


Our Pulse

Fall/Winter 2019



L-R: Dr. Paul McKenzie, Leanne Kinvig, patient Ken Wipf, Darlene Potter, Patti Shaw, Thelma Floyd, Leah Jackson, Maria Wojcik, Dr. Phil Urness.  GBP Creative Media

The best care every time

Highlights from this year at Yukon's hospitals

Every year, the Yukon Hospital Corporation reports to Yukoners in its Year in Review. This report shares snapshots of where we've been and where we're headed in the future as we continue to deliver safe and excellent hospital care.

Here are some highlights:

- Improving quality and ensuring timely test results. In late 2018, we started sending routine microbiology samples to our health system partner, St. Paul's Hospital, in Vancouver. This ensured we could maintain the high quality of testing required of hospital labs
- Using all beds and resources in our hospital system to ensure safe and timely access to care for Yukoners when and where they need it
- Advancing educational opportunities for staff and physicians by opening a state-of-the-art Clinical Simulation Centre with support of the Yukon Hospital Foundation
- Strengthening the ways we protect patient privacy by ensuring we collect and share information safely and securely
- Consistently asking for feedback from those who matter most: our patients. We seek to understand how patients experience our hospitals and how our staff provides care
- Fostering a safe care environment by preventing falls, closely monitoring medication administration and preventing the spread of infections
- Conducting our 10,000th MRI scan using the first MRI north of 60




 GBP Creative Media

Improving Yukoners' access to ophthalmology care

As Yukon's population ages, demand for some specialized health services increases. Last year, upwards of 350 Yukoners were waiting for cataract surgery, and some wait times were approaching three years.

Cataracts, a clouding of the lens in the eye that leads to a decrease in vision, affect Yukoners' quality of life. With cataracts, you can't drive. You might see faded colours, experience blurry or double vision, and struggle with bright lights and seeing at night.



 GBP Creative Media



In partnership and with the support of Government of Yukon's Department of Health and Social Services, the hospital team developed a plan in late 2018 designed to decrease the wait time for consultations, treatment and cataract surgery provided by visiting ophthalmologists. For this plan to succeed, the hospital had to substantially increase the frequency of specialist visits to Whitehorse, and facilitate a collaborative effort by our ophthalmology/visiting specialist clinic, operating room and support services staff to increase the volume of specialized cataract surgeries—all while ensuring other emergency and elective surgeries continued as scheduled.

We remain on track to have 520 surgeries completed by the end of 2019.

“From January to September, 2019, our teams completed 508 cataract surgeries. By comparison, we completed 240 in all of 2018.”

Planning for a seamless care journey enabled by one health information network for all Yukoners

Our staff and physicians use an information system called Meditech to manage patient health information, scan and archive data, and purchase medical supplies, but our version of this system is nearly 30 years old.

With support and commitment from the Government of Yukon, we partnered with the Department of Health and Social Services to begin building and implementing a new version of Meditech in our hospitals. This is the first step toward creating a shared, modern system across Yukon.

The new system, called 1Health, will allow Yukon's authorized health practitioners to be instantly and securely connected in the territory.

1Health will mean more health system-wide consistency and standardization, which will lead to improved quality and health outcomes. A modern system will also mean Yukon can adopt newer technology, point-of-care systems like bar code scanning to ensure safer medication administration, and a patient portal where Yukoners can securely access their own health

information. Whenever and wherever someone accesses care in Yukon, their health information will be easily and securely accessible by any authorized care provider.

