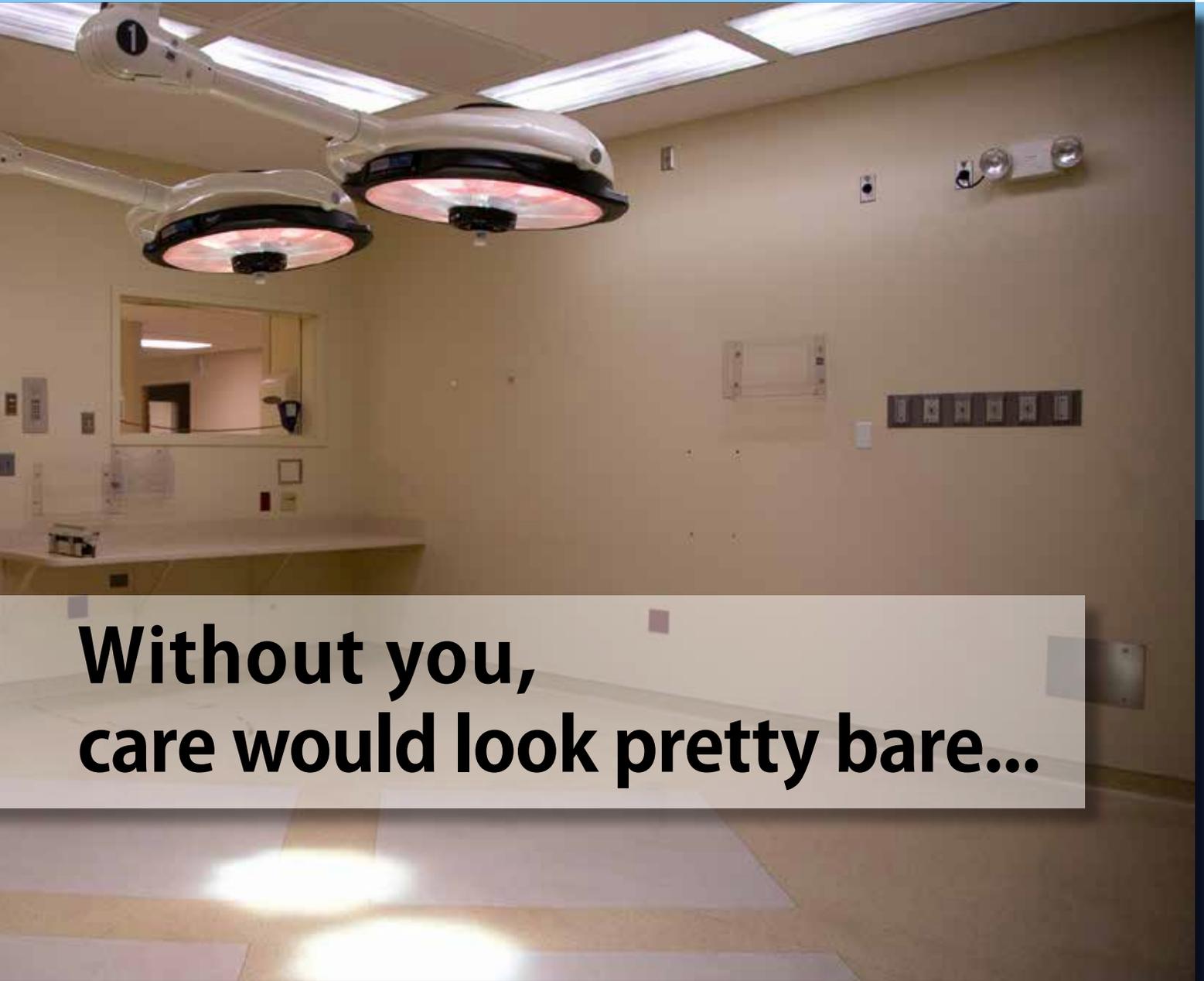




# Supporter Newsletter

*THANK YOU! For helping your hospital help you.*



**Without you,  
care would look pretty bare...**



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**Thank you** to our dedicated hospital team; doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners, technologists, respiratory technicians, EMS personnel, administrators, donors, volunteers and everyone who was there for us during the challenging times.

