

# What's Happening at GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL



## Introducing Monica Bettazzoni, COO

The Georgetown Hospital Foundation is pleased to welcome Monica Bettazzoni as the new Chief Operating Officer for Georgetown Hospital and Director for the Georgetown Hospital Family Practice Program.

While Monica started her new role on June 13, 2022, she has been with Halton Healthcare for over 10 years, in the role of Director, Mental Health, Central Intake and Self-Management Programs. In this tri-site and regional role, Monica led and expanded Halton Healthcare's mental health services across Halton and was instrumental in ensuring patient access to appropriate levels of support, care and programming.

Monica has provided exceptional leadership on several key projects and initiatives including the Mental Health Program expansion, the move to the new Oakville Hospital and the integration of the North Halton Mental Health Clinics from Halton Region to Halton Healthcare. She was also Co-Chair of the Mental Health and Addictions Work Stream for the Connected Care Halton Ontario Health Team.

Monica began her career as an Occupational Therapist and says she chose the profession because she was pulled towards helping people, particularly with a focus on recovery. "Working as part of a team, and empowering patients to overcome physical and mental health challenges to achieve their goals has been very rewarding," says Bettazzoni.

As she joins the Georgetown Hospital team, Monica says her early priority will be to learn as much as she can about the hospital and its people through meeting with staff, physicians and



volunteers and doing a lot of listening. A strong focus will be to restore the hospital's health human resources and team well-being.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a significant toll on all healthcare workers," says Bettazzoni. "We need to support and restore our staffing, and move back to a state of stability,

which means retaining and recruiting, strengthening our teams and a continuous focus on putting the focus back on care." Monica will be working closely with the Georgetown Hospital Foundation and is excited to meet donors and learn more about the Halton Hills communities who generously support the Georgetown Hospital.

Last but not least, Monica is looking forward to supporting the planning that is underway to redevelop the current hospital that will transform healthcare services for the residents of Halton Hills. "We have learned so much throughout the pandemic that we can incorporate into our future plans to ensure we are better prepared to respond to emerging issues, including infectious diseases, such as COVID-19. We will continue to engage with the community as we proceed through the Ministry of Health's planning process."

"I want to thank everyone for welcoming me to the team and for diving right into the work with me. I am so honoured to be working with such talented and caring professionals. I also want to thank Cindy McDonnell, who was in this role before me – following in Cindy's accomplished footsteps will be a definite challenge but I can't wait to see what we're all able to accomplish together, with our shared purpose: [To Care.](#)"

### Fun Facts About Monica

- Monica grew up in Winnipeg, Manitoba and holds a Bachelor of Medical Rehabilitation, Occupational Therapy from the University of Manitoba as well as a Master of Education and Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Toronto
- She is an avid cottager and loves all things outdoors. She loves the peace of kayaking and seeing the views of the shoreline from her kayak
- She is an avid reader and her favourite books are any in the Outlander series

# GET READY TO WALK OR RUN TOGETHER FOR GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL!

The annual Walk or Run for Georgetown Hospital is back **IN ONE LOCATION** this year on Sunday, September 25th at the Gellert Community Centre!

The Walk or Run for Georgetown Hospital is one of the hospital's largest fundraisers each year. Attendees can look forward to even more fun and excitement than ever before with registration including a free event shirt, amazing goodie bag stuffed with gifts from local businesses, food and an onsite vendor market!

This event is for all ages and abilities! Not a runner? No problem, as both runners and walkers will enjoy the beautiful trails surrounding the Gellert Community Centre on either the 5KM or 3KM route. Plus, you have the option of registering as an individual or as a team with your family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues or teammates!

"It was so great to see community residents of all ages participate in last year's hybrid event. Seeing the kids hockey teams and their parents walk in support of local healthcare was one of my fondest memories," says Betty D'Oliveira, chair of the event committee. "We are thrilled to be going back to having everyone at one location at the Gellert Community Centre this year."

The funds raised from this event will support Georgetown Hospital's most urgent equipment needs which translate into quicker assessment, earlier diagnosis, and life-saving treatment for members of our community. Last year's event raised over \$80,000 and with your help we know we can make 2022 even bigger!

To register your team or for more information visit [www.ghfwalkrun.ca](http://www.ghfwalkrun.ca).



## Georgetown Kia is a proud supporter of the Walk or Run for Georgetown Hospital each year

This year they are pleased to host the Foundation's first ever Kia Captain's Kickoff Party at their beautiful state-of-the-art dealership located at 15 Mountainview Road in Georgetown. This kickoff event will be an opportunity for Walk or Run team captains to learn more about team fundraising, day of event activities and enjoy some food and refreshments at the dealership.

"It is our honour and privilege to support such an important cause here in our community", said Georgetown Kia owner Tony Garofoli. "We are thrilled to see the Walk or Run for Georgetown Hospital return in person this year at the Gellert Community Centre. It is a fun event for the entire family that brings our community together, which is what it is all about."

