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## Sault Area Hospital Gets Some Help From Some Friends (photos)

Logan Costa for local2 sault ste. marie  
 August 29th, 2013 at 11:24am

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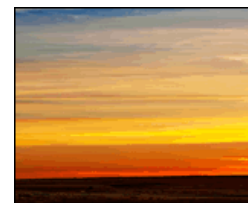
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Excellence in patient care is the priority at the Sault Area Hospital Foundation and that's why the purchase of two brand new High Volume Chemistry Analyzers for the Sault Area Hospital Laboratory, is so important.



These instruments have the ability to run and analyze up to 2,500 blood sample tests a day with hundreds of different tests run minutes apart from of each other. Over the course of a year, these instruments run close to a million tests. Chances are, if you have ever had a blood sample taken at the Sault Area Hospital; it has run through this instrument and helped your physician recommend treatment. The current set up in the Laboratory is in its sixth year of operation and has put in over 57,000 hours of work. Due to the constant work, and wear and tear, it is time for two brand new instruments. However, it's not as simple as just purchasing the equipment when the cost is roughly \$450,000.

The Sault Area Hospital Foundation, as the primary source for funding for new equipment at Sault Area Hospital, is focused on replacing these instruments. The great people of Sault Ste. Marie continue to answer the call. The two newest donors to provide assistance in acquiring this crucial equipment are Flakeboard Company Ltd. with a \$25,000 pledge and McDougall Energy/Imperial Oil with a \$10,000 gift. The two presented the Foundation with pledges to help replace these very crucial pieces of equipment. "At Flakeboard we have a long history of supporting several community organizations, with the Sault Area Hospital Foundation, being one of the most critical organizations to support. We know that being a good community member means being a contributing member of the community. We are proud to be able to contribute to this vitally important equipment needed to ensure top quality health care in Sault Ste. Marie." says Lloyd Hotchkiss, Plant Manager at Flakeboard Sault Ste. Marie.



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These two businesses add to a long list of donors (businesses and individuals) that have committed to see the new equipment in operation as soon as possible. "McDougall Energy has deep roots in Sault Ste. Marie and area and therefore supporting healthcare here is important to our team. Through our donation to the Sault Area Hospital Foundation we are pleased to know that our dollars will be directed towards the purchase of a Chemistry Analyzers that directly improves patient care to residents in this area, some of which are our customers and employees." says Darren McDougall, President of McDougall Energy Inc. "The operation of these instruments is crucial to patient care in so many areas of the hospital, including Renal services, Surgical services, Cancer Care, Emergency services, the Maternity Unit and other inpatient units. Without the Chemistry Analyzers, patient care would undoubtedly be affected, so it is our goal to ensure we have the most effective equipment possible. What it all comes down to is making sure every one of our patients gets the best care possible" says Dr. Michael D'Agostino, Deputy Medical Director of Laboratory Services and Pathologist at SAH.

The Sault Area Hospital Foundation looks to the great donors and organizations from all across Sault Ste. Marie and the Algoma District to help provide the excellence in health care that this area deserves. If you are interested in how you can support the Sault Area Hospital Foundation, you can call [705-759-3848](tel:705-759-3848), visit our website at [www.sahfoundation.com](http://www.sahfoundation.com), or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SaultAreaHospitalFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/SaultAreaHospitalFoundation) to keep up to date!

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