

EMERGENCY

Heartbeat of the Hat

2026 | Community Publication



Medicine Hat
Health Foundation

At the Heart of it All

As we step fully into our 30th year, we at the Medicine Hat Health Foundation are delighted to bring you another edition of Heartbeat of the Hat. Thank you for being a part of our journey, and for the unwavering support that breathes life into our mission.

For the past 30 years, the MHHF has connected the generosity of our community to the creation of real impacts in local healthcare. From delivering mental health services and prenatal/neonatal care to supporting critical surgeries, your contributions make a powerful difference to the well-being of our neighbours and loved ones. Recently, your support of the “Home for Christmas” campaign truly warmed the halls of our hospital and uplifted all our spirits. It’s a testament to the remarkable kindness embedded in the fabric of our community.

For this year, we are focusing on putting the results of our cardiac campaign “Seconds Save Lives” into action. Since the rollout of our ambitious campaign, our community has answered the call and already donated more than \$800,000 towards our \$1.2 million goal! Your incredible donations have allowed us to replace essential cardiac monitors in the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital ICU – and we’re very close to replacing the monitors in the ED, Women’s

Maternal Health, and Surgery/Inpatient rooms, too. Seconds Save Lives is part of a wider coordinated effort to boost cardiac care across southern Alberta. In particular, we have been working closely with our friends at the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation, and together we are beyond excited to reveal the Yuill Family Foundation’s gift of \$5 million! This gift was presented at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital in June 2025, and it has helped both our Foundations reach our campaign goals!

Every day at the MHHF, we choose to spotlight the human side of our work: the community, compassion, and collective spirit we share. The Heartbeat of the Hat is a celebration of all of this. As you read through these pages, we hope you see how these things define our journey together. Thank you for being here with us – yesterday, today, and on all the days to come.

Sincerely,



Heather Bach
Executive Director



\$5 million

**Our largest gift ever was from
the Yuill Foundation**



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30 Years of Care Close to Home

Over the past 30 years, the Medicine Hat Health Foundation has remained committed to facilitating the enhancement of healthcare technology and services at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital by fostering a community of generous philanthropists. We have had many accomplishments and gone through several changes through the years, and as we look forward to 2026 with excitement for what is to come, we also look back at our foundation's key moments:



