



**The Heart of the Shriners Hospital  
Beats to the Child's Rhythm**

# The Orthopedik

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## The Future of the Shriners Hospitals for Children (Canada) Remains in Montreal



**Dedication of the Shriners Hospital  
on May 16, 1925 in Montreal.**

The summer of 2007 was a critical time in the life of the Shriners Hospital in Canada. We have moved from the winding back-roads of uncertainty onto a highway leading to our ultimate destination, a new Canadian Shriners Hospital in Montreal. We haven't arrived yet, but a more direct road now opens up before us.

On July 3rd, 75% of delegates to the Anaheim Convention voted against moving the Hospital from Montreal. The strength of the result can be attributed to many factors. Firstly, many Shriners from Canada and the North-Eastern US stood together, spoke from the heart, and reminded their brothers of our fraternal roots and purpose. This decision was also based on facts and inspired by the spirit of the Hospital, its young patients and its dedicated and caring staff, We can now return our attention to our primary focus - healing sick children.

While this was first and foremost a Shriners debate and a Shriners decision, the Hospital continued to have support from the public, the Friends of the Shriners, the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), McGill University, the Government of Quebec, the City of Montreal, the Hospital's employees as well as patients and parents. This is important to mention because combined external and internal support represents a strong foundation for the future. That is essential to any major community oriented project.

On July 4th, by a near unanimous vote, the delegates agreed to release the Shrine leadership from the obligation requiring that the entire Glen yards site be decontaminated. The resolution recognized that the decontamination done to date at the Glen Campus covers a sufficiently large surface area, being where all the construction will take place.

On August 1st, Shriners Leadership came to Montreal to meet with the McGill University Health Centre leadership. We look forward to formal confirmation that we can begin to prepare a business plan for the new Hospital. Technical support will need to be put in place to assist Shriners Hospitals for Children coordinate technical issues with the MUHC and we will be working closely with Tampa to develop our owner's specifications and define our vision of the new Hospital. We will also need a Development Officer on staff at our Hospital and to create a Community Advisory Committee for our building Campaign.

There is still a long road ahead and we must now move in the same direction. We need a shared vision that brings us together, so that we can build on our common dream for all the children who turn to us for help.

**Gary D. D. Morrison**  
Chairman of the Board of governors

### Dates to remember:

**July 3rd** - delegates in Anaheim voted to defeat the motion to close the Hospital in Montreal and to build it elsewhere.

**July 4th** - delegates voted to accept the decontamination of the Glen Campus.

**August 1st** - Meeting in Montreal between Ralph Semb (Chairman, Board of Trustees), Tad Claypool (Chairman, Planning Committee), James Full (Executive Vice-President, Shriners Hospitals), Dr. Arthur Porter (Director General and CEO of the McGill University Health Centre) and Gary Morrison (Chairman of the Board of governors).

### In this Issue...



- Accreditation is Awarded
- A Lifetime of Nursing Care
- Unique Car Seat Loan Program
- 1100 Motorcycles in 21st Annual Toy Run



**A busy day in the classroom at the Shriners Hospital.**

Children and youth with chronic illnesses, disabilities and other health related problems often experience fragmented educational services. Their familiar routine can be disrupted by frequent hospital visits and repeated hospitalizations. Our Hospital School Program creates a sense of normalcy in a hospital environment that can feel threatening and confusing. School helps ease the stresses, fears and anxieties. It also contributes to the total well being of the child.

Spending time as a patient at the Shriners Hospital does not mean “falling behind” in school. Students of all grade levels gather in a “one-room schoolhouse” under the guidance of two certified Special Education Teachers. Formal instruction is given in either English or French for students that originate from across Canada, the U.S. and other countries. We continually search for creative ways to integrate students who communicate in different languages.

Our classroom is bright, stimulating, cozy and inviting. Chalkboards, maps and posters decorate the walls. Colourful ceiling tiles and mobiles embellish the ceiling. Undoubtedly, this is a very unique classroom; one in which students can walk in, use crutches or walkers, come in wheelchairs or in beds while others are attached to an intricate system of intravenous tubes, intravenous poles and traction equipment.

