A Dream Realized
The Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Centre Opens at RVH!

I am very proud of the opening of the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Centre at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre on July 9th, but I am most proud and privileged to be working with the highest caliber of passionate and dedicated professionals who made it happen. I want to thank each and every member of the team for the hours of preparation that was required for the seamless transition into the new building.

Many of the team have devoted their lives to delivering cancer care, and they do so for one reason – to improve the lives of people living with cancer. With the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program (SMRCP) fully operating in its new space, it is time to turn our attention to our patients and how to optimally support people living with cancer in our region. In the fall, the SMRCP will begin a strategic planning process with our regional partners to start planning for the delivery of cancer care close to home. I am hoping through this planning process that we can develop highly effective relationships, and implement a system of care in our region that is focused on the highest quality of care for patients, the best possible patient experience and the latest innovations in healthcare.

It is my hope that together, we will develop a vision and plan for regional cancer care that belongs to all of us - patients, family members, care providers, volunteers and administrators. Together, as a region we will commit to improving the patient and family experience through excellent cancer care every day.

Lindsey Crawford
Regional Vice President

Welcome Dr. George Lougheed

Cancer Care Ontario and the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program are very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. George Lougheed to the position of Regional Breast Imaging Lead.

Dr. Lougheed graduated from the University of Western Ontario medical school in 1981. Following an internship at the Toronto East General, he spent a year as a family doctor in Timmins on the Northern Under Serviced Area Program. He then returned to the Toronto General Hospital, and completed a residency in Diagnostic Radiology.

Dr. Lougheed received his fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1987, he moved to Barrie and has been practicing at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Center (RVH) . He is the former chief of Imaging Services at RVH as well as a former President of the RVH medical staff.

Dr. Lougheed has been performing breast imaging for over 25 years. When he first came to RVH, he set up the first audit for mammography to evaluate our screening program. Since then he has been extremely active in our breast cancer detection program. In 1991 Dr. Lougheed introduced Ultra Sound guided breast biopsies to our region. In 1997 he arranged for our program to become a part of the Ontario Breast Screening Program and organized our Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR) Mammography Accreditation. At that time, he converted all mammography between the ages of 50 and 70 years old to the Ontario Breast Screening Program. He began the development of our Women’s Imaging Center at that time and has continued to be involved with CAR accreditation for the center.

Dr. Lougheed is very excited to be joining the Cancer Care Ontario team as the Breast Imaging Lead for North Simcoe Muskoka. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Lougheed to his new role.
Events

Regional Conference
Thursday, Sept. 20, 2012
Casino Rama, Orillia
“Palliative Care - It’s Not Just Cancer”
Regional Conference Advance Notice

Fall Conference
Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2012
Brookea Gold & Country Club, Midland
“A Lifetime View of Palliative Care, Through Case Studies”
Fall Conference Advance Notice

Upcoming Educational Rounds at Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Centre
201 Georgian Dr, Barrie

Dr. Fred Yoon, Radiation Oncologist presents
State of the art treatment for brain metastases in 2012
August 15, 2012
7:30— 8:30 am
Room 2C045

Dr. Delphine Rea (visiting professor from Hôpital Saint Louis, Paris, France)
Discontinuation trials with SGTKIs in front-line chronic myeloid leukemia.
Wed, September 19
7:30 – 8:30
Room 2C045

Dr. Anthony Joshua, Medical Oncologist, Princess Margaret Hospital
Advances in Melanoma
Thursday, September 27
7:30 – 8:30
Room 2C045

For more information, please contact Susanna Wong (wongsu@rvh.on.ca)

Canadian Conference of Community Oncology (CCOCO)

The inaugural Canadian Conference of Community Oncology (CCOCO) is being held at the Blue Mountain Resort in Collingwood, Ontario, Sept. 6-9, 2012.

The goal of this meeting is to bring community oncologists and haematologists (as well as residents, nurses, nurse practitioners and pharmacists with an interest in oncology) from across Canada together in an environment where challenging cases can be discussed and best practices shared. The structure of the meeting is centered around educational segments dedicated to a particular tumour site. In each educational segment, there will be a keynote presentation on new data and recent developments followed by a series of interactive case and panel discussions with audience participation.

