

## ***Happy Summer from the Women's Giving Circle***

### ***Message from the Chair***



*Lucille Davies, Chair*

A few weeks ago, I had the distinct pleasure of meeting with Dr. Jane Philpott, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at Queen's, to discuss medical research funding in our local hospitals and at the University. I shared with Dean Philpott our latest numbers of grants awarded, totalling over \$398K, and the work of the 25 researchers we have funded to date, in 11 different areas of medicine. Dean Philpott was most impressed and heartily applauds us on our goals and accomplishments. She is delighted that her Office and our Circle are working to the same end – supporting the same people and celebrating the same successes! We both work to improve healthcare by furthering cutting-edge medical research – the Dean from the University front, and we from the Hospital Foundation end.

To our Women's Giving Circle members, Dean Philpott sends the following message:

“Your gift makes an enormous difference in the lives of thousands of people in our region who benefit from the groundbreaking health research that takes place within our hospitals and in collaboration with Queen's Health Sciences.”



*Dr. Jane Philpott, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences and Director, School of Medicine, Queen's University, and CEO, Southeastern Ontario Academic Medical Organization*

For our members and guests who are interested in following the latest research from the Faculty of Health Sciences, I highly recommend a series of talks hosted by Dean Jane Philpott. This series is called '5 à 7' – in a Ted Talk type of format - an evening of short presentations by researchers on a variety of healthcare topics. Our recent three research topics that we voted on for grant funding were featured in these talks. The '5 à 7' talks can be viewed online at <https://healthsci.queensu.ca/research/5a7>

*Lucille Davies, Chair*

### ***And on the grant front ...***

Dr. Christopher Doiron and Dr. Amber Simpson are the joint recipients of this year's WGC research grant in the amount of \$35,500. Dr. Doiron and Dr. Simpson are collaborators in the study of the immunologic and inflammatory causes of IC/BPS, a painful urinary tract condition that primarily affects women, is traditionally poorly funded, and has few treatments and no cure. They will be using our grant to analyse genetic data to find a cause, which will lead to better treatment for this disease. Drs. Doiron and Simpson will be joining us for our October luncheon to make a presentation on their research.

## **Spring luncheon recap**



*Dr. Carolyn Teng, Cardiac Surgeon, KHSC, presented an overview of her work in minimally invasive mitral valve surgery to attendees of the WGC Spring Luncheon on June 1 at Cataraqui Golf and Country Club.*

"The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart."

~ the incomparable Helen Keller

On June 1st, the WGC enjoyed a lovely spring luncheon at The Cataraqui Golf and Country Club. Members and prospective new members had the opportunity to connect and/or reconnect while enjoying a delicious meal in a warm and inviting setting. The guest speaker was Dr. Carolyn Teng. Dr. Teng is a highly skilled cardiac surgeon who, prior to moving to Kingston, headed up the largest minimally invasive mitral valve programme in the Greater Toronto Area. Her presentation was thorough, fascinating and intricate. With great skill, Dr. Teng wedded together the obvious complexity inherent in her daily undertakings with that of the lay person's ability to follow along and gain insights into this cutting edge technology. The advances being made in the realm of cardiac function will be, in large part, a great testament to the very fine work of Dr. Teng and her illustrious team. We are, indeed, incredibly fortunate that this expert in her field has adopted Kingston as her new home.

*Submitted by:  
Barb Hammond, Executive Committee*

## **And very importantly, regarding the luncheon ...**

*From Lucille Davies:*

Joining us was our lunch host and sponsor Krina Vaghela, pharmacist and owner of three Shoppers Drug Mart stores: in downtown Kingston, at the Cataraqui Centre, and in Napanee. Thanks to Krina's generosity, we are able to donate every dollar of our membership dues to our annual research grants, directly funding cutting-edge medical research in our local hospitals. Krina has a passion for women's health, addiction, and mental health, and we are grateful that she has chosen our Women's Giving Circle as a community partner with Shoppers Drug Mart in the pursuit of these and other causes.

*From Krina Vaghela:*

I have had the honour to support the Women's Giving Circle for the past few years. Supporting a local women's movement that empowers researchers, and constantly seeing them champion the change it has made, has been very reaffirming. I look forward to a long-term and successful partnership.

Kind regards,

*Krina Vaghela, Pharmacist/Owner  
Shoppers Drug Mart (downtown Kingston,  
Cataraqui Centre and Napanee)*



*Krina Vaghela, centre, and her SDM team*

## ***KHS Breast Imaging Kingston tour highlights***

As a member of the WGC, I have enjoyed many fascinating visits to various facets of the local health care system. Each time, I felt it was a great opportunity and realized that, despite the challenging times we are facing, there continue to be major steps toward the constant improvement of patient care in Kingston and the surrounding area. The Spring tour of the KHS Breast Imaging Kingston facility on John Marks Avenue did not disappoint. On April 12, WGC members had the opportunity to explore the 8,000 square foot site: a renovated space totally focussed on early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

The KHSC BIK facility is unique in its ability to provide all the steps pertaining to women's breast health -- from early detection to early intervention -- in one place, easy to access and with plenty of parking.

A diagnosis of breast cancer remains a very stressful, challenging time in any woman's life. The new facility brings together all the steps down that road in a single, well-equipped setting.

We are reminded again of how fortunate we are to live in Kingston and area. It also reinforces the value of our contributions to the Women's Giving Circle.

*Submitted by:  
Reine Dawe  
Silver Cross Mother 2019*

### ***Mark your calendars ...***

For **Thursday, October 19**, the date of the **WGC annual Fall luncheon**, to take place at Cataraqui Golf and Country Club. Watch for the official invitation from the UHKF office, which will be sent in the Fall.



*Members of the WGC who participated in the tour of the KHSC Breast Imaging Kingston facility on April 12.*

## ***Join us at the Women's Giving Circle!***

Membership in the WGC currently stands at 90. We welcome new members to join us in our efforts to support state-of-the-art medical research taking place right here in our local hospitals. Every dollar of our membership dues goes directly to research through our annual research grants. Please check out our webpage for more information and click 'Join'!

We are also inviting current members to join our Executive Committee. We meet once a month to plan upcoming events – with tremendous support from the team from University Hospitals Kingston Foundation. We would very much appreciate input from our members. Please email us if you are interested.

*We invite you to share this newsletter with friends, colleagues,  
or anyone else you think may be interested in joining us!*

Our webpage:

<https://www.uhkf.ca/Ways-To-Give/Women-s-Giving-Circle>

Link to sign up or renew:

<https://uhkf.akaraisin.com/ui/womensgivingcircle/donations/start>

Our email: [events@uhkf.ca](mailto:events@uhkf.ca)

*Newsletter editor:*

*Barbara Yates, Executive Committee*

Research  
today for  
better  
health care  
tomorrow



Women's Giving Circle

In support of research at Kingston's hospitals