Generally, the home teacher prepares a detailed assignment plan to follow during the child’s hospitalization. Thanks to

the generosity of many individuals who value the importance of education for our patients, our classroom is equipped with state-of-the-art desktop computers, laptops, internet access, a vast assortment of educational software, audio-visual equipment, and educational materials to complement each child’s assignment plan. Our students respond positively to these “attention-getters” and the wide assortment of educational resources at their disposal.

**Our School Program supports growth and learning.**

It offers students the opportunity to keep up-to-date with their classmates while continuing to master academic and cognitive skills, interact with their peers, share experiences and learn to deal with problems and situations. As hospital teachers, we face many professional challenges. On a daily basis we teach a changing student population of all ages, languages, grades, varying abilities, diverse backgrounds, modified educational programs, physical and mental limitations, visual restrictions, deafness, speech impediments, and so on. We are cognizant of the specialized needs of each and every child in our class and we seek ways to deal with these complexities. Our program remains flexible and reflects the changing health status of each child and medical interventions that occur daily. We hope to maximize their chances for educational success while at the Hospital and to facilitate the transition from our Hospital school to their regular classrooms when they return home. ■

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**We want to hear from you!** If you would like to ask us a question or suggest a topic for an article in an upcoming edition of the Orthopedik, please contact us at [gfoellet@shrinenet.org](mailto:gfoellet@shrinenet.org) or (514) 282-6990.



## What is Accreditation?

Accreditation is a process that helps Hospitals review the quality of the services they offer in a formal and structured manner. While, auto-evaluation is an ongoing process, accreditation consists of a 3.5 day survey completed by external surveyors chosen by the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation every three years.

The process is intense. At the Shriners, a year and a half before the latest accreditation survey this past summer, six teams were set up to self-evaluate services and care

in the following areas: information management, acute care, human resources, environment, leadership and partnerships and clinical laboratories. When the external surveyors arrived, they met with each team. Then, they held three focus groups with patients and families, staff, community partners. As well, they performed three

focus groups geared towards evaluating clinical laboratory services (laboratory services for diagnosis and treatment - not research) where they met with staff, clients and administration. Surveyors also toured key areas of the hospital.

## How did the Hospital Perform?

The Hospital received its Accreditation with Report, with recognition for two programs as leading practices: the clinical outcome and research program and the transition program. The report shows that Hospital performed well or above standards in many areas and that in others

there are some challenges to overcome. The Hospital must return two reports to the Council, one in 6 months and the other in one year to show how it has dealt with the challenges. To date, most of the challenges that were identified this summer have been resolved or solutions are being implemented. Of the few that remain to be resolved, most of are a matter of documenting processes.

## Some of the Challenges:

- Uncertainty regarding the location of a new Hospital (which has been resolved).
- Succession planning for health care providers.
- Continued implementation of the quality/performance program in the Clinical Laboratory Services.

## Some of the Strengths:

- Focus on patient safety.
- The experience of the staff.
- The infection control program.
- The implementation of electronic medical records.
- Moving towards an affiliation agreement with Université de Montréal.

## Fact:

The Shriners Hospital for Children – Canada received its first accreditation in **1951**.

At the time, Hospitals were not obliged to go under review, but the Shriners have always been dedicated to offering the best possible services and made this a priority.

Only accredited hospitals can receive and teach medical Residents.



## Two Leading Practices According to the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation:

The Shriners Hospital has successfully implemented a **clinical outcome and research program** to assess outcome in care and improve practice for children with musculoskeletal diseases.

This innovative program facilitates the implementation of research findings into clinical practice. Standardized outcome tools are utilized throughout the Hospital. There have been examples of clinical studies guiding clinical decisions. This program is a leading practice. (Acute Care Services, Standard 1.0)

All families who have children with special needs are enrolled in the **transition program** when their child reaches the age of 14.

