

MOMENTUM



Dr Susan Shaw
Critical Care

READY FROM DAY ONE

Equipping RUH's ICU Expansion

FROM ELROSE, WITH GRATITUDE

Giving Back to the Irene and Leslie Dubé
Centre for Mental Health

TRAINING TAKES FLIGHT

Donor-funded Trauma Training Builds Skills,
Connection in Stony Rapids

Fall 2026

CEO'S MESSAGE

When people across our province need the highest levels of care, Royal University Hospital is where they turn. Thanks to your generosity, we'll be ready for them.

Construction crews are at work now adding seven ICU beds to our hospital. In this issue, Dr. Susan Shaw explains why the newest tools are essential in critical care, and your support ensures the expanded unit will be ready for its first patients.

You'll meet Jerrilee Shaw, a teenager who rallied her community to raise money for the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre for Mental Health, where she received care. On the back cover,

we honour the Dubés, whose legacy lives on in patients like her.

You'll travel more than 1,000 kilometres north with the trauma team that trained colleagues in Stony Rapids to prepare critical patients for the flight south.

As we enter this season of gratitude, I'm humbled that your trust and support helped so many people, in so many ways, at RUH this year.

With thanks,


Jennifer Molloy, CFRE
Chief Executive Officer



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RUH Foundation's Board of Directors includes (l-r) Garth MacDonald, Pam Leyland, Brent Suer, Gord Stewart (Vice-chair), Graham Blue, Jennifer Molloy (CEO), Landon Fehr, Maeghan Dubois (Chair), Colleen Cameron Bergan, Shannon Patterson, Kelly Wilson, Daryl Bitz, Erin Eccleston, Dr. Mita Manna, Kim Coutts.

MOMENTUM

Fall 2026

Royal University Hospital Foundation supports Royal University Hospital, the epicentre for Saskatchewan's medical care. Through collaboration, innovation and community, our goal is to improve health care for everyone in our province.

On the Cover: Dr. Susan Shaw, anesthesiologist and critical care specialist in the ICU



Candace Abramyk during one of her stays in the intensive care unit (ICU) at RUH.

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**"If it's not going to be you,
it's going to be someone
that you've crossed paths
with. We just don't know
who that person could
be. You never know when
you're going to need it."**

—Candace Abramyk

**Scan to donate towards
the ICU expansion
or visit ruh.f.org/donate.**



Candace Abramyk spends time with her daughter while in the ICU at RUH.

READY FROM DAY ONE

Equipping RUH's ICU Expansion

Dr. Susan Shaw has spent her career finding out what's wrong with a patient before it's too late. In the intensive care unit (ICU) at Royal University Hospital (RUH), portable ultrasounds help her do that at the bedside, in real time.

"You can actually see inside, and see the heart pumping," says the critical care physician. "Is it pumping well? Is it needing support?"

This fall, RUH Foundation is raising \$350,000 for two portable ultrasound machines and a cardiac probe, giving physicians the best imaging technology available when the ICU expansion opens.

Construction crews are at work inside RUH now, creating a brand-new space for patients. When they're finished, the intensive care unit will have 26 single-patient rooms, up from 19 beds today.

Patients in RUH's ICU are the sickest in the province, and nearly all of them need multiple ultrasounds during their stay. These tools help the team sort out why someone is in shock, whether a lung is congested, or where a needle is going during a central line insertion – a procedure most ICU patients require.

"I was first trained years ago to do it without any equipment," says Dr. Shaw, who previously served as Chief Medical Officer of the Saskatchewan Health Authority. "Now, I can actually watch myself do it inside the patient."

Clearer images make the procedure safer and help her teach the residents who train alongside her almost every shift.

The new machines will produce sharper images, and having one in both areas of the ICU means a patient never has to wait.

"Seconds matter in my world," says Dr. Shaw. Her patients are living with failing organs, and the faster her team can see what's happening, the faster they can act.

"Not only does it make it easier for me to do my job well, it gives me the information I need to save lives."