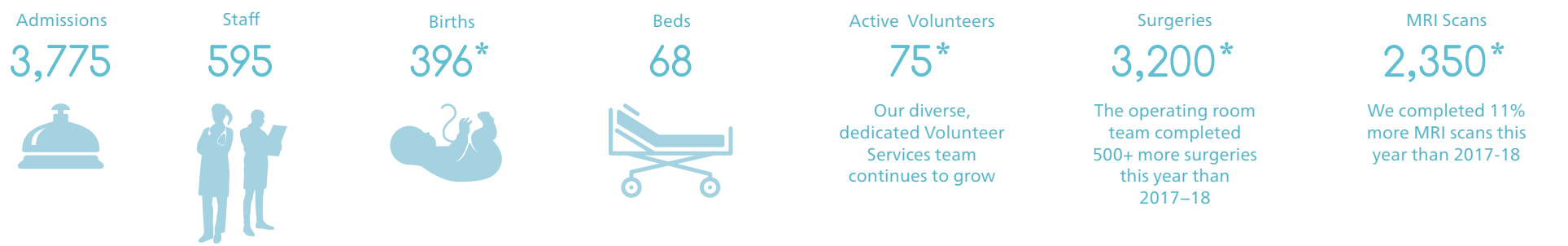
We are working with the Government of Yukon, our staff and physicians to build, test, implement, and train on the new 1Health system. Beginning with Yukon's hospitals and some of Yukon's health centres, the first elements of the modernized system are expected to go live in late 2020.



By the numbers:

Yukon’s hospitals (for the year ending March 31, 2019)

Yukon’s hospitals provide a wide range of health services to Yukoners 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Here’s an overview of the past year.



Our hospitals experienced increases in imaging, laboratory and specialist visits, and saw a steady pace of chemotherapy, physio/occupational therapy and emergency visits over the past year. These trends are on par with the population’s needs and Yukon Hospitals’ high standards of care.



*Service available at Whitehorse General Hospital only.

Helpful tips to stay healthy during flu season

With influenza (the flu) season upon us, your doctor’s office, health centre or hospitals could be busier than usual. The flu is a serious, highly contagious lung infection caused by different viruses. It can be spread through coughing, sneezing and by touching contaminated surfaces.

Most healthy people recover from influenza within 7-10 days, but pregnant women, children, infants, people over age 65, and those with chronic diseases are more prone to severe complications such as pneumonia.

Each year in Canada, influenza causes over 12,000 hospitalizations and 3,500 deaths. Use these simple steps to stay healthy, limit your risk and avoid having to seek medical care.

Get the free flu shot

An annual flu shot is the most effective way to protect yourself and those around you. Yukon provides free flu shots. While you might experience some discomfort from the flu shot, it won’t give you the flu.



Find a full list of immunization clinics in Yukon at www.yukonimmunization.ca.

Practice good hygiene

Wash your hands often with soap and warm water or alcohol-based hand rubs. Cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue to help stop the spread of germs.



Stay home

If you experience the flu or flu-like symptoms, stay home. Take time to rest, stay hydrated, and avoid close contact with others to prevent spreading your illness. Medication may help reduce fever and body aches.



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Message from the Chair of Yukon Hospitals’ Board of Trustees

Every journey through the health care system is unique. At Yukon Hospitals, we continue to be as proactive as possible to meet the needs of all Yukoners who enter our facilities, while also ensuring we meet and respond to unique health needs of all communities.

Our health system operates in a rapidly changing environment because the needs of those we serve and care for are always evolving. With our population growing and aging at a steady rate, we have to meet today’s needs while also planning and preparing for what’s going to happen in the future.

In addition to being as proactive as possible, we continue to increase the ways we collaborate closely with community partners. Our state-of-the-art hospitals are part of a strong network of care providers that includes physicians, first responders, public health, continuing care and home care, among others. Together, we share a common objective of ensuring Yukoners can access the care they need when and where they need it.

In Whitehorse, we recently opened a brand new Clinical Simulation Centre after a successful two-year fundraising campaign by the Yukon Hospital Foundation. This state-of-the-

art training facility will help expand the skills and capability of staff and physicians in our hospitals and in the broader Yukon health care community. This is part of how we ensure our hospitals keep up to date with best practices and equipment, while also strengthening our staff’s communication and teamwork skills.

We’re striving to secure funding to develop a new Secure Medical Unit in the shelled space above the Emergency Department, while also making continuous smaller renovations to increase our capacity to care for more patients.

Our community hospitals continue to serve as true health service hubs—facilities where our team and partners work together to meet a range of community health needs. Yukoners in and around Dawson City and Watson Lake have access to 24/7 emergency care, laboratory and diagnostic imaging services, medical clinics, and mental health and wellness services.