The program allows for a family to fill a transition referral form where special needs will be documented. This information is reviewed and will guide all professionals involved in the care of the child for transition planning purpose. The process of transition planning with the involvement of external partners, the participation of the family, the documentation and the evaluation of the program is a leading practice. (Acute Care Services, Standard 15.0)

# Once upon a time, nestled within a mo

## A Lifetime of Nursing Care

Madeleine Lancôt

**1967** was a memorable year for me. I started working at the Shriners Hospital, spent the summer at Expo '67 and met the man of my life.

During the past forty years, I have worked at the Shriners as a nurse's aide and a registered nursing assistant. I then left to complete my studies and upon my return in 1975, was hired as a registered nurse for \$40 a day. Until I retired last summer, I held the position of Assistant Nurse Manager on the nursing unit-evening shift.

### Then...

When I started working at the Hospital, I lived in the staff residence on the third floor; room and board, including meals in a formal dining room was \$60 a month. I even had the key to the front door. There were four open wards on the second floor, two wards for babies and two wards dedicated to teenagers, one in the east wing for girls and one in the west wing for boys. (Occasionally they would manage to sneak out onto the front balconies to secretly meet.) We had a total of 60 patients. There



### ... And Now

Life has changed tremendously in the Hospital over the last forty years. Advances in technology, medication and surgical techniques have dramatically reduced the time children spend in the



was one television per ward. Surgeries were performed two days a week and visiting hours were restricted to two or three hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Some children stayed in the Hospital for three to six months and rarely saw their parents if they lived far away. We had patients with polio which was common then and we also saw the babies affected by "thalidomide". Children rarely went home with spica casts (big hip casts) and those who had scoliosis surgery stayed in the Hospital for more than three months for body casts and bed rest.

Hospital. Children with scoliosis surgery recover in six or seven days and children can go home with spica casts. There have also been significant advances in pain management; whereas before we would have given children a frightening needle to control pain, today medication is dispensed through an intravenous. Now, parents are considered an important part of the care team and one parent is asked to stay with their child in the Hospital.

Nursing practice has also evolved tremendously in these 40 years. Nurses

act much more autonomously now. At the Shriners Hospital, we are part of a team with the physicians and the other professionals. Our opinions are sought and respected.

### Some Things Remain...

The truly unique atmosphere of the Hospital and the humanity of the Shriners have not changed. It is a special place because of the Shriners themselves and their devotion to children which allows us, the health care professionals, to care for the children in a comfortable, warm, friendly, family-oriented environment. Our purpose is helping children, and that's what is so special about this place.

Over the years I have always been struck and inspired by a consistent response from parents and children: that is the brave way they adapt to illness. They show tremendous courage in living and facing the challenges of every new day.

### My Legacy

To the children I have treated, I brought relief and comfort. To their parents, I offered support and compassion in difficult situations. To the Hospital, I simply gave my loyalty.

To the nurses starting out I have tried to teach that above and beyond reports and technology they must concentrate on basic care. And if they are to work at the Shriners they have to care about what they do because here, that is a quality that is not negotiable.

I will not miss going to work, but I will miss coming to the Shriners. ■



Madeleine Lancôt checks on Dana Mercier, one of her last patients, as she returns from the operating room.

# Mountain side park there was a hospital ...

## Walking Down Memory Lane

Eleanor Stewart

When I drove up the lane to the Hospital on August 24th with my husband Edwin, I had not seen the building in 54 years. I could hardly believe how different it looked from the outside... as I visited, I realized it had changed tremendously inside as well. However, it quickly became apparent that the spirit of the Hospital was intact, and that the one thing that remains the same is the way the staff and patients interact as if they are family.

But, let me tell you why this visit meant so much to me...

I was born in 1938 in Whitney, New Brunswick. I first came to the Shriners Hospital by train with my mother in 1942. It was the Luxor Shriners who arranged for me to be seen at the Montreal Hospital when I was diagnosed with chronic osteomyelitis.

I was 4 years old when I first went to the Hospital. I lived there with all the other children for two years. The nurses were the ones who cared for us. My mother only returned when it was time to bring me home, because back then, parents couldn't stay with their children like they can today.