1

Our 1st ever campaign
was for electric beds

3

We hosted a radio-a-thon
for 3 years

4

We have had 4
different offices
within our hospital

In the last 30 years, we have raised over

\$23M

19

We currently have
19 Gift Shop Volunteers

10

We currently have a Board
of 10 community leaders

7

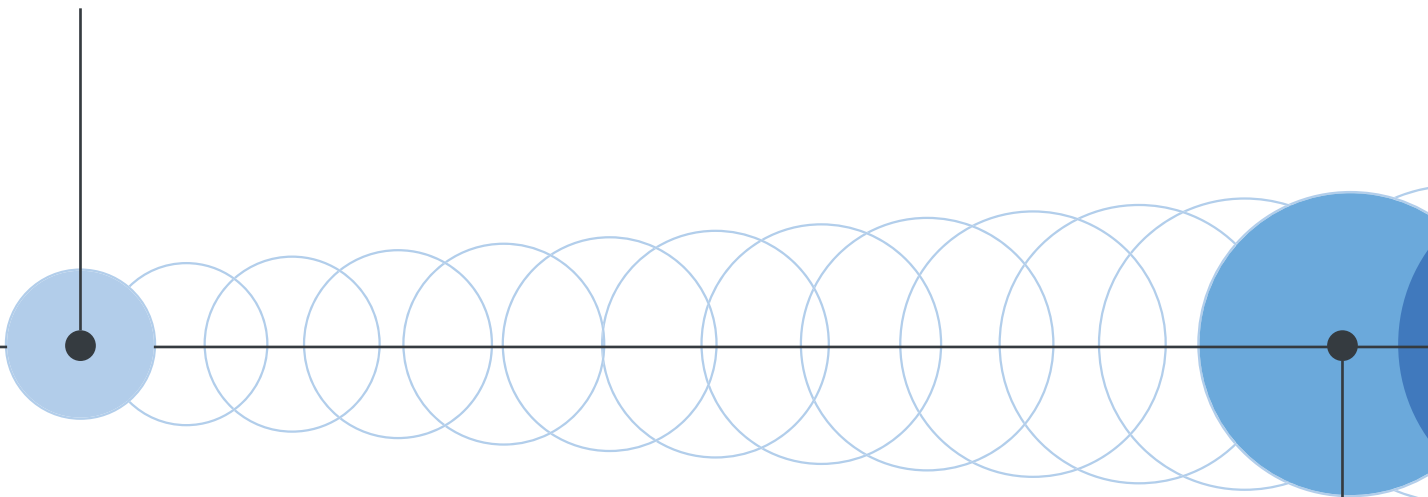
We currently have 7 employees

Your Unending Support

We've grown so much over the last 30 years. And every milestone has been made possible because of your continual generosity.

2000

We held our first 50/50



2013

We hosted a telethon for 18 years, ending in 2013

2015

We took over operation of the Gift Shop

2020

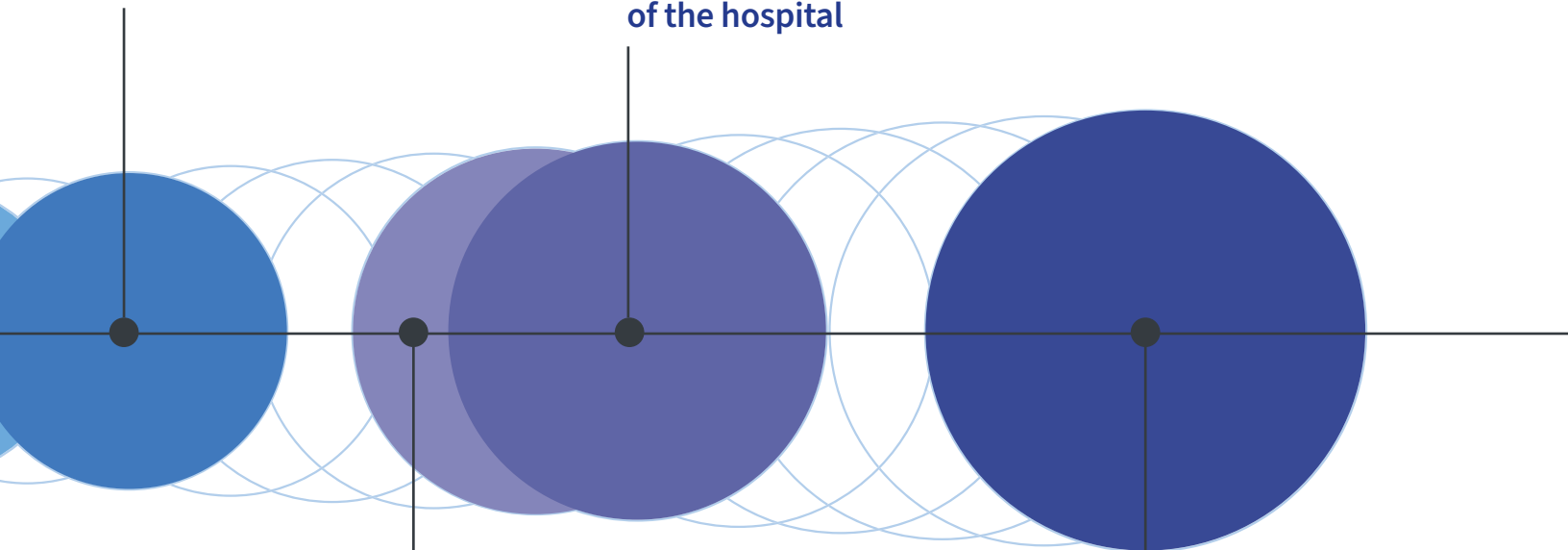
We moved into our current office in the new addition of the hospital

2019

We held our first ever Gala in April

2025

Was our strongest year for donations yet!



\$30,000+ Donors

We want to take this opportunity to thank the members of our philanthropic community who have donated \$30,000 or more to the Medicine Hat Health Foundation over the past 30 years.

Your continued support directly impacts the lives of patients at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital and makes it possible to update lifesaving equipment as well as to provide comfort toward total patient wellness.

This list does not include the numerous gifts left by private estates over the years, or donations made by those who wish to remain anonymous.

Abbott Laboratories Co.

ACT/UCT

Aecon Transportation West Ltd Employee Charitable Foundation

Al Azhar Shriners (Medicine Hat Motor Patrol) Society

Alberta Gaming & Liquor Commission

ARC Resources Ltd.