This community has shown us overwhelming support over the years and every bit we can giveback to show our appreciation - we will do it!"



Newsletter Developed by:



# SURPRISE ENTRANCE!



Petula, Christian & Tony Fera

It was like something you see on television. Except it was happening to her and she was about to deliver a baby she didn't even know she was expecting.

Petula Fera assumed that due to her age she and her husband Tony wouldn't have a baby. In January 2021, after experiencing abdominal pain, she suspected she might have a urinary tract infection and asked her husband to take her to Georgetown Hospital. Due to pandemic restrictions, he couldn't come into the hospital with her.

She had blood and urine tests and was assessed by a physician and nurse, who congratulated her on her pregnancy. Petula had no idea what they were talking about.

"They were asking me all kinds of questions about how far along I was and I couldn't answer them", said Petula. She says looking back there

were signs, but she explained away her weight gain due to working from home and the stress of the pandemic.

After an ultrasound, the physician said they thought she was fairly far along in her pregnancy and transferred her to the Obstetrics department for further tests. She was still trying to understand what was happening when she was advised that she was in active labour. Between contractions, Petula managed to tell her surprised husband on the phone that she was about to deliver a baby.

He knew it wasn't a joke and raced back to the hospital, arriving just minutes before their son Christian was born. The baby was breathing but immediately taken for further assessment as he was born prematurely at an estimated 32 weeks. Within a few hours he was transferred to Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital's special care nursery, where he spent the first month of his life. While awaiting transport, he was cared for at Georgetown Hospital with many pieces of special equipment, including an infant radiant warmer to keep him warm and allow the nurses to safely monitor his vital signs.

"We were in shock, and just trying to process all of the information that was coming at us", said Petula. "In the span of 15 hours I went from thinking I had a bladder infection, to finding out I was pregnant, to delivering a baby and being discharged from the hospital."

Petula thanks the Emergency and Obstetrics departments for the great care she and Christian received at Georgetown Hospital, particularly the nurse who coached her through her contractions. "The Emergency doctor said in her 20-year career she's never seen anything like this", Petula shared.

"It was only later that I learned that all of the equipment that was used on Christian and me – from the ultrasound to the labour bed to the infant radiant warmer – was purchased through community donations to Georgetown Hospital. I am so grateful for the amazing care I received from the doctors and nurses, and for the community supporting our local hospital."

Today, Christian is an active toddler and Petula and Tony look forward to one day sharing with him the beautiful story of his surprise entrance into the world.

## Obstetrics

28%

Georgetown Hospital welcomed 403 babies last year. An increase of 28%.

## Surgeries

18%

Over 3600 surgeries were preformed.

# Georgetown Hospital by the Numbers

## Laboratory

20%

Over 326,000 lab tests were performed.

## Diagnostics

21%

There were over 45,000 diagnostic images taken at Georgetown Hospital.

## Emergency

21%

Over 37,000 patients visited our Emergency Department.



# PLANNED GIVING

My heartfelt thanks to each of you who appreciate the vital role that the hospital plays with both your life and our community, and who so thoughtfully included the Georgetown Hospital Foundation in your will. Your gift will ensure that the hospital continues to provide exemplary patient experiences, always.

If you're still thinking about including the hospital in your will, please let your lawyer know of our legal name and Charitable Registration #: The Georgetown Hospital Foundation, CR# 82001 2276 RR0001 and reach out to me for a chat.

Gift in your Will

Stocks

Trusts or Endowments

Life Insurance

Annuities

Deborah Bauder  
Associate Director, Gift & Estate  
Planning  
Call 289-218-0715 or email  
dbauber@haltonhealthcare.com



## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS!

### SQUASH MARATHON



Peter Mumford turned his hobby into a fundraiser, playing squash for 24 hours straight at the Georgetown Racquet Club! His incredible display of dedication and athleticism raised over \$4,000!

Thank you, Peter!

### CRUISE LOTTERY



Thank you to Expedia Cruises Georgetown, Celebrity Cruises, Elizabeth's Fashions, The Downtown Spa, Lily Thai and many other fantastic local businesses who made the Cruise Lottery possible.

### McHAPPY DAY



McDonald's in Georgetown and Acton raised over \$6,000 on McHappy Day and was made possible by the hardworking staff, volunteers and community support at both locations. Kudos to Tim and Casey O'Connor and McDonald's!

### THE ACTON LEGION



The Acton Legion - Branch 197 generously donated over \$5,000 from their Poppy fund towards the purchase of a new vital signs monitor for our hospital!

Thank you, Acton Legion!

## Become a Community Partner

Interested in hosting your own fundraiser in support of the Georgetown Hospital? Leading a fundraiser, no matter the size, is a great way to support local healthcare in your community.

For more information contact  
Knesia Sholdra at:  
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or (905) 873-0111 ext 8241



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