On the people front, we continue to work with system partners to recruit health professionals to Yukon. While Yukoners know how incredible it is to live and work here, we work hard to share this story beyond the territory to attract, recruit and retain health care professionals.

This requires planning and working with our partners in the Department of Health and Social Services to ensure the health system works as one to attract top talent—from specialized nursing disciplines, to technical professions such as information technology, and many others.

While we operate in an environment of unlimited need and limited resources, our commitment to providing safe and excellent hospital care does not change.

Are there challenges ahead? Of course. But with each challenge, there are opportunities for Yukon’s hospitals to grow and improve as we find innovative ways to address them.

We’re excited to continue this journey with Yukoners and look forward to meeting the needs of our patients and communities in the coming year.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Yukon’s hospitals, and thank you to our dedicated staff, community, government and health system partners, donors and patients for joining us on our journey toward providing the best care every time.



Brian Gillen, Chair
Board of Trustees
Yukon Hospital Corporation

Helping you leave the hospital safely and smoothly

When Yukoners need a hospital bed, they expect one to be available.

When Yukoners need a hospital bed, they expect one to be available. The hospital is the best place to receive acute care, but once a patient’s needs are no longer immediate, health outcomes are better in care settings beyond the hospital.

In recent years, Whitehorse General

Hospital (WGH) was challenged when the facility operated at or above 100% capacity. When this happened, there were more patients than beds.

While we still experience pressures (and as a result patients could be held in the Emergency Department before being

transferred to an inpatient room, or elective surgeries could be delayed), in the past year, occupancy rates at WGH have trended below those of previous years. Alternate level of care (ALC) rates, which reflect patients who would experience better outcomes in more appropriate care facilities, have also improved.

These positive trends are the result of Whistle Bend Place opening, new continuing care beds in Thomson Centre and our continuous efforts to utilize every available resource in our hospital system.

From the moment a patient enters our care to when they’re discharged, hospital staff and physicians work closely with system partners to assess which supports are needed to help patients return home or move to another, more appropriate place of care.

This team meets daily and includes everyone in a patient’s care journey—from physicians, nurses, social workers, First Nations Health Programs, and medical rehabilitation services, to community partners like public health, continuing care and home care.

In 2017-18, a bed wasn’t available at WGH more than 50% of the time. Over 2018-19, we have almost cut that number in half.

Our goal is to decrease the number of patients in hospital awaiting another level of care to 10%. In 2017, more than 30% of patient days in WGH were for these patients. Last year, it was just 18.5%.

The multi-disciplinary team meets daily to manage patient flow and ensure patients receive the care they need while in hospital and when they’re ready to leave. L–R: Claire Lindsay (Physiotherapist), Benita Warford (Registered Nurse/Clinical Nurse Leader), Keith Welch (Clinical Care Manager), Teri Lindsay (Manager, First Nations Health Programs), Hayley Henderson (Social Worker), Lisa Robertson (Community Liaison Coordinator, Occupational Therapist), Heidi Foley, (Licensed Practical Nurse).

They track every patient’s needs, bed utilization, and all available resources in our hospitals to ensure everyone knows what kinds of post-hospital care a patient might need, and when they’re likely to need it.

Their increased communication and collaboration has improved our ability to provide safe care while limiting impacts on other services during periods of sustained pressure.

Community meals project delivers for Watson Lake elders

What began as a joint solution between Liard First Nation (LFN) and Watson Lake Community Hospital (WLCH) to meet a unique community need has grown into a partnership that puts the concept of community collaboration into action.

In late 2018, it came to the attention of the community some Elders were having difficulty accessing hot, nutritious meals, especially on weekends. Carol Chiasson, Director, Patient Care and Experience at WLCH and Sonia Pourabdi-Laukkanen, Health Manager at LFN, acted quickly to create a frozen meal program, which now delivers hundreds of nutritious meals each month directly from the WLCH kitchen to over 40 LFN Elders.

“Nutrition is an important part of health and healing,” says Pourabdi-Laukkanen. “These are delicious, healthy meals tailored to the needs of each Elder that help improve health outcomes, increase Elders’ independence and help them rely less on hospital care.”