Your gift puts that information at the bedside when the new unit opens.

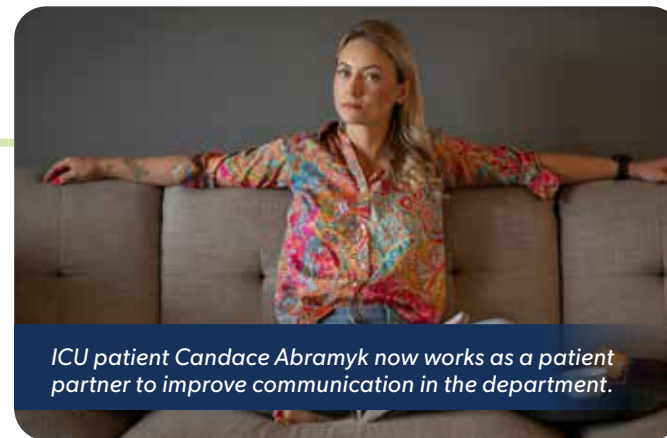
"You might be buying a machine, but it's really about what this machine helps people do," says Dr. Shaw.

YOU NEVER KNOW

Candace Abramyk was 19 and in university when one eyelid started to droop. Within days, neurologists at Royal University Hospital (RUH) had a diagnosis: myasthenia gravis, an autoimmune disease that weakens the muscles she uses to see, speak, swallow and walk.

Her condition flares without warning. An infection can trigger it. So can the wrong medication, which Candace learned during her first ICU admission, after a routine antibiotic left her unable to move her legs or lift her arms. For a stretch of two to three years, she was in the ICU every six months.

A paramedic for nine years before her condition made the job too hard on her body, she is now a mother to a five-year-old



ICU patient Candace Abramyk now works as a patient partner to improve communication in the department.

daughter and a patient partner working with research teams helping to improve how critical care teams communicate with patients and families.

Candace never knows when the next admission will come. That's the case for most ICU patients, who arrive in crisis and need the right care immediately.

FROM ELROSE, WITH GRATITUDE

Giving Back to the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre for Mental Health

When her class was asked to find a way to give back to their community, Grade 10 student Jerrilee Shaw already had an answer.

Earlier this year, Shaw was a patient at the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre for Mental Health at Royal University Hospital (RUH) in Saskatoon. The Centre provides specialized inpatient services for youth and adults who need mental health support, caring for approximately 225 young patients each year during some of the most difficult periods of their lives.

The care she received there stayed with her. Her day nurse Barb Shepherd gave her practical tools to work on and was present through the hardest parts of her stay.

"Her kindness, genuineness and love helped me get through my days," Shaw says.

When her Christian Ethics teacher at LCBI High School in Outlook, Sask. asked students to find a way to give back to their community, Shaw organized a walk/run for mental health in her home community of Elrose.

Thirty-four people took part, gathering in Elrose and joining virtually from nearby communities, including Eston, Rosetown and Outlook.

Together, they raised approximately \$1,100 in donations. Shaw's parents matched the total, bringing the final contribution to more than \$2,500, all directed toward the Dubé Centre.

"I know, living in your teenage years, or even pre-teens, that it is hard to deal with your emotions, and your emotions can take a real toll on your life," says Shaw.

Donations made to RUH Foundation can be directed to the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre for Mental Health, supporting inpatient care for youth and adults across Saskatchewan.



"Support doesn't make problems disappear, but it reminds people they don't have to face them alone."

—Jerrilee Shaw

HOSPITAL HIGHLIGHT

Cardiac Care Closer to Home



Fresh out of the box, a new cardiac device remote monitor is bringing specialized care closer to home.

For hundreds of people living with implanted cardiac devices across rural Saskatchewan, routine follow-up appointments have often meant hours on the road to Saskatoon. Thanks to the generosity of

donors Mike and Adele Giblin, that's changing.

Their support funded the purchase of three cardiac device remote monitors, expanding access to specialized heart care while reducing the need for patients to travel long distances for routine monitoring.