Brenda & Doug Bauman

The Book Guys

BPO Elks #412

Canadian Fertilizers Ltd

Canadian Natural Resources Limited

Friends Canadian Pacific Railway Company

Cenovus Energy Inc.

Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation

Chip in Against Cancer Golf Classic

Wai-Kwan Chow

City of Medicine Hat

Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta

Community Spirit Program

Cottonwood Livestock Ltd.

Desert Blume Golf Club

Josephine Dietrich

Drowning Ford Grazing Association

Alfred Craig Elder

EnCana Cares Foundation

Enerplus Corporation

ESI Charity Golf Tournament

Wilfred Fairhurst

Fifth Avenue Wealth Management of RBC Dominion Securities

Melvin James & Judy A Foster

The Frontline Fund

Lois Gagley

Gift Funds Canada

Government of the Province of Alberta

Patty Hanegan

Mrs. Dianne Hanson

Hargrave Ranching Co. Inc.

Harvest Moon Farm LTD

George Heidinger

Trish Helman

Hettie & Robert McLean Charitable Trust

HRJ Consulting Ltd.

Irvine & District Lions Club

The Jim Pattison Foundation

John & Mata Rinke Fund

Kinette Club of Medicine Hat

Kinsmen Club of Medicine Hat

Mr. Herold Knodel

Doreen Kuntz

Lavern & Mary Kurpuweit Fund

Dr. Judy Lee

Lifeline of Canada Holdings Ltd

Lions Club of Medicine Hat

Maple Vista Foundation

Medicine Hat & District Health Foundation Gift Shop

Medicine Hat Firefighters Charitable Foundation

Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club

Medicine Hat Royal Purple #206

Medicine Hat Shrine Club

Medicine Hat Tigers Hockey Club

Methanex Corporation

The MHRH Auxiliary Association

Michael & Josephine Dietrich Charitable Foundation

Brian & Darlene Neigum

Pancotto Enterprises Ltd.

Pat's Off-Road Transport Ltd.

Pembina Pipeline Corporation

Pipeline Grazing Co-op Ltd.

Quota International of Medicine Hat

RBC Foundation

Ronald R. Rodgers

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Canada

Rotary Club of Medicine Hat - Saamis

Rotary Club of Medicine Hat - Sunrise

Robertson Memorial Br. 17 Royal Canadian Legion

Legion Members Royal Canadian Legion Branch #6
Redcliff

Royal LePage Breast Cancer Golf Classic

Servus Credit Union

Shaw Cablesystems Ltd.

Clayton & Roxanne Sissons

South Country Co-op Limited

Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation

Strikeout Stigma

Mrs. Beryl (Tod) Styles

Suncor

Sunshine Benefit - Golf Ball Drop 2007

TELUS Communications Company

The Golden K Kiwanis Club of Medicine Hat

The Paterson Family Foundation

Tim Hortons

Tim Hortons Advertising and Promotion Fund
(Canada) Inc.

Vandean Foods Ltd.

Kathleen Williams

Yuill Family Foundation

Update to Cardiac Care

The Seconds Save Lives cardiac campaign continues to make a positive impact on the patients and staff of the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital. We had the chance to sit down with echo technician Sarah Alexander to learn more about the echocardiography services that have been made possible through the campaign.

“When the Health Foundation helped bring the echo machine here we were able to provide echocardiography services to the inpatients and emergency departments in the hospital,” says Sarah. “For myself, funding from the Medicine Hat Health Foundation has impacted us as we have one of the best machines and the best probes out there that give us fantastic imaging of the heart which is a benefit for me because it just enables me to be more accurate in my imaging and in all my measurements.

“It’s amazing – we finally, after so many years, have full cardiac care for echo in the hospital.”

We can provide the imaging to all inpatients as well as emergency patients. The ultrasound machines are portable, so we have the ability to move around the hospital for patients who can’t come down to us, especially in the ICU. They’re still able to get their imaging done so we can diagnose and streamline their cardiac care whether its medical or surgical management.