🗣 Gladys Meinema, WLCH Cook

Quick action led to the program’s success. All meals are prepared and cooked by hospital staff. Because fresh meals spoil quickly, and quickly frozen meals lose flavour and nutritional value, Liard First Nation purchased and installed a blast chiller in the hospital’s kitchen. This meant meals could be quickly and safely chilled before being frozen and still taste great.

The program has delivered thousands of meals to Elders, many of whom might face mobility challenges or prefer or require minced or puréed foods.

“Community feedback has been incredibly positive,” says Jason Bilsky, CEO, Yukon Hospitals. “The success of the frozen meals program shows our community hospitals can be more than acute care centres—they’re key partners in Yukon’s health system that respond to unique community needs.”



🗣 Bev Lister (WLCH Cook), Venus Abou (LFN Home Support), Margaret Charlie (LFN Home Support)

Breaking language barriers to boost patient comfort and improve care

In partnership with the Yukon Government, we continue improving our capacity to actively offer services to patients in both official languages.

We also introduced a language services program to provide patients, staff and physicians with 24/7 immediate access to expert medical interpretation services online, by telephone, or in person

in over 240 other languages, including American Sign Language.

Staff and physicians in the Emergency Department and other patient care areas have an “Interpreter on Wheels” for video calls with an interpreter. All other units and departments needing interpreter services, including our Community Hospitals in Dawson City and Watson Lake, have

dedicated mobile phones, or a landline can be used.

In just a few moments, an interpreter will be on the line to speak with the patient and their care provider. Medical interpreters have extensive training and education in medical terminology and procedures to ensure clear, concise, accurate communication with patients.



🗣 Left: An “Interpreter on Wheels” instantly connects patients and care providers with expert medical interpreters in over 240 languages. Right: Stephanie Jensen, a Registration Clerk at WGH, demonstrates how to connect with an interpreter.

Improving our capacity to provide safe and secure medical care

Yukon Hospitals continues its detailed planning to build a new Secure Medical Unit (SMU) in the shelled space above the Whitehorse General Hospital Emergency Department.

The current SMU is a controlled environment in our inpatient unit that offers a safe, secure place for patients with a mental health diagnosis (often in an acute phase of illness) to receive medical care. The SMU offers 24-hour patient observation, care and support.

To meet immediate and future needs for patients who require secure care, we plan to build a new, larger SMU with higher quality spaces and enhanced programming that will help improve patient outcomes. Moving the SMU to a new, larger space would also make room for several more inpatient beds.

Enhancing patient care and healing with traditional foods

Our hospitals’ Traditional Food Program recently celebrated its 25th year. Based on a shared understanding that traditional food is an important part of First Nations culture, the program helps facilitate reconciliation, support health and healing, and foster pride between patients and community partners.