"Expanding remote monitoring to rural communities means more patients can receive specialized follow-up care closer to home while remaining connected to the expert cardiac team at RUH," says Amarah Paquin, Director, Cardiosciences, Integrated Saskatoon Health, Tertiary and Surgical Services Saskatoon and North.

The new equipment is now fully operational, with two monitors located in North Battleford and one in Rosetown. These monitors allow the cardiac team at RUH to remotely assess how a patient's implanted cardiac device is functioning, ensuring timely follow-up while patients remain in their home communities.

More than 1,300 patients already benefit from remote cardiac device appointments each year. With the addition of this new equipment, the program will provide an estimated 250 additional remote visits annually.

In the North Battleford and Rosetown regions alone, approximately 250 people will no longer need to travel to Saskatoon for routine clinic visits — saving time, reducing travel costs and easing the stress of being away from home while making specialized cardiac care more accessible.

MAKING AN IMPACT

Honouring a Legacy of Leadership

Alain Gaucher and the Saskatoon partners of MLT Aikins have made a collective gift of \$150,000 in honour of Alain's retirement, celebrating his distinguished career and long-standing dedication to community leadership. The gift will support the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre for Mental Health, helping advance compassionate, patient- and family-centred mental health care in Saskatchewan.



Alain Gaucher (centre) with partners from MLT Aikins who came together to honour his lasting impact.

MLT Aikins is committed to improving their local communities, as evidenced by their longstanding legacy of philanthropic involvement. Throughout his career, Alain has exemplified that commitment, going beyond his profession to champion community initiatives, mentor emerging leaders and give generously of his time and expertise. This gift to the Dubé Centre serves as a capstone on a career marked by positive impact on causes that matter deeply to Alain, MLT Aikins and the community.

It's a meaningful way to celebrate an important milestone while making a lasting difference. Alain's legacy will continue not only through the many people, colleagues and clients alike, he has influenced over his career, but also through the lives that will be touched at the Dubé Centre for years to come.

WOMEN LEADING PHILANTHROPY

Saskatchewan Research, National Reach

Eight years ago, Dr. Candice Jackel-Cram pitched her research idea to a room full of women, and they said yes.

That yes, the very first grant awarded by Women Leading Philanthropy donors, launched the UTERUS Project (Universal Testing of Endometrial Cancer: Reaching an Under-Served Population). This spring, the research was published in an open-access journal, free for any patient, family member or physician to find. It is the first study of its kind in Canada, and it makes the case that every woman diagnosed with endometrial cancer should be offered genetic testing as part of her care.

"It's very empowering for people," says Dr. Jackel-Cram. "Participating, for the person with cancer, is a bit of a gift to their family."

Endometrial cancer is the fourth most common cancer among Canadian women, affecting about 8,600 each year. When the project began, women diagnosed with it were not routinely tested for Lynch syndrome, a hereditary condition that raises the risk of colon and other cancers. Most had no way of knowing their cancer could run in the family.

Donor generosity changed that. Through the UTERUS Project study, 48 women received genetic counselling and testing, and seven were diagnosed with Lynch syndrome, opening the door to testing for more than 120 of their relatives. For those family members, knowing means earlier screening, sometimes beginning in their twenties, and the chance to stay ahead of cancer.



Women Leading
PHILANTHROPY



Eight years after receiving the first Women Leading Philanthropy grant, Dr. Candice Jackel-Cram continues to see the impact of the UTERUS Project.

Screening endometrial tumours for signs of hereditary cancer is now a routine first step in Saskatchewan.

Dr. Jackel-Cram's advice for anyone facing a diagnosis is simple: ask whether it could be genetic.

"A lot of people get to genetics because they've just asked the question," she says.

Her findings are now guiding efforts to make follow-up genetic testing an automatic part of endometrial cancer care, so no woman is left unaware. The project helped spark a \$2 million Genome Canada grant carrying this effort forward – benefitting women across Saskatchewan and beyond.