## Community Support Continues to Inspire

Since 1989, the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation (LWDHF) has transferred more than \$20 million to Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH), providing funds essential to ensuring our hospital and healthcare teams can deliver the best in specialized care to patients in the district.

With a bold new vision, the Foundation is responding to the ever-changing landscape of health care while remaining committed to providing care that is better connected to the community.

Government can't fund all the hospital's ongoing equipment and other priority needs. Year after year, it's generous community support from people like you that continues to drive innovation and growth, while enabling exceptional patient care at our hospital.

It's your generosity that will help ensure patients have access to the life-saving care and treatment they need, close to home. Together, we are transforming health care and saving lives - **Thank You!**

# 2022-2023

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lake of the Woods District  
*Hospital Foundation*

**KIM MEJIA**

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Director





# Your Support Saves Lives.

Your generous support helps to provide the residents of Kenora District the patient care they deserve.

# Your Generosity Matters

Thanks to you, in 2021-2022

**\$756,402**

**was invested in hospital equipment & upgrades**

Your generous support of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation (LWDHF) over the last three decades has helped to purchase the equipment that ensures doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals can continue to deliver the best healthcare right here in our community.

In 2021-2022 the Foundation transferred over \$750,000 to the hospital to replace and upgrade equipment that was no longer serviceable. It's thanks to the generosity of people like you, that upgrades and new equipment are available. Take for instance the significant changes happening with diagnostic imaging.

In September of 2021, the Fluoroscopy Suite was decommissioned and the impact of this closure has been felt by many patients, including those requiring gastrointestinal studies, orthopedic patients, and a myriad of patients requiring the placement of central venous access devices. These patients had to travel to other facilities in Winnipeg and Thunder Bay to have these procedures. Fluoroscopy is imaging equipment which uses x-rays to allow real-time visualization of body structures. For over 20-years, patients in Kenora could count on the hospital to provide them with these vital treatments and procedures. This upgrade will allow for an important expansion in service that will not only include adult patients, but for the first time, will also include pediatric patients who will be able to receive treatments in Kenora rather than having to travel to a children's hospital.

## Other equipment and upgrades your support helped fund in 2021-22 include (by area):

### Diagnostic Imaging

Barco Monitor

ECG Cart

Fluroscopy Suite

### Lab

Endotoxin Analyzer

Plasma Thawer

Morgue Stretcher

Centrifuge

CO<sup>2</sup> Incubator

MicroBiology Incubator

### Emergency

Wall Transformer

Blood Pressure Monitor

Patient Ventilation Monitor

### ICU

Arctic Sun

### Obstetrics

Isolette

Jaundice Meter

Maternity Bed

### 3E/2E

Hospital Beds

Isogel Mattresses

CADD Pumps

### Support Services

Dishwasher

Tumble Dryer

# Your Gifts at Work

*"The Foundation's donors are the lifeblood of our organization. None of us could do the work we do without them, because without the donors we would have none of the equipment we use every day to serve the people of Kenora." - Dr. Sean Moore, Chief of Staff.*

Every year, approximately 185 babies are delivered in Kenora's Maternity Ward at Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH).

The Maternity Ward is a designated Level 1B Maternal and Level 1 Newborn facility, which provides low risk maternal and neonatal services, including cesarean section services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to families in Kenora.

Overall, approximately 10% of newborns require some assistance to begin breathing when they are born, and 1% require extensive resuscitative measures. Some of these babies are born premature or are too sick for the unit to manage and require transport to a higher level of care.

Thanks to your generous donations and support of the LWDH Foundation online 50/50 raffle throughout 2020-21, \$58,000

was invested in upgrading the obstetrical and gynecological equipment in the Maternity Ward. This investment is just a small part of a larger project to enhance maternity services at LWDH.

