

TBRHSC Improves its Ranking on Annual Top Research Hospitals List

BY MARCELLO BERNARDO

After debuting on the list of Top 40 Research Hospitals in Canada in 2010, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) continues to rank among the leading health research institutions in the country.

Five years ago, TBRHSC appeared on the list for the first time, entering at #40. This year, the Health Sciences Centre has climbed to its highest-ever ranking on the list at #35. That's an improvement from #37 on last year's list.

The research activity that has catapulted TBRHSC into Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals is attributed to the ongoing success of its research arm, the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute (TBRRI).

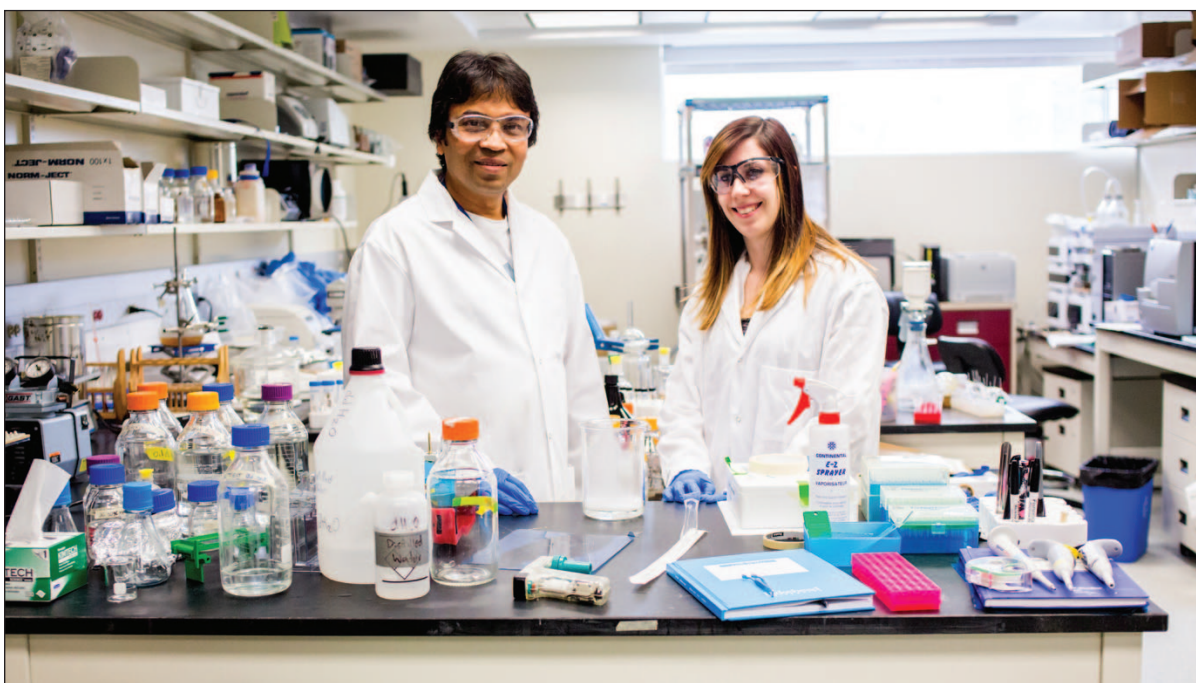
"We are very proud that the research activity that has helped TBRHSC be recognized as one of Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals is the result of the work being done at TBRRI," says Dr. Bill McCready, Interim President & CEO, TBRHSC and Interim CEO, TBRRI. "We can celebrate this as a very tangible indication of developments in medical research. All of the research at TBRHSC aims to improve patient care in Northwestern Ontario and contribute to the future development of new treatments

and services."

A robust research program is vital to advancing patient care. It provides patients with access to equipment that wouldn't be available without it, such as the PET/CT scanner used to diagnose lung cancer or the new cyclotron, which will eliminate TBRHSC's dependence upon outside sources of radioactive isotopes used for diagnostic imaging. Research also improves healthcare by attracting the best and brightest medical minds, including both scientists and clinicians.

Research also advances economic development. "Every dollar invested in research is an economic driver for the community and region," says McCready. "We see that most obviously in terms of researchers and clinicians moving to the region to work, which automatically impacts our economy. With the intellectual property (IP) and medical devices now in development at TBRRI, our knowledge-based economy will continue to grow."

In addition to climbing the ranking, TBRHSC's research income increased by 4.0 percent to \$7.59 million from \$7.29 million the prior year. In total, 27 institutions on the list reported activity gains against 13 where activity declined. According to Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals List 2015,



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research income includes all funds to support research received in the form of a grant, contribution or contract from all sources (internal and external) to the organization.

Donations to the Health Sciences

Discovery Fund of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation support the activities of TBRRI. To help Bring Discovery to Life, visit www.healthsciencesfoundation.ca

The Top 40 list is a compilation by

Research Infosource to emphasize the very important role that hospitals play in Canadian medical research. For more information, visit on the Research Infosource website: <http://www.researchinfosource.com/>

Kinette Club of Thunder Bay Hill City Supporting Friends and Family Through Fun

BY CYNTHIA COOPER, LIFE MEMBER, HILL CITY KINETTES

The Kinette Club of Thunder Bay Hill City has served our community's greatest need for 75 years. Membership is open to all women. Our commonality is our sense of fun and our commitment to helping others.