Through interaction, participants will be engaged and leave with key take-away points that they can immediately apply directly to patient care. Learn more and register at: http://www.islandeventsinc.ca/events/2012_mar26/

Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Pink Tour

The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) with support from CIBC and Shoppers Drug Mart, is travelling across Ontario this summer to help spread the word about the importance of breast cancer screening. The Pink Tour is coming to our region with scheduled stops in Huntsville, Bracebridge, Midland, Collingwood, Orillia and Barrie. Each stop will welcome visitors onboard to get information about breast cancer screening and pledge their support by signing the bus.

Further details of this informative tour including the schedule, can be found at www.cbcf.org/PinkTour

Don’t FRYday

The Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program ‘Don’t FRYday’ is to bring awareness to the importance of sun safety. Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in Canada. It is important that we are aware of the potential dangers the sun can cause and learn how to protect ourselves.

What You Can do to be Safe in the Sun
Do not burn
Avoid sun tanning and tanning beds
Cover up (sunglasses, hat, clothing)
Seek shade/use umbrellas
Generously apply sunscreen
Use extra caution near water, snow and sand
Be aware of the UV Index
In recognition of June 3rd as National Cancer Survivor’s Day, the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program (SMRCP) partnered with Gilda’s Club to celebrate the lives of cancer patients. SMRCP & Gilda’s Club believe that ‘Laughter, Support & Hope’ are three aspects that can help cancer patients along their journey, but we also wanted to hear from others.

During the week of May 28th, a booth was set-up in the Outpatient Oncology Waiting Room to collect patient, family and staff feedback on what their ‘mantra’ is.

The inspirational collection will now be displayed in the Clinic for others to enjoy.

Thanks to all for their valuable feedback!
Rotary Cancer Lodge Opens Its Doors Patients

Cancer care at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) is now truly closer to home for residents of the region with the official opening of Rotary House, the lodge for cancer patients who travel from out of town to the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Centre for treatment. The lodge, located on the second floor of Rotary Place, is directly adjacent to the cancer centre and is conveniently connected by an underground tunnel; ensuring patients are able to transfer from treatment to rest without having to endure any inclement weather.

“The opening of Rotary House signifies some reprieve for patients who have to travel long distances to RVH for treatment,” says Janice Skot, President and CEO, RVH. “Anyone who has been through it, or knows someone who has, can attest to the fact that cancer treatment can be extremely unpleasant regardless of the distance the patient has to travel. The intention of Rotary House is to remove that dread about the long drive home and enable the patient to focus on their treatment plan and recovery.”

Rotary Place and Rotary House were both named in recognition of the $1.5 million contribution made by Rotary Clubs throughout the region. The lodge which contains 20 rooms with two twin beds per room and a kitchen where guests and their companions can prepare simple meals is a source of refuge and relaxation for out-of-town patients. The facility also includes a business centre, a reading room, laundry facilities, a private terrace and an activity room. Close proximity to Gilda’s Club will also provide guests with opportunities for social and emotional support and a community support network when they are away from home.

Guests are eligible to stay at Rotary House if they are registered patients of the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program receiving a new patient consultation, medical testing, planning for treatment and/or actual treatment. An eligible guest of Rotary House must also be able to fully care for themselves and manage administration of their own medications, and must also travel from across the region with preference being given to those who reside more than 40 kilometres from the cancer centre. The number of days a guest can stay at Rotary House depends on the number of appointments they have scheduled.

“As you can imagine, we have many patients who travel to RVH for cancer treatment from outside of Barrie, so it is essential that those traveling from the furthest distances receive an opportunity to stay at Rotary House,” says Tracey Keighley-Clarke, Director, Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program. “We wish we could provide spaces for everyone, but we need to ensure the guests in greatest need of the service the lodge provides receive priority.”

Oncology Information Project (OIS)

The Oncology Information System (OIS) is software package called ARIA, which includes applications specific to both Medical and Radiation Oncology. These applications will work with Meditech to support transition to a fully Electronic Medical Record (EMR) and clinical documentation of patient care for oncology patients.

The OIS project supports a collaborative inter-disciplinary approach to patient care, enabling physicians and other clinical staff to have immediate access to important patient information that may influence patient care, delivery and treatment plans. The OIS will allow for sharing of patient data between Medical and Radiation Oncology to create one patient record for the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program.

The project includes, physician orders, clinical documentation, scheduling, scanning of paper based reports, diagnosis and staging coding, data book requirements. Additional interfaces exist for: reports, registration, provider information, and ISAAC integration.