



THE TEAM

Tracey Keighley-Clarke
Interim
Vice President &
Program Director
SMRCP

Dr. Bryn Pressnail
Clinical Program
Director and
Clinical Staging
Lead

Dr. Juhu Kamra
Head, Radiation
Treatment
Program

Dr. Michael Anderson
Surgical Oncology
Lead & Chair
Multidisciplinary
Cancer
Conferences

Dr. John Nadeau
Regional Cancer
Imaging Lead

Dr. Marianne Belau
Regional Palliative
Care Lead

Dr. Russell Price
Regional Cancer
Pathology Lead

Dr. Danusia Gzik
Regional Primary
Care Lead

Carole Beals
Regional Outreach
Co-ordinator

Lesley MacInnis
Regional
Education
Lead

FROM THE VP: THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES TO GARTH



It is with deeply mixed emotions that we announce Garth Matheson, Vice-President, Regional Cancer & Clinical Services has left Royal Victoria Hospital for a new opportunity as Cancer Care Ontario's Vice President, Planning and Regional Programs.

In his new position, Garth will provide strategic leadership in the development and implementation of the Ontario Cancer Plan, as well as operational stewardship and oversight of CCO's 13 Regional Cancer Programs.

Please join us in thanking him and wishing him great success in new role.

Recruitment for a new Regional Vice President is underway. In the Interim, Tracey Keighley-Clarke, Director, SMRCP will assume the role of Vice President, Cancer and Clinical Services.



WELCOME DR. MARIANNE BELAU

Cancer Care Ontario and the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program are very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Marianne Belau to the position of Regional Palliative Care Lead.

Dr. Belau replaces Dr. Jim Shaver who has stepped down from this position due to his new role as Chair of the Medical Advisory Committee at RVH. We thank Dr. Shaver for his work over the past year in promoting palliative care in our community.



Dr. Belau is a graduate of the University of Toronto 1981 and received her certification in Family Medicine in 1983. She practiced in Brampton from 1984 to 1997, in Sarnia from 1997 – 1999, and in Barrie since 1999. She is currently a Lecturer with the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Toronto.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Belau to her new role.

DIGITAL MAMMOGRAPHY SERVICES IN WOMEN'S IMAGING AT RVH

It is an exciting time for Imaging Services as we begin the renovation and implementation of Digital Mammography Services in our Women's Imaging Department.



Already one of the premier Women's Imaging Centers in the province, we have purchased 4 state of the art Digital Mammography units and will be one of the few centers in the province to offer the latest technology in Breast Imaging called Tomosynthesis.

These units offer better image quality, faster examinations, lower radiation doses and greater comfort than our current analog units.

NEW SIEMENS SKYRA 3.0 TESLA MRI UNIT ARRIVES AT RVH



The new Siemens Skyra 3.0 Tesla MRI unit has just arrived and is being moved into its new home in the expanded Imaging Department in the Phase 1 Expansion Project.

The new machine, the '3T', provides the most advanced MRI technology available today -- producing faster, clearer images. The machine is capable of advanced cancer diagnosis, including many new diagnostic procedures such as breast biopsies of dense breasts.

Craig Vines (left), RVH Director of Imaging Services, Dr. John Nadeau, Clinical Director of MRI, Kristyn Cole, MRI Technologist and Dr. Scott Good

OSMH AND RVH PARTNERSHIP

Over the past several months, Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital (OSMH) has been working in partnership with the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program (SMRCP) at RVH to develop the Regional Systemic Therapy Program.

Part of this redevelopment includes the development of a Regional Centralized New Patient Referral office. This means that all patients requiring consultation with an Oncologist will be seen in the SMRCP at RVH.

The central intake process allows patients to be consulted by both Medical and Radiation Oncologists. Once a treatment plan is defined, some patients will return to their local community for chemotherapy treatment. The decision will be based on the level assigned to the centre as per the Regional Systemic Therapy Guidelines.

Our goal is to ensure all patients within the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN receive timely access to high quality care closer to home.

DR. BHATT JOINS SMRCP

Dr. Deven Bhatt will be returning to the Cancer Care Program at Orillia Soldiers' Memorial (OSMH) and will begin work in the Regional New Patient Consult Clinic in the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program (SMRCP).

We are delighted that Dr. Bhatt will join SMRCP's physician staff of 6 Medical Oncologists and 3 Radiation Oncologists. In addition, Medical Oncologists from SMRCP have obtained privileges at OSMH and will be running outreach clinics onsite at OSMH.

MEN OF RVH TAKE THE CHALLENGE

During the month of November, men around the world grow moustaches in support of "Movember" – a campaign aimed at raising funds and awareness for prostate cancer.



The men of RVH have joined men around the world who grow moustaches during the month of November in support of prostate cancer.

Men of RVH - will you accept the challenge and compete against this team? Before and after photos will determine who is the most mustachioed man at RVH.

