospital. Together, we are not only improving care today but also shaping the future of health care in Saskatchewan.

Because of your support, we reached our \$1.2 million fundraising goal to bring a neurosurgical stereotactic robot to RUH. This leading-edge technology will transform care for patients living with epilepsy by enabling safer, less invasive procedures and faster recoveries — and most importantly, it will give families hope.

Your generosity is also fueling the urgent expansion of our Intensive Care Unit. As Saskatchewan's busiest ICU, RUH cares for the province's most critically ill and injured patients. Expanding this space means more people will receive life-saving care when every second counts.

In this issue, you'll read stories of community members who embody the power of philanthropy — from the Wild Rose 4-H Beef Club to Brennon Dulle's Neurology Fundraiser to the visionary women of Women Leading Philanthropy. Each reminds us that innovation begins with compassion and that every gift has the power to change lives.

Thank you for believing in better care and for making RUH a place of healing, innovation, and hope for us all.

Warm regards,



Jennifer Molloy, CFRE
Chief Executive Officer
Royal University Hospital Foundation

Hospital Highlight: A New Era in Women's Cardiac Care

Lorna Clarke was in peak health when her heart problems started.

"It just didn't make sense to me. I was one of these people that used to run almost every day," she says.

Clarke, then a health-care executive, knew the system inside and out. And yet, she struggled to get a diagnosis. Her chest pain was impossible to ignore, but tests showed nothing. Finally, she was admitted to the Cardiac Catheterization Lab, where her cardiologist found a blocked vessel and placed a stent.

Now after years of dealing with heart issues, Clarke has found hope in the new Women's Heart Health Clinic at Royal University Hospital (RUH). She was one of the clinic's first patients and now supports the program as a donor.

"I felt like I was a partner in this process," she says of her first appointment with clinic co-founder, cardiologist Dr. Dominique Kushneriuk. She reviewed Clarke's entire medical record, which contained many ER visits, specialist appointments and procedures.

"As a woman, you see a little bit of yourself in your patients. I think I connect with those patients living with these conditions, and I just want to help them," says Dr. Kushneriuk.

Because their symptoms present differently than in men, women with heart problems are often misdiagnosed and return repeatedly to the hospital.

"It puts strain on the healthcare system, but more importantly – the patient," says Dr. Kushneriuk.



Cardiologist Dr. Dominique Kushneriuk (left) and nurse clinician Jenna Evans are changing the story for Saskatchewan women with heart disease

Many women aren't aware of their risk factors, which can include early menopause, high blood pressure, autoimmune disease and pregnancy-related conditions.

Unfortunately, Clarke's experience is not unique.

"I have a story, but there are so many stories. There's always a very similar thread: access to care, not being believed and feeling dismissed," she says.

The clinic's team approach is changing the narrative. Nurse clinician Jenna Evans is there for appointments and regularly available to patients. She links them with supports such as a psychologist, social worker and pharmacist.

"This is something that is really valuable to the community. People are seeing a difference. We're keeping people out of the hospital. We're seeing them do so much better," says Evans.

At the clinic — one of only a handful in Canada — patients are able to get a diagnosis and whole-person care. They spend less time in the hospital, have a better quality of life and finally have a place to be heard.



RUH Foundation donor and Women's Heart Health Clinic patient Lorna Clarke and her dog, Dodger

Hospital Home Lottery: Supporting Life-Saving Care at RUH

Every ticket you purchase in the Hospital Home Lottery is more than a chance to win incredible prizes — it's an investment in better health care for our community. Proceeds support Saskatoon's three hospitals — Royal University Hospital (RUH), St. Paul's Hospital, and Saskatoon City Hospital — funding critical priorities that improve care for patients across Saskatchewan.

At RUH, this year's proceeds will help expand the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Saskatchewan's largest patient-serving, teaching, and research hospital. This expansion means faster access to specialized teams, advanced monitoring technology, and essential support for patients facing life-threatening conditions. Because of you, RUH will have the capacity and tools to care for more critically ill and injured patients when every second counts.

The \$2 million Grand Prize Package includes a lakefront Candle Lake cottage, \$100,000 cash, and two Candle Lake Golf Resort memberships. Learn more at ruh.org/hospital-home-lottery or purchase tickets at hospitalhomelottery.org.