These investments will go a long way in allowing families to receive the care they need for their newborns in Kenora rather than being evacuated to a larger hospital.

## SCOTT'S JOURNEY

*Lori Romas shares the story of her son, Scott's birth, at Lake of the Woods District Hospital.*

I went from hospital employee to patient overnight. I was 32 weeks along in a healthy pregnancy, and already having 4 children, I thought I knew what to expect.





But parenthood is full of the unexpected! Call it mother's intuition, but the evening before my son was born I had a nagging feeling something wasn't right. He wasn't moving like he should be.

I drove myself to the hospital in the middle of the night, only to find out my fears were justified. An emergency c-section to save our lives and a transfer to Winnipeg was being arranged.

Under the skilled hands of the LWDH medical team, my son was delivered safely. I was fortunate to briefly lay eyes on my 2lbs 13oz premature baby boy before being loaded into an ambulance.

My new son received medical care and was ventilated prior to being flown to Winnipeg where we would eventually be reunited.

Much needed renovations to our maternity unit could minimize separation time between fragile infants and their new parents. Appropriate and modern equipment to support even the smallest of patients, can support better health outcomes for families.

Nobody ever anticipates needing this type of care in a small community like Kenora, but it happens. We are so fortunate that our story had a happy ending.

## With your support, we will be able to

1. Create a larger birthing room – ensuring safe movement for staff, the ability to resuscitate neonates without needing to remove them from their parent's environment and provide more space for family support, once the pandemic has ceased.
2. Reconfigure the nursery to ensure a safer space for staff to work when resuscitating and stabilizing a neonate, as well as provide an open space for the neonatal transport team to bring in critical equipment to prepare baby for transport to a higher level of care.
3. New, updated, equipment, including new warmers for neonatal resuscitation and stabilization.



**Over \$2 million** has now been raised through the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation's online 50/50!



**DECEMBER 2021 WINNER**  
**Tamara & Rod**  
**\$61,305**



**JANUARY 2022 WINNER**  
**Dan Macklin**  
**\$34,675**



**FEBRUARY 2022 WINNER**  
**Aretha Paypompee**  
**\$25,445**



**MARCH 2022 WINNER**  
**Ashley Magiskan**  
**\$21,372**



**APRIL 2022 WINNER**  
**Allan & Mary Morris**  
**\$20,950**



**MAY 2022 WINNER**  
**Debbie Goodfellow**  
**\$27,852**

Tickets available online with Visa / Mastercard / Visa-Debit. Cash only in person purchases are available at LWDHF offices:

21 Wolsley St, St. Joseph's Health Centre

[www.lwdhf5050.ca](http://www.lwdhf5050.ca)

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BIRD  
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# CHAMPIONS OF CARE

*There are many ways to support the amazing work that happens every day at LWDH. No gift is too small and all gifts help to enhance patient care.*

Over the last 24 months the world has been dealing with the fallout of a Global Pandemic, something that has not been seen in over a century. COVID-19 has changed the world in ways we do not yet fully understand, the hospital and foundation were no exception. Prior to the Pandemic our major fundraising campaigns were largely event-based and included: annual Charity Golf Tournaments, Hockey Tournaments, and Gala evenings at the Yacht club. Thanks to the creativity and adaptability of our Foundation team and Board of Directors, we transitioned from in-person events to an online 50/50 raffle, which has resulted in over \$2 million in ticket sales over the last two years. The success of the 50/50 is in no small part due to the two fantastic local sponsors; Dingwall Group and Standard Insurance. These organizations have generously provided funding for the early bird prizes, as well as resources to expand the promotion and online presence of the monthly draws.

To date the Foundation has awarded over \$1 million in prizes to people like you, from all across northwestern Ontario. Local residents, Mary and Allan Morris of Kenora told us they support the 50/50 because they use the hospital and want it to be there for their family when they need it.