MOVEMBER

From left to right: Andy Johnson, Greg Hoffman, Josh Clifford (in grey shirt) Greg Mc Donald, Rickson (in white), Vince Ferguson, Vince Poirier, Tim Thompson, Bill Videman, Dan Beaton

UPCOMING EVENTS

Résumé Writing for Nurses Workshop

November 25, 2011
0830-1600

Royal Victoria Hospital,
3rd Floor Auditorium

To register for this free workshop please e-mail

onment@mcmaster.ca

de Souza's Pain & Symptom Management Workshop

November 22, 2011
Humber River Regional Hospital

To register, visit
www.desouzanurse.ca

Palliative and End-of-Life Care Oncology (EPEC-O) Canada Workshop

November 24-25, 2011
Toronto

To register, visit
www.desouzanurse.ca

CNA Certification Exams April 21, 2012

To apply, visit
<http://getcertified.cna-aic.ca>

Registration Deadline
November 18, 2011

SAVE THE DATE

UPDATES IN ONCOLOGY 2012 CONFERENCE

September 28, 2012

SIMCOE MUSKOKA REGIONAL CANCER CENTRE EXPANSION UPDATE



RVH has learned it will receive \$13.8 million in new base funding this year to begin expanding services, as part of the Phase 1 Expansion Project. This Post Construction Operating Plan (PCOP) funding will be used to increase patient visits and procedures as well as to fund additional facility costs. The money will also support staff recruitment and orientation to the new building, as well as equipment commissioning.

"Receiving this funding is a very important milestone for RVH, as we enter the home stretch of construction on our ambitious expansion," says Janice Skot, RVH's President and CEO. *"Knowing adequate operational funding is in place allows our staff, physicians and volunteers to focus on a safe, carefully-phased move into the new building. Over the next several months we will steadily ramp up our volumes and services so that when we open the doors to the Phase 1 Expansion in early-2012, we are fully prepared."*



NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



Candlelighters Simcoe and National Inside Ride Tour teamed up on September 17th, 2011 for Barrie's FIRST National Inside Ride!

Candlelighters Simcoe is a support organization for the parents of children or teens who have been diagnosed with cancer. Their mission is to empower families on their journey, lighting the way by providing hope, support and education. Services are provided to families residing in Simcoe County and surrounding areas.



This year's National Inside Ride was a huge success!

The event raised \$20,000 overall, with \$2500.00 of that raised through some friendly competition between the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program and RVH's Women's and Children's Program. A fun day was had by all!



SMRCP STAFF ARE MAXIMIZING THEIR PATIENT EDUCATION SKILLS

The 'Maximizing Your Patient Education Skills – Part 1: Learning & Communication Skills' Workshop was offered to SMRCP staff and partnering organizations two times in the month of October.

The 4 hour sessions, facilitated by SMRCP's own Shelley Debison, Clinical Educator and Karin Beers, Primary Nurse, targeted any individual involved in patient care. Participants were trained in the areas of adult education, learning and communication styles, active listening, and the relationship between patient-centered care and patient education in improving patient satisfaction. Throughout the workshop, participants were afforded the opportunity to practically apply the theoretical concepts by working with standardized patients in interactive, case-based scenarios. In total, 30 inter-professional staff took part in this valuable educational opportunity, which was generously supported by the SMRCP, Cancer Care Ontario and the de Souza Institute.

"I highly recommend this workshop to all of my coworkers. The educational material covered in the course was relevant and thought provoking. I immediately found myself relating to real situations that I encounter and I am more conscious and subconscious of my interactions with our diverse group of patients. The Standardized Patient component was a fantastic exercise...both surprising, refreshing and motivating." Shawn Payton-Stewart, Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program

IMPROVING THE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

The Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program has recently taken several steps to improve the experience of all our stakeholders.

Expedite Access to Information

Changes to the cancer program automated telephone attendant have been initiated to better serve our patients and staff. These changes include more concise option choices and separate options for patients and providers. The changes will take full effect in November 2011; stay tuned for information sessions on what you need to do to prepare.

Provide Care Closer to Home

The program has teamed up with Collingwood General and Marine Hospital to offer pre-chemo patient visits. These visits utilize Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN) to connect the patients in Collingwood with care providers in Barrie, saving the patient from traveling over 110km for each pre-chemo appointment.

Improve the Patient Journey Overall

In early October, patients and family members came together to participate in focus group sessions targeted at improving the patient experience. These sessions garnered information to be used in improving workflow within the cancer program to better meet patient needs with positive overall feedback captured.

NATIONAL CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS WEEK



Did you know that each year in Canada, 1,300-1,500 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer? October 23-29, 2011 marked the annual National Cervical Cancer Awareness Week. The Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program was an official endorser of this year's campaign and worked to recruit and support Pap Test Clinics across the region.

In total, there were 10 Pap Test Clinics held in North Simcoe Muskoka. Participating primary care providers willingly promoted their services and opened their doors to eligible females seeking a Pap Test. Kudos to all Clinics for providing this valuable service in their community. For more information on the campaign, please visit : www.FMWC.ca.