❖ To read the publication or learn more about WLP, visit ruh.org/women-leading-philanthropy or scan the QR code.



TRAINING TAKES FLIGHT

Donor-funded Trauma Training Builds Skills, Connection in Stony Rapids

When a critical patient arrives at the health facility in Stony Rapids, Mark Lussier and his colleagues sometimes face a challenge few southern hospitals ever do: keeping that patient stable for hours until a plane can get in.

"We're dealing with huge distances, and weather is a big concern," says Lussier, a primary care paramedic who spends two weeks at a time working in the community, where patients requiring advanced care are flown to Prince Albert or Saskatoon.

In June, help came to them instead. A team of Royal University Hospital (RUH) trauma specialists travelled more than 1,000 kilometres to Stony Rapids, the 13th stop for a donor-funded program bringing hands-on trauma training to rural and northern Saskatchewan.



Health-care providers in Stony Rapids practise critical trauma scenarios using "Orano," a lifelike simulation manikin funded by Orano Canada.

Over three days, doctors, nurses and paramedics practised emergency scenarios on a lifelike simulation manikin, named "Orano" in recognition of a \$300,000 gift from Orano Canada, fine-tuning the skills needed to stabilize critical patients and prepare them for the flight south.



RUH trauma specialists and Stony Rapids health-care providers came together for three days of hands-on training, strengthening skills and connections across Saskatchewan.

"It was about as close to real life as you could get," Lussier says. "The manikin would talk, and if you pushed on a certain spot, he would show pain."

The course provided more than hands-on training. Lussier says the RUH specialists made clear his crew can call any time, day or night, for help with a difficult case.

Dr. Niroshan Sothilingam, Medical Director of Trauma at RUH, says his team left with as much as they gave their northern colleagues.

"We learn about them as much as they learn about us," he says. "When you meet them, you share a meal with them, you meet their families, you understand how they live and how hard they work. It just makes that phone call much easier and builds a community around the patient."

"Bringing teams together in this way truly strengthens relationships, builds confidence, and creates lasting impacts that will ultimately benefit patients across Saskatchewan," says Deb Georget, Director of Inpatient Surgical Care and Trauma.

Your generosity carries life-saving skills to every corner of Saskatchewan.

LEGACY GIVING

A Quiet Life of Giving

Caring for other people was the thread that ran through Lois Beggs's whole life.

Born in Wilkie, Saskatchewan, the sixth of eight children, Lois loved children and gave more than three decades to teaching them, in Saskatoon, in England, and in Germany. Her students still remember how she brought Snoopy and the Peanuts gang to life.

When her mother needed her, Lois answered. After retiring, she earned a Bachelor of Nursing so she could care for her mother, Isabella, at home until Isabella passed away at 103. Lois herself lived to 93, devoted to her family.

That same devotion reached Royal University Hospital. For 12 years Lois gave faithfully to the areas of care she believed in, and she chose to leave a gift in her will so future patients would be cared for too. We are deeply grateful.

To learn how a legacy gift can make a difference at RUH, we would be honoured to talk with you.



Lois Beggs

FELLOWSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Meet Dr. Bashir Daud Shah



Fellowship support is helping Dr. Bashir Daud Shah advance his specialized training.

RUH Foundation supports advanced fellowship training for physicians who pursue specialized training after residency, bringing vital expertise back to Saskatchewan. Through donor support, these opportunities help attract and retain highly skilled specialists, ensuring patients can access leading-edge care close to home.

Dr. Bashir Daud Shah is a Clinical Movement Disorder Fellow at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

Saskatoon is his hometown, and he's completed all his education at USask, including medical school and a neurology residency.

He is now studying movement disorders through a prestigious one-year fellowship funded jointly by RUH Foundation and Parkinson Canada under the supervision of Dr. Alex Rajput.

Why did you want to pursue advanced training in this area?

I chose to specialize in movement disorders because I enjoy building long-term relationships with patients and helping them navigate complex neurological conditions over many years.