Potential donors should be aware of how great having this capability in our facility is. Cardiac care is just one avenue or leg of an overall patient diagnosis. Us being able to provide the imaging at this facility in a timely manner can really help expedite a patient’s diagnosis and we can help streamline care between our site and maybe other tertiary care facilities, whether this patient needs to travel for other imaging whether that be a cardiac MRI, a pacemaker, or even angiography. So having the imaging here can help relay that information to other facilities as well as provide our facility here with medical and surgical management. It’s just been really great for a lot of our patients because it just gives all of our physicians a good overall picture as to what’s going on in terms of their health – and especially with their cardiovascular health.”





EMS Teddy Bears

The Medicine Hat Health Foundation would like to thank Big Marble Farms for the purchase of more EMS Teddy Bears for South Zone emergency response teams. These simple gifts are a source of comfort for young children in distress.

Big Marble Farms' VP of Sales & Marketing, Jonathan Schow, felt that the initiative fit well with Big Marble's mandate for community involvement, but the EMS Bears project also struck a personal chord.

Jonathan and his family had experienced a house fire. His daughter was being dropped off at their house and discovered the smoke.

EMS responded. After Jonathan arrived, he saw that the paramedic had a teddy bear in his hands. When a correspondent from MHHF mentioned the EMS bears as a project that Big Marble could potentially get involved with, Jonathan realized he'd already personally seen the impact of the teddy bears.

"At the end of the day, we all have young kids and we're a family-oriented company," said Jonathan. "We thought if there's any way we could help families and kids to navigate the emotional struggle they might experience from these situations, we wanted to be a part of that."

The Impact of Your Donations

The Impact of Your Donations

The Medicine Hat Health Foundation's generous donors make it possible to advance the health of our community through innovation, enhancements, and accessibility to outstanding healthcare services. We want to show you the positive impact your donations make on the lives of patients at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital.

4W Blinds

Carla and Randy Adam donated funds for new blinds in the waiting room of 4W. The Adams saw a need to beautify the waiting room, having spent time there themselves, and reached out to the Foundation. Factory Blind Outlet supplied the blinds.

"The blinds are gorgeous, and we are so appreciative and grateful," says Nursing Unit Manager Sheila Burkart. "It looks like a new, updated space."

Thank you for your positive impact on 4W, and for being a part of our community.

Hip Arthroscopy Service

Thanks to the generous donations of our philanthropic community, the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital has become one of a few in Alberta to offer the hip arthroscopy service.

Hip arthroscopy is a minimally invasive surgical procedure that offers numerous benefits for patients with specific hip conditions. Because it uses small incisions and a tiny camera (arthroscope) to view and repair joint damage, patients typically experience significantly less post-operative pain, reduced scarring, and a lower risk of infection compared to traditional open hip surgery. This less invasive approach also leads to a faster recovery, allowing individuals to return to daily activities and sports more quickly. The procedure is highly effective for treating issues, which can relieve pain, improve hip function and range of motion, and potentially delay or prevent the onset of hip arthritis.



nations

Volunteer Services

Volunteer Resources was recently allocated support from Irvine Lion's Club for annual Volunteer Programs. Beautification volunteers were grateful to add some beauty to the 2N patio. Many pots were filled with beautiful flowers, and a new raised garden bed was purchased for patients to utilize through Therapeutic Recreation. This was only possible due to the support from the Foundation and the collaboration among volunteers, staff, and patients.

This summer, volunteers hit the hallways of Medicine Hat Regional Hospital with a new program: an ice cream cart! Ice cream cups were purchased through the site and delivered by volunteers who loved to see the smiles on patients' faces as they offered up a cold treat. Bingo was also offered on Unit 2N for patients that have a longer stay. Passing the time with a fun game and friendly volunteers makes a big difference to patients in the hospital.

“Through a variety of programs funded by the Foundation and delivered by Volunteer Resources, we really can improve a patient’s stay at the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital!”

- Carmelle Steel, Volunteer Resources



1,000 Flights a Year

The Medicine Hat Regional Hospital is one of a few hospitals in the province that has its own plane and offers the service of aerial transportation to patients.

The first air ambulance program came to Medicine Hat in the late 1970's. It was originally called Medic Air, and it was the first dedicated fixed wing air ambulance in Alberta. They operated in a non-pressurized twin engine aircraft called a Piper Navajo. The lifeport sled system had not yet been implemented, so paramedics would carry a portable stretcher up into the airplane and suspend the stretcher between two seats.