"Your support of Hospital Home Lottery is a direct investment in saving lives. Expanding our Intensive Care Unit (ICU) will allow us to care for more critically ill patients with the urgency, expertise, and compassion they deserve." —

Drs. Iain Arseneau and Sabira Valiani, Internal Medicine and Critical Care Medicine, Royal University Hospital.



Anonymous Gift Strengthens World-Class Parkinson's and Movement Disorders Care

An extraordinary \$100,000 anonymous donation is helping to ensure Saskatchewan residents living with Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders receive the very best care close to home. This gift supports Fellowship funding, enabling physicians to pursue advanced sub-specialty training in movement disorders and bring that expertise back to our province.

Thanks to this funding, Dr. Eric Noyes, who completed medical school and residency in Saskatoon, joined the renowned Saskatchewan Movement Disorders Program (SMDP) in 2023

after additional training at the University of Western Ontario and the University of Toronto. Working alongside Drs. Ali and Alex Rajput, Dr. Noyes strengthens a continuum of care that is recognized worldwide for excellence in clinical care and groundbreaking research.

With approximately 40,000 Saskatchewan residents affected by movement disorders, this investment in advanced training is helping ensure patients receive expert diagnosis, leading-edge treatment, and compassionate care — right here at home.



With sub-specialty fellowship training in movement disorders, Dr. Eric Noyes strengthens RUH's world-renowned program in Parkinson's disease and related conditions

Research: Fueling Hope for Today and Tomorrow

At the June Women Leading Philanthropy (WLP) meeting, WLP donor and former RUH Foundation Board member Sharon McDonald shared a deeply personal message: research saves lives — sometimes in ways we may never fully realize.

Since its inception, WLP has learned of 33 innovative research proposals and funded over \$1 million in grants. Sharon knows firsthand the value of this work. Fit and healthy, she was stunned by a breast cancer diagnosis. Her oncologist, former WLP grant recipient Dr. Mita Manna, encouraged her to hold onto hope — and that hope became central to her recovery.

While past WLP-funded projects didn't directly influence her diagnosis, Sharon is certain she benefited from earlier research led by dedicated physicians, researchers, and practitioners, resulting in more effective and less invasive treatments. Today, she's living a relatively normal life, thanks to science, exceptional care, and her determination to heal. She applauds WLP for supporting brilliant women physicians, researchers and health care professionals who improve your health, help someone you know or someone you may never meet.

Her call to action: invite a friend to a WLP meeting. It's one of the most meaningful and uplifting events you can attend with a mother, sister, daughter, or friend. It's an opportunity to support brilliant women in

health care who are improving lives now and in the future.

Together, we can spread hope.



Celebrating hope and the power of research: Sharon McDonald (right) with her oncologist, friend and fellow WLP member, Dr. Mita Manna, at the September 2024 Women Leading Philanthropy meeting



Our 2024–2025 Annual Gratitude Report is Here!

From life-changing new technology to inspiring stories of courage and generosity, our latest Annual Gratitude Report showcases the incredible impact donors like you are making at Royal University Hospital.

To ensure more of your gifts go directly to patient care, we're reducing printing and mailing costs by offering the report online — ready for you to explore anytime. Simply scan the QR code or visit our website to read about the lives you've helped change.

Prefer a printed copy? Call us at 306.655.1984 and we'll be delighted to mail one to you.



Read more:
ruh.org/about-us/annual-reports

Thank you!



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Royal University Hospital Foundation Strategic Plan

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Foundation acknowledges we
are on Treaty 6 Territory
and the Homeland of the Métis.
We pay our respect to the First
Nations and Métis ancestors
of this place and reaffirm our
relationship with one another.

SPECIAL GIFTS

A gift *In Honour* is made to commemorate a loved one or friend, to mark a milestone or to celebrate a special occasion. A gift *In Memory* is a lasting tribute to someone departed who was respected and loved. We thank family members and friends who paid tribute to the following individuals between February 1 and July 31, 2025, by making donations in their names.

IN HONOUR OF

Harry Bastness
Cardiology Department
Kathy Champ
Alexander W. Cormin
Brennon Dulle
Phyllis Johnson
Roshan Knight
Mike and Dolly Levine
Jennifer Molloy

Dr. Matthew Nicholson
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