After the first extended stay, I returned to the Shriners regularly for check-ups and treatments until 1953. Oh! I had such problems learning to use crutches when I was six years old. Today, my crutches are stowed in the trunk of the car, and I

only take them out if I know that I will be walking for a long time.

I made good friends at the Shriners, and to this day we still keep in touch with each other although we are scattered across the country. I feel closer to them than to many of my old schoolmates. When it was nice out we would spend the day on the balcony, and in winter, the staff would occasionally set up a sun lamp in the solarium.



Strangely enough, I don't remember much pain, except when the doctors were trying to extend and straighten my leg. My friends and I would watch for the lights in the kitchen in the morning, for we knew that if they were on early, that meant we were having porridge, which none of us liked very much! I fondly remember Christmas at the Hospital when we would be taken into the Hall outside the Wards & await a visit from Santa who gave us big red bags filled with toys.

Because of the schooling available at the Hospital, I was able to graduate from High School in 8th place standing in my class. I went on to work in physicians offices and



The day Roy Rogers and Trigger visited the Hospital remains etched in my memory forever.

hospitals and am now semi-retired. I have earned a number of professional diplomas, a BA and a credit in Oil Painting from Lakehead University. I have one daughter. I enjoy horse back riding and I am presently training my Alaskan-Malamute dog in Rally-Obedience and Obedience.

All this to say, with the skills I learned at the Shriners Hospital and the support of my parents when I was young, I have never let anything stop me. I wanted to let you know how much your assistance has helped me to live with a slight disability, and I have been able to accomplish much and keep active.

I was very proud to be able to visit the Hospital before it moves to another location in Montreal. My husband and I will continue to support this great institution as we always have. Without the care I received, I certainly would have lost the use of my legs or suffered amputation of my right leg at the knee. I wish to thank Luxor Shriners and the Hospital staff for giving me this very special opportunity to "Walk Down Memory Lane".



In 1945, my photo was chosen to adorn the Hospital Christmas cards. The nickname Sunshine Suzie was given to me by one of the nurses and just stuck!



During my visit on the 24th, I finally got to sneak over to the boys' side of the balcony!

Looking back on childhood memories Susanne Robinson of Bowmanville, Ontario, remembers her father, Shriner Eric Welbanks, working hard to raise funds for the Shriners Hospitals for Children and her mother, Lady Linda Welbanks, participating in Ladies' functions. She remembers tagging along to volunteer at events and on Hospital visits. Today, she is the mother of two healthy children: five year-old Erica and three year-old Trent.

## Visiting the Hospital, always a learning experience

At her last visit to the Shriners Hospital in Montreal while pregnant with Trent, Mrs. Robinson was struck by a powerful fact: the Hospital is about much more than equipment and operating rooms. It has everything to meet the needs of children and their families. "The Hospital allows children to be children and to play. During the visit, I came to understand that there are so many different things a child needs beyond medicine. Not simply treating illness but also coping with the



Susanne Robinson stretches and focuses on the task ahead moments before taking on the 20 km swim across Lake Erie.

emotional stress of illness. I was impressed with the puppets and dolls that have been designed to have particular illnesses and allow children to see and understand what is happening and express their fears".

## Combining her love of swimming with fund-raising

Two years ago, 34 year-old Susanne Robinson joined the Clarington swim club. Until then, she had always loved to swim, but had never done so competitively. Last year, after completing a 7 km swim, she challenged herself to swim triple that distance. This past summer she swam 20 kilometers across Lake Erie in a record time of 8 hours and 14 minutes in a bid to raise funds for the Shriners Hospital Canada. "To date Mrs. Robinson has raised more than \$3000 for our Hospital Transportation Fund, which allows us to transport children and their families from the Greater Toronto area to the Shriners Hospitals", concludes Robert McGregor, Recorder at the Rameses Shrine Centre. ■

# Shriners Hospital has a Unique Car Seat Loan Program

Kathleen Montpetit

Each week, young children and babies treated at Shriners Hospital for hip conditions, leg fractures and other orthopedic problems leave the Hospital immobilized in hip spica casts or braces which prevent the use of their regular car seats. Finding a means of safe transportation has been a serious challenge.