Over the past two years, other hospitals and local organizations have launched their own online 50/50 campaigns, some with larger prizes or different ticket packages. Consequently, this has negatively impacted the LWDHF ticket sales. While the larger raffles may be enticing, it is especially important to continue supporting the LWDHF 50/50 as it remains the sole raffle where proceeds directly support the purchase of equipment for your hospital, in Kenora. These funds help to ensure, that when the time comes that you need the hospital, they will have the equipment to care for you, in your time of need.

As the world opens up, we are so excited to re-launch some of our in-person events starting with the 2nd Annual Dingwall Group Par 3 Charity Challenge at the Kenora Golf Club on July 21.

Bill Dingwall, owner of the Dingwall Group and champion of the Foundation explains, "the hospital has always been an easy choice for our businesses and our family to support. Our choice to get involved in the 50/50, as well as hosting our Par 3 Charity Challenge go hand in hand as its profits go directly to purchasing new equipment for our hospital. Our mission is to purchase new and much needed equipment and get them directly into the hands of the doctors and nurses who take care of our community daily. Everyone, from all walks of life will use the hospital, or know someone who has required care and will personally benefit from having new equipment. I want to be confident that when my grandchildren visit our hospital, they receive quality care right here at home, in Kenora." Bill emphasizes,

*" Together, with the strength of our community we have the power to make big changes and these initiatives are our way of doing our part."*

This year the Dingwall Group has set its sites on an even bigger tournament with the goal of raising over \$160,000 to purchase a Digital Mobile X-Ray Machine. It's this community spirit, along with generous contributions from businesses, organizations, local champions and individuals alike, that support the life-changing work at LWDH. We welcome the opportunity to discuss your charitable aspirations and the many ways you can make an impact! Contact us by email; [lwdhf@lwdh.on.ca](mailto:lwdhf@lwdh.on.ca) or stop in for a visit!

PAR 3 CHARITY CHALLENGE

Your Support Saves Lives. [Please Donate Today.](#) | 9

# Looking Ahead

*Together, We Can Make Care Better*



At the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation, we are proud to serve our hospital, our city of Kenora and surrounding area. We are committed to ensuring that your donations are invested wisely, according to your intentions and that you receive the appreciation and ongoing information that your generosity deserves.

If you have been to the Foundation recently, you were likely greeted by our Executive Assistant, Hannah. Hannah was born and raised in Kenora and recently joined the Foundation team this past spring. Hannah attended Algonquin College and graduated with a breadth of knowledge in Business Administration.

Aside from Hannah's role with the Foundation, she is also an employee at the Hospital as a Clinical Information Clerk. You will see her in her various roles at Admitting, Switchboard, ER Clerk, Patient Registration and Screening Desk. Having fulfilled many roles in our health care system, Hannah brings a unique lens to guide the Foundations efforts moving forward.

## Welcome Mira Trebilcock - LWDH Foundation New ED



On June 6, Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation (LWDHF) Board and staff were pleased to welcome Mira Trebilcock as the new Executive Director.

Mira is an experienced advancement professional, who brings a strong track record of success working in fundraising, business development and communications. Born and raised in Timmins, ON, Mira has spent the last decade supporting philanthropic efforts in Western Canada. For the past three and half years, she has served as the Director of Development at Mother Teresa Middle School (MTMS) in Regina, SK.

Founded by the caring vision of Paul and Carol Hill, MTMS aims to break the cycle of poverty for socially and economically disadvantaged youth through education. Mira's work across the organization focused on strategic planning, enhancing community partnerships, and growing major giving, while celebrating and honouring the diversity of students and families.

# Your Hospital, Moving Forward

*There is no question Lake of the Woods District Hospital is in uncharted waters as of late, facing unprecedented staffing shortages and unheard of department closures. For everyone, these last few years have been extremely challenging. But despite it all, your hospital continues to see successes - credited to the amazing team, exceptional partners and generous donors. The next few pages offer an operational update from the hospital as well as some uplifting success stories.*



## OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Over the past six months, Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) has responded to the evolving demands of COVID-19 in our communities. With the relaxing of pandemic related restrictions, we were impacted by illness among our staff, outbreaks on patient units and in the community. An excellent response from our Infection Control team as well as front-line staff ensured that care was delivered in the safest way possible.

