A LEGACY OF CARING
A RETROSPECTIVE
The Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation was formed in 1973 by community leaders to lend crucial fundraising support to programs and services benefitting patients and families. Funding from private donations supplements basic operating costs provided by government to cover the purchase of equipment and support hospital priorities as they emerge.

The current Foundation staff of four, headed by CEO Wendy Corn, organizes fund-raising campaigns, such as last fall’s Donor Wall of Compassion, and many special events, including the successful Sinai Rally which was held annually for 12 years, ending in 2016.

The funding of special programs that enhance quality of life is an important mandate. Art and music therapy help patients navigate the challenges posed by their illness. Jewish cultural programming supports the continuum of care philosophy by addressing the emotional and spiritual needs of patients and their families. In addition, Magic Moments, the first adult program of its kind in Quebec, aims to fulfill the last wishes of palliative care patients. All depend completely on private support.

The Foundation has taken an active part in beautifying the hospital in collaboration with the Art for Healing Foundation. Installing original works of art provides a needed source of inspiration and stimulation in the hospital setting, or simply an opportunity for reflection.

The Foundation also administers the Annual Fund, a yearly appeal to help support the hospital’s most pressing needs, and the In Honour/In Memory Funds, Major Gifts, and Planned Giving.

Recognize anyone in this photo? If so we would love to hear from you. info@mountsinaifoundation.org
A NEW CHAIRMAN

Leon Krolik may be new to his role as Chairman but he is not a newcomer to Mount Sinai, having served as Board member and Treasurer of the Foundation. His personal involvement with the Hospital began as a son looking to help his father. He became aware of Mount Sinai's place in the community and, in particular, its specialty of palliative care.

The son of Holocaust survivors who emigrated to Canada in 1949, Leon was born and raised in Montreal. A graduate of Sir George Williams University, he is a partner in the auditing and accounting firm of Stein Jacobs Krolik.

During his time serving the Foundation he has seen the organization evolve and lauds its important role in assisting the hospital to provide exemplary service and allowing it to excel in fulfilling its mandate. He views the Foundation as a partner in helping the hospital to deliver the best possible patient care.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN,
Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation

I'm pleased to introduce this report on 2016 activities, my first as Chairman of the Foundation, having taken up the position this past year. Our theme – a Legacy of Caring – speaks to Mount Sinai's heritage of helping. Much has been made recently of the twin anniversaries of Montreal's 375th and Canada's 150th and it seems a fitting moment to recognize the hospital's proud history of more than a century of service.

Patients and their families turn to Mount Sinai for help with palliative and long-term care and chronic health conditions. Mount Sinai responds by providing an outstanding level of care that gives comfort and peace of mind.

Since its inception in 1909, the hospital has seen many important advances, including the introduction of antibiotics and the establishment of public healthcare. While our services and facilities have expanded greatly throughout the years, the commitment to compassionate care and the focus on the individual patient and the needs of their families remains constant.

Despite its long history, Mount Sinai is not as well known as it deserves to be. During my term, one of my goals is to promote a broader knowledge of the Hospital's value in the greater Montreal area.

Leon Krolik
Chairman of the Board
Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation

MILESTONES
A Heritage of Helping from 1909 - 2017

The Mount Sinai Sanatorium was founded in 1909 in Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts to treat patients with tuberculosis. At 457 metres above sea level, the location ensured clean country air, described as being like “champagne.”

In the 1920s Montreal's Jewish community raised money to build a larger complex with upgraded facilities to meet an increased demand for services.

The 1930s saw the erection of a modern building with thirty-six wards accommodating 114 patients. The hospital continued to be subsidized in large part by the Jewish community and offered free treatment to the poor. At the time the world-class institution was considered the jewel in the crown of Jewish philanthropy.

Designed in Art Deco style, it had quartz lamps, sterilizing facilities, dental and operating rooms, an x-ray department, laboratories and a fully equipped medical library. The flat roof, elegant synagogue and theatre all provided areas for gatherings and celebrations.

The Sanatorium and surroundings were intended to be a completely autonomous community. Facilities included high-pressure fire equipment, a central heating plant, a continuous supply of hot water, sewage disposal, and laundry services. The farm on the property grew vegetables and grains and raised its own livestock and poultry.