The Shriners Hospital Car Seat Loan program and our policy of safe transportation address this problem and provide an essential service to families. The Hospital pioneered this program in Montreal in 1985.

Three special car restraint systems are available:

- **Spelcast** car seat for babies 10-40 pounds in hip spica casts
- **Traveler Plus** car seat for children unable to sit at 90° and requiring extra support
- **Eze-On** vest for older children in hip spica cast or brace

The occupational therapist meets with the family and the nurse to assess which

equipment is appropriate. When the time comes to go home, the child is fitted to the car seat and the car seat to the vehicle.

Our expertise in the area of car seat safety for children with special needs is well known in the medical community. The Occupational Therapy Department is often contacted by other centers for advice



Little 4 month-old Emma is in a spica cast. To keep her safe, her parents use the adapted car seat loaned by the Hospital whenever they travel by car.

on choosing a car seat and for inter-hospital loans. Recently, we have been invited to collaborate with Transport Canada on a Best Practice Manual for Healthcare Practitioners on Transporting Infants and Children with Special Needs. As well, we were invited to participate in a risk review process for a new car seat being developed by the engineering team at Bloorview Kids Rehab in Toronto. ■

## Facts & Figures:

- **20-30** loans are made each year
- Loan inventory consists of **11** car seats and **6** vests
- Families use the equipment from **6** weeks to **9** months
- Children followed at other Centres by Shriners surgeons are referred to our loan program
- Nurses and occupational therapists receive training on car safety

# Donors in Action

## Leaving a Legacy to the Shriners Hospital

Emmanuelle Rondeau

During a special ceremony, Kenneth and Virginia Corey of Temperance Vale, New Brunswick were remembered at the Shriners Hospital in Montreal on August 16th, 2007. Their very generous bequest of \$250,502 to the Shriners Hospital was presented by their nephew Noble David Corey and his wife Lady Edna Corey. The gift was recognized and acknowledged by Illustrious Sir Winston Mackay, Hospital Representative of the Luxor Shrine Centre (New Brunswick)

and Mr. Gary D. D. Morrison, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Shriners Hospital for Children - Canada.

Mr. Corey remembers: "although Uncle Kenneth was small in stature, he was a heavy weight when it came to lobbying the government for schools, nursing homes and community projects. He was a pillar of the community, supporting the churches in his area and for a long time managing the Temperance Vale community cemetery."

Born into a family of 12 children, he lived and worked most of his life within five miles of his birth place. Kenneth Gardiner Corey worked as a foreman for the Pinder sawmill, later becoming a shareholder and the sawmill boss. For over 50 years he provided work for many people in his community.

Kenneth Gardner Corey was raised to a Master Mason in Woodstock Lodge #11 F. & AM in May 1943, in Woodstock New Brunswick and was a charter member of Granite Lodge # 54 in May 1983 in Temperance Vale.

Kenneth and Virginia Corey were known for their love and support for each other, and especially for their intellectually challenged son Gerald whom they cared for most of his life. "We will never know for sure what inspired Kenneth to make this donation to the Shriners Hospitals. It may have been that he saw the good work that was performed at this Hospital in Montreal for the children of his community or it may have been advice of relatives and friends who are Shriners", concluded Mr. Corey. ■

Edna and David Corey with Gary D.D. Morrison at the ceremony unveiling the special plaque commemorating the generous bequest.