Our club is a proud member of The Association of Kin Clubs; an all Canadian service organization. Our vision today is strong, healthy, engaged communities while promoting fellowship, personal development and pride in our country.

Our Kin National Service project is Cystic Fibrosis. Nationally we have raised in excess of \$42M for research. Now children born with CF will live into adulthood. Readers may remember the CF Telethon the Thunder Bay Kin Clubs co-hosted for many years. Proud of our progress, we remain faithful to finding a cure for CF through many fundraising endeavours.

Helping women and children has been a key component of our Club, as we support many local charities. This year, we are hosting a Two Bit Auction (a fun event open to the public where our baskets are famous!) with proceeds going to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, Cystic Fibrosis, Easter Seals and Ronald McDonald House, in support of a member whose child is undergoing medical treatment in another centre.

Throughout the years, we have chosen to donate to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation for specialized equipment and cancer research. This year, we reached our goal of \$25,000 in donations. We are so grateful to be able to do service work, to support our friends and family through challenges like cancer, and we are grateful to have a first-class facility like the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre in our community.

We are an enthusiastic group of women who continue to give, celebrating 75 years of making a difference in our community of Thunder Bay.

This year's Two Bit Auction takes place on Thursday, November 19 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at the Heritage Building at the CLE.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation. Come have a fun night out with baskets, door prize draw, 50/50 draw and more!



The Kinette Club of Thunder Bay Hill City are celebrating 75 years of making a difference in Thunder Bay. Through their service work, they have supported the purchase of specialized medical equipment and cancer research at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

Kidney Cancer Patients Turn Experience into Advocacy

BY SARA CHOW

For Pat and Lynne Sevean, kidney cancer was not a health concern. That changed when both of them were diagnosed with it in 2014. Neither of them knew much about kidney cancer, but they quickly became experts, and eventually, motivated advocates.

Kidney cancer is one of the lesser known cancers, so it was a surprise to the Seveans when a routine ultrasound in July of 2014 showed a tumour on Pat's kidney. It was an even bigger shock when, in August, Lynne's annual urine test found minute traces of blood in his urine. A follow-up ultrasound revealed that he too had a tumour on his kidney.

"We had no signs or symptoms of our cancers. Our daughter was getting married in October, and we were focusing on that. Then this happened and we had to figure out our treatment plans," explained Pat as she recalled how quickly life can change. "Luckily, we were able to have our nephrectomies (surgery to remove the entire kidney) here in Thunder Bay and we didn't require any further treatment after that. But, kidney cancer has become part of our lives now."

The initial diagnosis changed the Sevean's lives in terms of long-term kidney care, annual exams, and ensuring their daughters' kidney health is monitored. One of the biggest changes has been their dedication to kidney cancer advocacy, particularly for Pat. "When we were going through this, I was looking for more information and other people who could relate. I found Kidney Cancer Canada and got involved with them. Eventually, they asked me to sit on their board to help represent kidney cancer patients," says Pat.

When it comes to leveraging Pat's experiences at a national level, Lynne says that Pat suits the role well in many ways. "She plays a triple role: she is a nurse educator, a patient who has experienced kidney cancer, and a care giver."

One of Pat's goals with Kidney Cancer Canada was to bring more information and hope back to kidney cancer patients and practitioners in Northwestern Ontario. Along with fellow Kidney Cancer Canada Board Member Deb Sidor, Pat is proud to announce that Dr. Anil Kapoor will be presenting on emerging treatments and therapies for kidney cancer. Dr. Kapoor is a leading researcher and uro-oncologist from the McMaster Institute of Urology at St.



Lynne and Pat Sevean were both diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2014. After successful treatment, they are kidney cancer advocates who aim to bring more information and hope to kidney cancer patients in Northwestern Ontario by hosting a local event with a leading kidney cancer researcher and uro-oncologist, Dr. Anil Kapoor, on Thursday, Nov. 19th at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

Joseph's Healthcare and Chair of KCC's Medical Advisory Board. Pat is excited for the event, because she knows it will help many people. "Dr. Kapoor will be speaking about very exciting treatments for kidney cancer. The information he will be sharing will increase awareness about this disease, and more importantly, it will bring some hope to people who have kidney cancer."

'Kidney Cancer: Treatment and Emerging Therapies' will be hosted in partnership by Kidney Cancer Canada and Regional Cancer Care Northwest at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) on Thursday, November 19th from 7:00 to 9:30 pm (at 7:00 and the main event starts at 7:30 pm) in Auditorium A (3rd floor) at TBRHSC. The event will also feature a panel with Dr. Kapoor and some local oncologists. Admission is free and the event is also being offered online through the Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN). For more information about the event or how to access OTN, visit: www.kidneycancer.ca.

If you are looking for more information about kidney cancer or kidney cancer patient supports, visit: www.kidneycancer.ca. There are a variety of supports available, including information about their 7th Annual Patient Education Conference which will be held in Toronto on March 5th, 2016.

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