In 1990, Mount Sinai moved to its current location in Montreal to be closer to the population it served. The state-of-the-art building has 107 beds, an out-patient department and a wide range of diagnostic and treatment services.

Information drawn from Architecture, Religion and Tuberculosis in Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, Quebec by Annmarie Adams and Mary Anne Poutanen.
**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

The Donor Wall of Compassion honouring Alta Levenson

A special evening last fall saw the much-anticipated unveiling of the Donor Wall of Compassion. The event on November 17 was the culmination of a major effort to support palliative programs and services at Mount Sinai Hospital. Launched in the spring of 2016, the Wall of Compassion project honours Alta Levenson for her long-standing service and dedication as a Board member and volunteer.

Located near the clinic entrance, the Wall installation displays a large heart depicted in acrylic dove shapes. The beautiful and inspiring work features the dedications of its donors and underlines the commitment of our community to the hospital.

Guests were received for cocktails in a large reception tent after walking through the hospital on “the blue carpet” — in keeping with the colour scheme of the Wall’s artwork! Christina A. Gold, past CEO of The Western Union Company, served as Master of Ceremonies for the happy occasion.

The event was an opportunity to recognize the generosity of our donors and to celebrate the success of the Tribute Committee, chaired by Heleena Wiltzer. Thanks to their hard work, they surpassed their original objective by raising more than $750,000.

Mount Sinai is a role model for palliative care in Quebec and offers a number of special programs to enhance quality of life. Many of these services are not covered by the budget allocated by government and we depend on private support to offer them each year.

It’s not too late to participate in the Donor Wall of Compassion. There are still spaces available for you to honour a loved one and help support palliative programs and services at Mount Sinai.
Dr. Rubin Becker received much deserved honours at an event held on April 6 to salute his outstanding service and dedication to his patients and their families. Dr. Becker, a specialist in geriatrics and internal medicine, has been with Mount Sinai since 1985.

The Rubin Becker Endowment Fund was created in spring 2013 to ensure the long-term funding of programs and services not covered by our Health Agency – innovative programs such as art and music therapy, outpatient pulmonary rehabilitation, and palliative home care – that are dependent on private support.

The evening was an occasion to thank donors for their generous contributions to the Fund. Automobiles Etcetera hosted the beautiful event, providing a dream location in keeping with Dr. Becker’s passion for fine automobiles and a treat for car enthusiasts.

Donors, colleagues and family members toasted Dr. Becker at the elegant cocktail dinatoire. Leon Krolik welcomed the 100 guests and thanked the Co-chairs of the campaign, Marsha Becker and her son, Brian for their unwavering commitment and dedication to this project. The Fund has now reached its goal of raising $1 million and its income will provide a permanent revenue stream to support programs and services not covered by government funding.
Gold – Gifts of $1,000 – $2,999
9048 3223 Quebec Inc.
Air Canada Foundation
Alain Boudreault
Alma
American Education Foundation
Andrew B. Novick
Andrew Nivelov
Andrew Yagel
Aqua Group Inc.
Arlene & Henri Abitan
Arturo Colic
Ardyce & John Hardy
Astrid & James Filion
Audrey Denison
Audrey Leibowitz
Audrey Zilberman
Augustine Charbonneau
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INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP IN PULMONARY REHABILITATION

Dr. Nathalie Saad, Director of Mount Sinai’s Outpatient Pulmonary Program and a respirologist with both Mount Sinai and the Jewish General hospitals, is passionate about the possibilities that telemedicine offers pulmonary rehabilitation patients.

Currently, just over 1% of the population that needs it has access to pulmonary rehabilitation. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is the leading cause of recurrent emergency room visits and hospitalization. As Dr. Saad sees it, telemedicine is part of the solution to overcome the barriers of distance from services and access to care.

Mount Sinai’s pulmonary rehabilitation program is one of the most diversified in Quebec and a leading resource for those who suffer from chronic pulmonary disease or who are awaiting a lung transplant. It aims to reduce symptoms, increase physical activity and improve quality of life. The interdisciplinary approach to respiratory care draws on the expertise of physicians, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dieticians and psychologists.