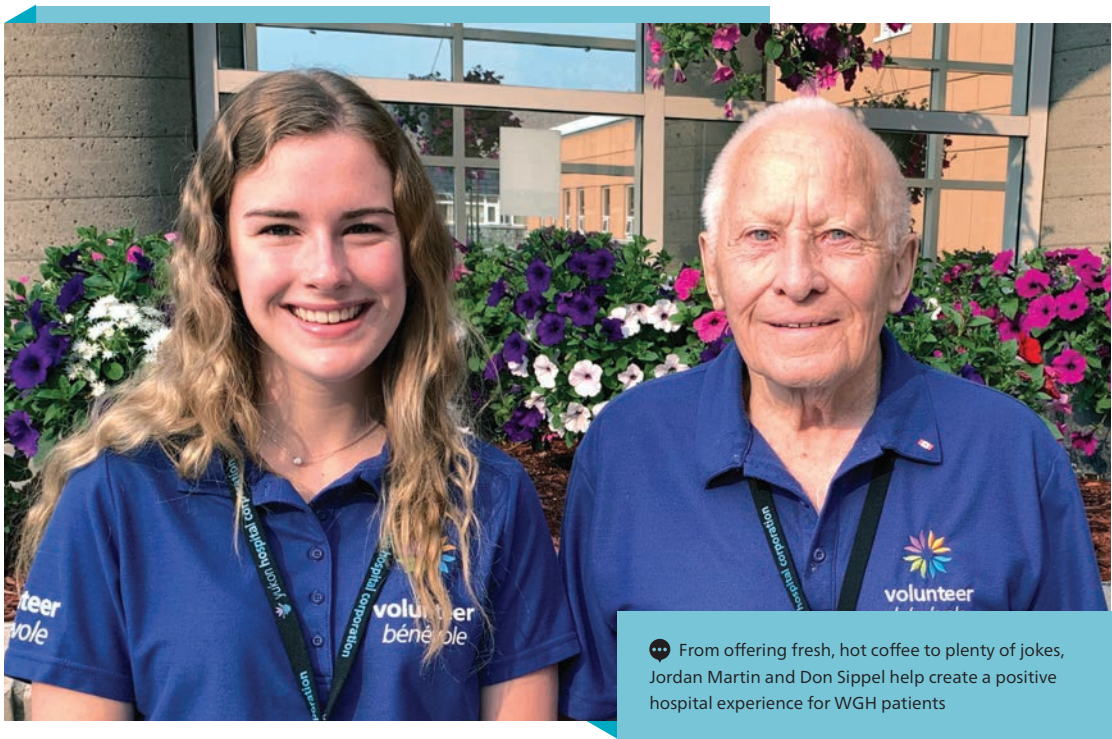
highlighted as a leader among health providers and hospitals at a national conference of Canada’s dietitians.

View the full poster and learn more about the program at www.yukonhospitals.ca/yukon-hospital-corporation/traditional-food-program

This year, the program worked with local artist Monika Melnychuk to share the importance of traditional food in the healing process, and show how we offer this service with the help of many community partners. The program was also



🗣 Serving Traditional Foods Together with Community Partners, by Monika Melnychuk



Make a difference in our community! Volunteer at Whitehorse General Hospital.

Volunteers are a valued part of the Yukon Hospitals team. Their compassionate service, care and dedication enhance the hospital experience for patients and visitors.

From the Morning Brew Crew to Friendly Visitors, we offer a variety of opportunities for volunteers to connect with patients and family members, offer directions and information, and enrich the high quality care provided by our of professional staff.

Meet some elite volunteers

Whitehorse General Hospital’s Volunteer Services Program consists of a diverse team, but all members share a passion for helping create a positive hospital experience for patients. Learn about Don Sippel and Jordan Martin and their experiences volunteering. Interviews conducted Summer 2019.

How long have you been a volunteer?

Jordan: A little over one month.
Don: About five months here, but I’ve volunteered lots in the past, including with Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Yukon.

Which volunteer role(s) do you perform?

Jordan: The Morning Brew Crew. I deliver fresh, hot coffee and tea to patients in WGH’s inpatient units.
Don: I work at the Welcome Desk and in the Emergency Department Waiting Room. I enjoy both!

What do you enjoy most about this role or volunteering in general?

Jordan: It’s a great segue into meeting new people, breaking the ice and building friendly relationships. People are so happy to have fresh, hot coffee delivered in the morning. They say “it’s so good—I was waiting for the good coffee to come around!”
Don: I always come prepared with jokes to get some big smiles, and I give big smiles back. When you see long faces turn into smiles—whether they’re kids, adults, bedridden, anything—it’s great to cheer them up. A big smile is worth 10 Aspirin, or more!

What do you find challenging about volunteering?

Jordan: The toughest part is having a relationship end, whether the patient is transferred or goes home, and not getting to say goodbye. I’m so happy for them if they got to go home, but I’ll miss seeing them.
Don: Nothing. Whatever I do, I try to benefit everybody. I like to smile, and I never get mad. To me, giving back and being friendly is second nature. It all comes easily.

Does your experience volunteering help you in work or school, or in your life outside the hospital?