Cont'd next page

This field allows me to combine careful clinical assessment with treatments that can make a meaningful difference in a person's daily life and independence. I am inspired by the opportunity to care for people with conditions such as Parkinson's disease, essential tremor, and dystonia while supporting their families throughout their journey. I also enjoy teaching, research, and working with multidisciplinary teams to improve care and advance new treatments.

Ultimately, I hope to help people with movement disorders maintain the best possible quality of life while contributing to a better understanding of these conditions.

What are your plans after finishing fellowship?

I plan to practice as a movement disorders neurologist in Saskatoon, Sask. The Saskatchewan Movement Disorders Program is internationally recognized for its outstanding clinical care and pioneering research.

Established in 1968 by Dr. Ali Rajput, the program has become a global leader in the study and treatment of Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders through its commitment to longitudinal patient care and clinicopathological research.

It will be a privilege to contribute to this remarkable legacy, and I hope to help advance the program through both compassionate clinical care and meaningful research that improves the lives of people living with movement disorders here in Saskatchewan.



➦ Learn more about the Fellowship program and support training today. Visit ruh.org/fellowship-funding or scan the QR code.

SPECIAL GIFTS

A gift In Honour commemorates a loved one or friend, marks a milestone or celebrates a special occasion. A gift In Memory is a lasting tribute to someone who was respected and loved. We thank family and friends who honoured the following individuals between February 1, 2026, and July 31, 2026, through donations in their names.

IN HONOUR OF

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Brennon Dulle | Dr. David Kim | Dr. Lissa Peeling | Jerrilee Shaw |
| Alain J. Gaucher | Diane McKeivitt | Dr. Christopher Pekrul | Dr. Hilary Stevens |
| Debbie Gunther Hansen | OR Staff | Dr. Stephen Pylypchuk | Dr. Calvin D. Wells |
| David Jessiman | Dr. Elliott Pally | Soraya Semchuk | |

IN MEMORY OF

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| David Abraham | Darrell Foster | David Lockerbie | Koleen Pillipow |
| Patricia Adair | Ethel J. Frederick | John Loeppky | Judy Rolheiser |
| Jacqueline Bantle | Darryl Freeden | Susan Loeppky | Michael K. Scheibelhoffer |
| Ingrid Benning | Doug Friggstad | James F. Lowes | Marilyn J. Scutt |
| Klaas and Pieterella Boersma | Natasha Gattey | Elaine Lummerding | Clarence Shebelski |
| Roland Caron | Jerry W. German | Dave MacLachlan | Marissa C. St. Amand |
| Greg Cochet | Myra Gustafson | Brian N. Mamer | Dianne Thiemann |
| Peter F. Dyck | Erwin Janzen | Viktoria Maurus | Earl Willer |
| Jonathan Epp | Donna Kizlyk | Calmin Murdoch | Greta Sleeva and John T. Wright |
| Oliver P. Erker | Dr. Krishan Lal | Karen Newman | |
| | Tyson E. Lemire | Lisa Omand | |

If you would like to give a gift in honour of someone special or in memory of a loved one who has passed away, please contact RUH Foundation at 306.655.1984 or make your gift online at ruh.org.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Irene & Leslie Dubé

Leslie Dubé, March 2024 · Irene Dubé, June 2026

Irene and Leslie Dubé spent their lives giving quietly and generously to their community. Their care for others did not end with them.

The Dubés left a gift in their Will to the Irene and Leslie Dubé Centre for Mental Health Endowment — support that will help patients and families at Royal University Hospital for generations to come.

We are grateful for their extraordinary generosity and a legacy that will continue to touch lives for generations to come.



Leave a gift in your Will.

A gift in your Will costs nothing today and shapes care for decades. Our team can help you plan a gift that reflects what matters most to you.

Scan to learn about legacy giving
or visit ruhf.org/planned-giving.



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Royal University Hospital Foundation
103 Hospital Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W8

Phone: 306.655.1984
info@ruhf.org • ruhf.org

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