As the summer season approaches, there is still evidence of COVID-19 in our community; LWDH will maintain policies related to masking, visitor restrictions as well as screening protocols in place to reduce the likelihood of COVID-19 spread to patients in our care.

Like other health organizations across the country, the last year of the pandemic has resulted in unprecedented staffing turnover and resultant staffing shortages which are impacting health service delivery.

LWDH continues to experience staffing shortages in most patient care departments, and we anticipate challenges over the summer months, as our seasonal surge of summer residents and tourists will coincide with staffing shortages. Aggressive recruitment efforts for all staff are ongoing, with agency nursing staff from remote locations augmenting local staff in the short-term to help stabilize services.

There is a collaboration with local health care providers to apply for funding for additional staffing to operate an urgent care clinic in the community.

**OPERATIONS UPDATE CONTINUED:** Renovations are ongoing at LWDH, to ensure that our patients and staff have patient care spaces that are functional, have good patient flow and proper supports, and more privacy. The Obstetrics Ward is undergoing a small renovation to create larger labour and delivery rooms, a larger nursery, and a modern clean supply storage.

The Emergency department Phase 1 renovation has begun, with anticipated completion of the entire project by March 2023. There will be improved waiting rooms, patient treatment spaces, more patient washrooms, staff lounge and washroom, as well as space for a physician office. Improvements to the mechanical and electrical systems are foundational to this project.

The new All Nations Hospital Project has continued over the winter and spring period, with the next phase of planning – functional programming – completed. The second part of this stage will see architect involvement to further refine the preliminary design of the spaces. Stage 2 of the project is anticipated to be completed by December 2022. During this summer season, we

will be updating the public on the project, and the community project planners will visit communities to provide residents with an update on the project and the further plans for the new hospital.

The current operation of the hospital continues to evolve to ensure that patient care needs are met. The digital strategy for a single electronic health record for our community is in development, with the hospital a key stakeholder in this work.

Additional surgical procedures and visiting specialist clinics are planned in the near future, in order to provide care closer to home for our patients. This is especially important as the health system recovers from delays in treatment due to the COVID-19 response.

The LWDH staff and Board of Directors continue to support the work of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation, as we look to the future.

**Together we can do so much!**

## NEW HOSPITAL PROJECT TIMELINE



## ELDER / TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE KEEPER ENGAGEMENT:

Together with Kenora Chiefs Advisory (KCA) and Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig (WNHAC), Lake of the Woods District Hospital held an engagement session focused on the new hospital project March 24, 2022 on Wauzhusk Onigum First Nation. Held at the community's beautiful roundhouse, the session was attended by a number of elders, traditional knowledge keepers from throughout the Kenora area, staff from KCA, WNHAC and LWDH and Matthew Bowering from LM Architectural Group.

Facilitated remotely by the All Nations Hospital Project consultant team and supported by the KCA, WNHAC and LWDH team onsite, presentations were given on the project followed by break-out sessions focused on brainstorming ideas for space, site, and service delivery. Important discussion took place not only on what might be needed in terms of inclusive physical spaces but also how to enhance service delivery for Indigenous peoples both in the new hospital and current operations.

The ideas shared were compiled and will be used to inform the next stage of planning for the new hospital. The session was also an important recruitment opportunity for the upcoming LWDH Indigenous Advisory Council.

All in attendance were treated to a soup and bannock lunch, catered locally. Opening and closing prayers and drumming was offered by a local group and for many, we observed for the first time, a gifting dance to close the day. It was shared that the purpose of the song was a reminder to attendees to carry forward the information they received today with their peers.