Jordan: It’s an eye-opening experience. Everyone comes from a different place and perspective. I hope to work in a medical setting, too, so it’s a great experience seeing the systems and operations of a hospital.
Don: I like to be happy. All the time. Volunteering and helping people, especially in this setting, encourages me to do that here and outside. There’s not enough happiness in the world so it applies as much here as it does out there.

How did you find out about the Volunteer Services Program?

Jordan: My Aunt, Dr. Becky Barnes, recommended it to me.
Don: I heard about the program a while ago from friends but I couldn’t volunteer at the time. Once I could, I checked it out and I was impressed.

What are your hobbies and interests outside volunteering?

Jordan: I enjoy the outdoors—mountain biking, hiking, paddling—and spending time with friends and family, just getting to know people. Whitehorse is a great place to enjoy all of these hobbies!
Don: Gardening and playing cards. But I don’t gamble. I play cards every day, usually euchre and golf.

What would you tell Yukoners interested in the WGH Volunteer Services Program?

Jordan: You think it’s to help others, but it ends up helping you! It’s definitely worth taking the time to check out and you’ll gain much more from it than you think.
Don: It’s really rewarding. You get to help people who might be sad, or not feeling well, so anything you can do to help them, that’s what we need—just the joy of doing something good for someone.

To volunteer or learn more about the program:



Call 867-393-8673



Email volunteer@wgh.yk.ca



Start your application online at www.yukonhospitals.ca/volunteer

Visiting the hospital?

Use these tips to make your visit as smooth as possible.

- Arrive early to park and find your way.
- Let us know as early as possible if you can’t make it. This helps us use time and resources to provide care to others.
- Bring any appointment document(s) you received.
- Bring your Yukon Health Care Card.
 - If you’re new to the Yukon, or have questions regarding your Yukon Health Care Card, call 867-667-5209 or stop by the Insured Health Services office at 204 Lambert Street (4th floor) in Whitehorse to register with Yukon Insured Health.
- Ensure your Yukon Health Care Card is up to date.
 - Insured Health Services needs to have your updated address and phone number. If you recently moved or changed your number, let them know. Email Yukon.Healthcare@gov.yk.ca or call 867-667-5209.

Managing staffing challenges to ensure the continuity of care

Recruiting and retaining skilled health professionals is a well-documented challenge across Canada. In northern locations, it can be even tougher to recruit and retain staff, especially when it comes to specialty nurses who need opportunities to maintain and grow their specialized skillsets.

While vacancies at Yukon Hospitals ebb and flow, as one hospital system, we must ensure care is available for Yukoners when and where they need it. We continue to bridge occasional gaps by utilizing staff across all three hospital sites to maintain the availability of all services, and we use staffing models that provide an appropriate skill mix to ensure safe and excellent patient care.

In the past year, we have:

- Added 16 new nursing positions in our effort to ensure Yukoners can access care when and where they need it from the most appropriate health care provider.
- Expanded our Licensed Practical Nurse base staffing numbers through training and educational opportunities.
- Added to our skill mix and created opportunities for locally-trained hospital care attendants (HCAs) by introducing new HCA positions at Whitehorse General Hospital. HCAs, who can train at Yukon College, support nurses and increase the time nurses have to focus on specialized patient care.
- Added new permanent Operating Room and Secure Medical Unit nurse positions. We also hired four permanent Post-Anesthesia Care nurses. These specialty

- nurses help patients recover from more complex surgeries and procedures.
- Introduced a quality improvement program to enhance the skills and teamwork of Yukon’s obstetrical care teams.
- Strengthened our collaborative recruitment efforts with the Government of Yukon.
- Hired two Advanced Care Paramedics (ACPs) as front line health providers at Watson Lake Community Hospital. ACPs are trained with advanced skills that give them a broad scope of practice. This allows them to perform many medical interventions and treatments for a wide range of patients and conditions.
- Recruited casual/term nurses and agency/contract nurses as required.

Our Pulse

Fall/Winter 2019

life is worth giving...

'Tis the season of giving

Join us for the 2019 Northwestel Festival of trees!

Every year, we gather to celebrate the holiday season and help support the care provided in Yukon's hospitals.


