



The John and Liz Tory trauma centre

Sunnybrook emergency department to double in size with help of donors



A rendering of the new look for the Emergency Department, along with the John and Liz Tory Trauma Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre

By Juliet Wintrobe

Thanks to government funding and generous contributions from donors, the Emergency Department and John and Liz Tory Trauma Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre is receiving a desperately needed renovation that will allow it to save twice as many lives as it does today.

Sunnybrook is home to the first and largest adult trauma centre in Canada - last year alone the centre treated 1,200 trauma patients - and its Emergency Department (ED) receives more acute cases - the most serious accidents - than any other ED in the Greater Toronto Area. It is a leader in disaster preparedness and is currently developing a pandemic response plan for the GTA. This world-renowned ED and trauma centre has succeeded despite outdated and cramped facilities.

"Sunnybrook is fortunate to have the most talented Trauma and Emergency Care staff in the world and they deserve to work in an environment that is truly state-of-the-art," said Leo Steven, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre president and CEO. "They have battled outbreaks, worked through floods and other disasters and have always provided excellent patient care. In the more than 30-years of our trauma program, Sunnybrook has managed to maintain a nearly 90 per cent survival rate for our patients who have been involved in some of the most horrific tragedies."

Soon emergency staff will have a facility to match the quality of care they provide thanks to funding by the Ontario Ministry of Health and donations raised by the Sunnybrook Foundation. One great fundraising success story is that of a small, independent committee dedicated to serving the Hospital - New Leaders of

Sunnybrook Foundation. New Leaders is a dedicated group of young, energetic professionals from 25 to 45 years of age. Through a series of annual, volunteer-run fundraising events, New Leaders raises the profile of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre among the young adult demographic

and generates funds for research, education and patient care. Each year, New Leaders supports significant areas of the Hospital with its fundraising efforts.

New Leaders' most successful annual event is Muse, a silent art auction held in March. This year, Muse 07 benefited

Sunnybrook's Emergency Department and John and Liz Tory Trauma Centre.

"Muse 07 raised more than \$28,000 in net proceeds for Emergency and Trauma - surpassing its fundraising target by 40 per cent. These funds will be used to sponsor a named patient room in Sunnybrook's new Emergency and Trauma Centre," said Dr. Ryan Wiley, Co-Chair of Muse 07 and current Chair of New Leaders.

Fundraising is crucial to the facility's expansion because so much of the project relies on private donations. "New Leaders is a compelling example of how the community has come together to rebuild Canada's premier Emergency Department," said Dr. Wiley.

"We are all encouraged that the transformation has begun," said Dr. Fred Brenneman, chief of Sunnybrook's Trauma Program. Trauma specialists know that the best patient outcomes occur when the time from injury to definitive care is minimized, the so-called 'golden hour.' Our new centre will help us expedite care and capi-

talize on this window of opportunity."

When completed, the new ED and trauma centre will double in size from its current 19,000 square feet to 39,000 square feet.

Phase One of the project is scheduled for completion in January 2008 - including the Trauma Room, Urgent Care, Clinical Decision Unit and Temporary Triage Unit.

Phase Two of the expansion - scheduled for completion in October 2008 - will focus on the Emergency Resuscitation Zone. This will include a new Registration Area, Minor Exam Area and Fracture Clinic. The entire emergency facility is scheduled for completion in March 2009.

The new, state-of-the-art Emergency Department and John and Liz Tory Trauma Centre will sustain Sunnybrook's legacy of saving lives when it matters most.

Juliet Wintrobe is Co-director of Communications, of the New Leaders of Sunnybrook Foundation.



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