**STAY UP TO DATE!**  
Follow your hospital  
on social media:





## HOSPITAL STAFF DONOR SPOTLIGHT: BROCK CHISHOLM

Many of us know Brock Chisholm from his role as the Manager of the LWDH Rehab Department since March 1, 1993, a day that he won't forget as it happened to be the day his nephew was born at Lake of the Woods District Hospital! Brock has been a donor to our hospital Foundation since that first eventful day and explains why "I recognize the importance of what the Foundation does. Donating to the hospital that I work in and knowing that the donation will buy equipment that will daily help my fellow employees to work more easily and safely and may one day help me or my family with our health care, is kind of an easy and sensible decision."

When asked if he had a story to share of how the hospital or foundation has impacted his family he shared "More than I can mention. Myself and half my family works in the hospital so the Foundation purchases affect my and their ability to provide care. From a patient perspective, my daughter was born in the new LWDHF-funded maternity rooms in 1995 (Polkaroo in attendance for the grand opening), countless visits to ER (having two growing children, aging parents and in-laws and my father was supported through his cancer journey and death in our hospital. I've also had

my share of surgeries and investigations – all with Foundation provided equipment and resources."

In addition to supporting by way of payroll deductions, Brock sat as a Director on the LWDH Foundation Board of Directors for over a decade. "When I was approached to sit on the Board, I felt it was a good opportunity to enhance the relationships between the hospital and the foundation. This relationship has blossomed and as we move to a new build campaign while still trying to keep this old building functional, that symbiotic partnership between the hospital and the foundation will be more important than ever."

The Foundation team has worked hard over the years to raise funds to buy equipment that can change lives. From fun hockey and golf tournaments, gala dinners, teddy bear picnics and planned giving to the 50/50 raffle, there are ways for everyone to get involved. Brock will tell you his favourite LWDHF event was always the Children's Teddy Bear picnic. "It was always amazing to see the innovative things our staff came up with (like the Teddy bear CT) and to see how much fun the kids had. I hope we can bring it back soon."

# Women in Medicine

## Dr. Shannon Wiebe, ER Physician of the Year

Kenora's own Dr. Shannon Wiebe, recently nominated by her peers, has been recognized as the 2022 Ontario Rural ER Physician of the Year. These distinguished awards are coordinated by the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) and recognize excellence in specific areas within emergency medicine, including advocacy, education, research, and professional practice.

Dr. Wiebe is a busy family doctor, who regularly works in the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Emergency Department, covers her own patients when they are admitted to the hospital and also works as a hospitalist, has nursing home patients, provides cancer care and has also recently taken on a leadership role with the hospital on the Medical Quality Assurance Committee.



Ray Racette, LWDH President & CEO shares;

*"Dr. Wiebe was born and raised in Kenora and it is more than evident to her patients and colleagues that she immensely cares for this community. We are incredibly fortunate to have physicians like Dr. Wiebe committed to providing amazing care here."*

Dr. Wiebe is a busy mom to two children and was the only female award recipient this year. Dr. Sarah Giles talks about her colleague;

*"I have had the privilege of knowing Shannon since residency. I have always looked up to her. She provides world-class care, is organized, has a huge heart, and does so many things that keep the doors open on the hospital."*

The Emergency Department at LWDH provides 24-hour, 365 days a year care to over 20,000 persons each year requiring immediate or urgent assessment, diagnosis and treatment for injury and / or illness. LWDH has had three doctors receive the ER Physician of the Year award in the past five years, including Dr. Sean Moore and Dr. Sarah Giles.

**WOMEN IN MEDICINE CAMPAIGN:** There are many amazing women practicing medicine and supporting the medical profession in Kenora. These women are leaders, care givers, change makers, community volunteers and more. This article launches a new LWDH campaign intended to celebrate some incredible women and their achievements. If you have a story idea, please submit to [ckissick@lwdh.on.ca](mailto:ckissick@lwdh.on.ca).



**Please give to help keep our hospital equipped for every precious moment.**

Visit **[www.lwdhf.com/donate-now](http://www.lwdhf.com/donate-now)** to make an online donation or, complete and mail the form below.

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Hospital Foundation

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CC #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

CVV: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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