We have an exciting series of festive events planned to bring our community together in the spirit of giving as part of the 2019 Northwestel Festival of Trees.

This year, your continued generosity during the festival will help the Foundation close its \$1M campaign to fund Yukon Hospitals' Clinical Simulation Centre and support the purchase of new 3D mammography equipment.



Together, we support those who support us when we need safe and excellent care.



 Archbould Photography

Goldcorp BAH Humbug Cocktail Party

📅 Thursday, November 21, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

📍 Yukon Government, Main Administration Building, Foyer

🎟 By donation

Help launch the 2019 Festival of Trees with a business-after-hours cocktail party.

Skookum Asphalt Santa Breakfast

📅 Saturday, November 23, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

📍 Yukon Government, Main Administration Building, Foyer

🎟 \$5 at the door

Enjoy a pancake breakfast and photos with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. We'll have a photographer present, but please feel free to take your own photos, too!

Air North cookies and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus

📅 Tuesday, November 26, 2:00 – 5:30 PM

📍 Yukon Government, Main Administration Building, Foyer

🎟 Suggested donation of \$5

Join us for a Yukon-famous warm Air North cookie and have your photo taken with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. We'll have a photographer present, but please feel free to take your own photos, too!

Public viewing of festival trees

📅 November 21 – 26, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM daily

📍 Yukon Government, Main Administration Building, Foyer

🎟 Free

Bring your family and friends for a stroll through the glittering display of trees.

Save-On-Foods Seniors Soirée

📅 Friday, November 29, 6:00 PM

📍 Yukon Convention Centre – Coast High Country Inn

🎟 Sold out

Enjoy an elegant night with a buffet dinner, silent auction, raffle, and dancing until the wee hours.

Alkan Air Grand Ball

📅 Saturday, November 30, 6:00 PM

📍 Yukon Convention Centre – Coast High Country Inn

🎟 Sold out

Yukon's most prestigious annual gala. Enjoy an elegant Champagne Reception, live and silent auctions of the lavishly-decorated Christmas trees, cocktails at the Martini Bar, a sumptuous gourmet dinner, decadent dessert, and dancing to live entertainment.

Message from the Board Chair of the Yukon Hospital Foundation

Help bring the very best health care closer to home.

As the new Chair of the Yukon Hospital Foundation, I consider it an honour to participate in the work of the Foundation, in part because it provides an opportunity to work with an excellent Board and to communicate the ways the Foundation is enabling Yukoners to contribute to our excellent health care here at home.

The Foundation has a long history of working in collaboration with individuals, businesses, community organizations and government bodies to improve the quality of health care and build Hospitals that are responsive to our needs.

The impacts of the work of the Foundation are visible. I have benefitted personally when I recently needed medical imagery to prepare for a procedure. A decade ago, that would have required a trip outside. Today, I can do that during a coffee break. Other positive

impacts were realized during the birth of our first grandchild and in the excellent care my in-laws received as they neared the end of their lives.

I encourage you to get involved, contribute your time, provide financial support and help make a difference by bringing the very best health care for Yukoners closer to home. I wish you and your family a happy holiday season filled with joy and meaning.



Sincerely,
Mel Johnson, Chair
Yukon Hospital Foundation

Celebrating the opening of Yukon Hospitals' Clinical Simulation Centre

State-of-the-art facility will help Yukon's health providers learn and practice new techniques.

Reflecting the growing importance and value of patient simulation in health care, the Yukon Hospitals Clinical Simulation Centre (Sim Lab) opened in September 2019 at Whitehorse General Hospital (WGH). This facility will help Yukon's nurses, physicians and first responders expand their skills and capabilities.

The Yukon Hospital Foundation's two-year fundraising campaign toward \$1 million supports the purchase of high-fidelity manikins and lab equipment, renovation of a designated suite in WGH and operating costs. The Sim Lab allows Yukon Hospitals to integrate simulation into educational and professional development opportunities.

"Continuing educational opportunities are important to staff and physicians, and this will enhance health care in our community," says Karen Forward, President, Yukon Hospital Foundation. "The best way for staff to respond calmly in emergency situations is to be well-trained so they feel confident providing the best possible diagnosis and treatment outcomes."