## Golfing for Good

Emmanuelle Rondeau

Past Potentate John McLaughlin and Noble Vaughn Munro from the Bruce Shrine Club in Ontario, traveled to Montreal to present \$7,867.83 to Gary D.D. Morrison, Chairman of the Board of Governors at the Canadian Shriners Hospital for Children. This represents 100% of the proceeds from a fund-raising event held at Ainsdale Golf Club this past July. The Bruce Shrine Club, which is affiliated to the Mocha Shrine Centre in London, raised these funds thanks to the support of local sponsors, donors,



Vaughn Munro presented the donation to Gary D.D. Morrison with John McLaughlin at the Board Meeting held on August 16.

participants and Shriners. Altogether, 112 golfers participated in the Golf event. According to Mr. Munro, his team is in place and plans are already underway for next year's Golf fund-raising event to be held at Ainsdale on Friday, July 11, 2008.

Currently the Bruce Shrine Club is sponsoring three children actively being treated at the Canadian hospital. The Club has also taken local children to Erie, Chicago and Cincinnati for treatment. ■

## The Mount Sinai Shriners – Montpelier, Vermont

Michael Luurtsema

The second Saturday in August each year is marked by Mt. Sinai Shriners for the annual toy run. This event is sponsored and put on by the United Motorcyclists of Vermont (UMV), an organization that works to improve the image of bikers through its scholarship program, charity works and motorcycle awareness and safety programs. The UMV holds several motorcycle related events throughout the year; however, the annual toy run is one of their main events.

The riders had several meeting points throughout the state where they gathered and then rode to a central meeting area



in Berlin, Vermont. Here they formed a parade and rode into Montpelier, our state capital. This year's ride had over 1100 motorcycles, with many riding double. The first year of the event, there were 10 motorcycles and the toys could fit in the back of a van.

To participate, each person riding must bring a toy. Each and every toy bearer was

greeted on the steps of the Statehouse by Mt. Sinai Divan members, Nobles and some of our Ladies and presented with a lapel pin. The lapel pins are designed by the sitting Potentate to commemorate that year's event. The Nobles of Mount Sinai Shriners would like to thank the United Motorcyclists of Vermont for their continued dedication in making this a lasting tribute to the children in Shriners Hospitals. ■

Vermont State Governor, Jim Douglas, who is also a Shriner, was present along with his wife and Potentate Michael Luurtsema to greet the riders.



The Statehouse steps were filled from side to side with toys; it was a sight to see.



## The Bektash Shriners – Concord, New Hampshire

Ted Dooley

On August 4, 2007 Bektash Centre of Concord, New Hampshire (NH) had the honor of hosting the 54th Annual Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl game in Hanover, NH at the Dartmouth College field, where NH won a hard fought game by a field goal.

The game King and Queen were both patients of Shriners Hospitals.

The queen was 15 year-old **Breanna Lynn Wiate-Gouin** who has been a patient of our Springfield, MA hospital since the age of 3 where she has been fitted with leg braces and equipment assist her in everyday life. She struggles every day with a disability that will never improve, she may never walk or talk but she has a smile that will melt you heart. She lives in Brattleboro, VT with her mother and father, Michael and Wendy Gouin. She has an eight year-old sister Katelynn and a five year-old brother Kyle.

The King was 13 year-old, **Timmy Kelly**. Timmy was born prematurely at 26 weeks weighing only 1 lb. 15 oz. at birth, and under went his first heart surgery at nine days old. Despite numerous surgeries, Timmy has been blind since he was 3 months old, and at 18 months he



was diagnosed with cerebral palsey. You might think that being blind and having cerebral palsey would be a major setback, but to Timmy these afflictions have been a "bump in the road". Timmy has the voice

of an angel, and aspires to be a pop star and make people smile with his singing, and he is well on his way. Timmy has sung the national anthem for the East West Shrine Game, and at professional football games, and has performed on the Good Morning America TV Show. He has sung for the President of the United States on more than one occasion, and sang the Canadian and US anthems as part of our pre-game festivities.

This game is sponsored each year by Mt. Sinai and Cairo Centres of Vermont and Bektash Centre of NH. In its 54 years the Shrine Maple Sugar Bowl has raised more than \$5 million for our local Shriners Hospitals, including Boston, Springfield and our Canadian Hospital.

The game was preceded by a spectacular parade through the streets of Hanover and thanks to the unwavering support of the majority of the Temples of the Northeast Shrine Association. ■