In 2018, the air ambulance program adopted a staffing model of dedicated aeromedical crews. This model ensured that the plane had constant staffing, and the paramedics assigned to the aircraft were always available for flights without delay. With the change in the program came enhanced training, specialty equipment, and a new set of critical care protocols for the aeromedical paramedics to utilize to care for complex patients.

“Thanks to the generosity of the Medicine Hat Health Foundation, the Medicine Hat fixed wing air ambulance program was able to purchase a Hamilton T1 ventilator. Because of this purchase, all the other fixed wing air ambulances in Alberta recognized the need for ventilator upgrades and all purchased the same ventilator for their programs.”

– Greg Cruickshank, Paramedic

Our Foundation also recently purchased a Stretcher Arch for the air ambulance, which is a specialized welded arch that secures the patient and the equipment in the plane.

Since the early 1980s, our air ambulance has provided coverage in Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan.

How You Can Support Local Healthcare

We live in an amazingly generous community, and people often ask, “What is the best way to support the Foundation?” For us, the best method is simply the one that works for you – and that’s why we’ve made it possible to give in multiple different ways. You can find more information about how to donate on our website at ourhealthfoundation.ca.



Legacy Giving

Also known as leaving a gift in your will, this is a donation of assets typically done through a will or estate plan. There are several approaches and financial tools that can be adapted to your situation, but the result is always the same: a legacy gift of hope and healing for local healthcare. Whether you’re new to the idea or a lifelong donor, this is an excellent way to enjoy plentiful tax benefits while giving back.

The Grateful Patient Program

Patients and their friends and families often have the most heartwarming stories about doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals who have gone above and beyond their duties. If someone has delivered hope and kindness when you needed it most, why not make a donation to the Grateful Patient program on their behalf, and tell your story in the process? These donations ensure more patients can get the same level of care and compassion that made such a difference.



Monthly Giving

This club makes a generous commitment that creates something amazing: enhancements to local healthcare, a lasting impression on the most important causes to you, and ultimately, more hope for patients and their families. For as little as \$20 a month, you can provide twenty-four patients with hygiene packs each year, or a teddy bear to comfort and support a child every single month.

Gifts That Keep On Giving

Proceeds from the Gift Shop go to supporting the Medicine Hat Regional Hospital.

We are happy to announce that the Gift Shop is officially open for business! You can find us on the main floor next to Tim Hortons in our newly renovated space.

We're always looking to grow our team of volunteers at the gift shop!

This is a role that's all about greeting people, meeting new people, and helping customers with their purchases and needs. If you are friendly, inviting, and helpful, you'll be a great fit!

Volunteers interact with AHS staff, patients, and other volunteers, as well as help with displays, refilling beverage coolers, and keeping the gift shop stocked.

Our Retail and Volunteer Coordinator Roxanne Kostrub was inspired to join MHHF because she wanted to build relationships with others who cared about the same issues she did.

"It's a great place for making new friends," says Roxanne. "The rewarding part about being a volunteer is knowing that you're helping individuals that are in need. You're making a difference in someone's day."



You can reach out to Roxanne at roxanne@ourhealthfoundation.ca or stop by and visit her at the Gift Shop to apply as a volunteer. Our team at MHHF looks forward to meeting you! Volunteering is an opportunity to build relationships and make a difference.



Gift Shop | Medicine Hat Health Foundation



Local Health Resources

General Resources

- ahs.ca/helpintoughtimes
- Mental Health Helpline: 1-877-303-2642
- Provincial resources: Call 211 or visit ab.211.ca
- Reach out to Health Link by calling 811 within Alberta (free 24/7)

Addictions Help

- A list of programs, counselling, and treatment options is available at ahs.ca/amh
- 24/7 Addiction Helpline at 1-866-332-2322
- Access Addiction & Mental Health line at 1-888-594-0211
- Medicine Hat and Area AHS Addiction & Mental Health Office:
 - Adult: 403-529-3500
 - Child, Youth, and Family: 403-529-3582
 - Recovery Centre: 403-529-9021

Crisis Prevention

- Crisis Text Line: Text CONNECT to 741741 (adult) or 686868 (youth)
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: 988
- 24/7 Suicide Prevention Service: 1-833-456-4566
- Hope for Wellness for Indigenous People: 1-855-242-3310, or online at hopeforwellness.ca
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868
- 24/7 Distress Centre Crisis Line: 403-266-HELP



**Medicine Hat
Health Foundation**

Medicine Hat Health Foundation

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