In the Sim Lab, realistic simulations by anatomically accurate manikins mimic a wide array of real-life conditions and symptoms. The life-like manikins can breathe, speak, cough and moan, and scenarios can be controlled in real-time by instructors on a nearby computer.

Participants use real medical equipment, which allows for valuable hands-on practice with labour and delivery, resuscitation and advanced life support, managing heart attacks, respiratory emergencies, allergic reactions, and more.

Research shows simulation training is equivalent to clinical training, and makes it easier for clinicians to learn new skills, improve their competency and prepare for less frequent, high acuity care scenarios. This allows Yukon's health providers to learn new techniques and practice skills to stay current with injuries or illnesses they might not see on a regular basis.



L-R (above): Jan Rossiter (Education and Technical Services Specialist), Claire Hills and Sarah Harrison (Clinical Nurse Educators), Karen Forward (President, YHF), Joanne Pare (Clinical Nurse Educator)



Board of Directors

The Yukon Hospital Foundation's volunteer Board of Directors provides direction to the YHF President to help provide Yukon residents with the very best health care possible, right here, closer to home.

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Business Affiliation: Yukon Hospital Corporation
- Dr. Alex Poole** / Ex-Officio
Business Affiliation: Yukon Medical Association

Thank you!

Together, we supported the health and well-being of fellow Yukoners. Yukon Hospital Foundation works year-round through monthly giving as well as legacy, memorial and tribute gifts. We also host a variety of fun events throughout the year to help us support and advance the high quality of health services in Yukon's hospitals.



Skookum Asphalt Charity Pro-Am golf tournament celebrates 10th anniversary

On July 13, the 10th Annual Skookum Asphalt Charity Pro-Am raised over \$45,000.

Forest fire smoke and forecasted rain showers didn't stop 96 players from Yukon, British Columbia and Alberta, 16 professional golfers from the Canadian Professional Golfers' Association (CPGA) and more than two dozen volunteers from enjoying a day of good golf, great food and fun competition at Mountain View Golf Club.

Amateur golf teams including 18 golf pros joined forces for a great day of golf, followed by a banquet dinner and live auction.

Team Pacific Northwest (Sheldon King, Troy Cairns, Jaimie Cairns, and professional Kent Fukushima) took first place, winning round trip airline tickets donated by Air North, Yukon's Airline. Thanks to all sponsors, players, volunteers and professionals who have helped make this tournament such a success over the past decade. Together you've helped the Yukon Hospital Foundation raise and invest over \$550,000 in Whitehorse General Hospital!

Teddy Bear Clinic

Over 300 people (and teddy bears, elephants, bunnies and even an alligator) attended our annual Teddy Bear Clinic at Whitehorse General Hospital.

The clinic is a true community and family event which encourages young Yukoners to bring their stuffed toys to the hospital for a check-up. Many of our doctors, nurses and technologists give their time to ensure all teddies are in the very best of health. The event helps make the hospital a friendlier, less scary experience for little ones.



Yukoners Cancer Care Fund

Since 2014, the Yukoners Cancer Care Fund has assisted 207 Yukoners with a one-time grant to help cover some of the expenses related to cancer diagnosis and treatment.

- Denim Day participants helped raise over \$10,000
- Klondike Spirit Paddlewheeler cruise raised over \$12,000. A special evening was held featuring a riverboat cruise with entertainment.
- Stix Together – Paddle in Yukon River Quest raised \$20,000. Stix Together paddled in this year's Yukon River Quest and raised \$20,000 for a grand total of nearly \$50,000 in the last four years! Donate any time at www.stixtogether.ca to help them make life a little bit easier for Yukon patients and families affected by cancer.



Make a difference. Have fun. Volunteer with the Yukon Hospital Foundation!

Volunteers are the heart of the Foundation. They help make every event a success. Whether it's for an hour or a day, your gift of time, effort and enthusiasm makes a significant contribution to our hospitals and supports the delivery of safe and excellent care.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact **Karen Forward** at Karen.Forward@wgh.yk.ca or 867-393-8930.