Montreal-area patients with COPD can participate in a program of exercise and tutorials offered at the hospital. At its conclusion, they benefit from an eight-week maintenance program and follow-up over twelve months. And now, since mid-January, this program is available using teleconferencing via Quebec’s secure telemedicine system. This means we can bring the same program for pulmonary rehabilitation to patients at regional hospitals, through live interaction with these sites. Joliette Hospital and Verdun Hospital are the first to participate.

Dr. Saad looks forward to the expansion of this leading-edge program to more hospitals, a greater range of services, and, eventually, teleconsultation. It is obvious she loves her job and the satisfaction it brings when she declares that “It’s not work!”

We don’t usually associate laughter and “high fives” with a hospital stay, but when recreologist Paul Pinette is around, that’s what you get. While his work, which involves exercising both the mind and body, may be playful, it has a serious goal: to give additional quality of life to his patients.

Paul stresses the importance of seeing patients as individuals, appreciating their acquired knowledge and experience, and helping them to maintain their dignity, despite illness. He begins his work day by greeting all his patients and ends it the same way. He strives to ensure that any concerns they express are addressed promptly. For those in palliative care, his focus is on listening to and supporting both patients and their family members.

He directs a variety of activities, from blackjack to bowling to Friday afternoon bingo games. Another popular activity is the discussion group he leads. “News of the week” is a lively exchange where individuals can voice their opinions; topics over the past year included the right to die, the ups and downs of U.S. politics, and the legalization of marijuana.

What gives him the most satisfaction in his work? It is the opportunity to witness friendships growing between patients and connections formed amongst their families. Asked what makes Mount Sinai a special place to work, he credits team effort and the egalitarian nature of staff interaction.

Away from the Hospital Paul remains active, hiking and serving as a Volunteer Citizen on Patrol in Côte Saint-Luc.

Paul’s empathy, positive energy and love of life bring joy and happiness to those around him. As his patients tell him when he’s been absent for more than two days at a stretch, “he’s been away too long.”

Our outpatient pulmonary rehabilitation program serves to keep patients out of hospital by giving them the tools to manage their illness at home. Outpatient programs depend on the support of our generous donors.

We are barely limited to a special dinner to recognize the members of the Mount Sinai Foundation and the role they play in supporting our various programs. Our dinner was held at 6:30 p.m. on February 23rd, 1993, at 380 Avenue Mont-Royal, and we are delighted to report that it was a great success.

OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS DEPEND ON THE SUPPORT OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS.
Exemplary Service through the Years

As the head of Mount Sinai’s state-of-the-art Medical Imaging Service is an exceptional professional, Line Ouellette. The Imaging Service provides a variety of examination procedures for in-patients and out-patients, including general X-rays, electrocardiograms and ultrasounds.

Line was an early member of staff at the current hospital site. She arrived in November 1990, before the transfer of patients began from Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, and set about ordering furniture and supplies and establishing procedures to create the new department. A member of the Ordre professionnel des technologues en imagerie médicale et en radio-oncologie du Québec, she is responsible for implementing the highest of standards and assuring patient safety.

Patient-centered (long before the term became a buzzword!) in her approach to her duties, Line takes care of a patient from arrival at the imaging unit through to completing the report for the referring physician. She treats each patient as a special individual deserving of her best efforts.

To Line, what makes Mount Sinai a unique workplace is the “family” of patients, colleagues and patients came here. Her affection for Mount Sinai is evident when she describes it as her “second home” and the small department she has nurtured is “her baby.”

In addition to busy days in the imaging unit, Line has been President of the Hospital’s Multidisciplinary Council since 2002. She has also served on numerous committees and working groups. She is well known for always being technologues en imagerie médicale et en radio-oncologie du Québec, she is responsible for implementing the highest of standards and assuring patient safety.

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Youth services advocate Manny Batshaw died at the age of 101 on July 18, 2016. Following an illustrious career, he spent much of his later years at Mount Sinai Hospital where he served as a fund-raising consultant for the Foundation and was well known to hospital staff and patients alike.

In 1975, he was appointed to head a commission formed in response to the problem of abuse in Quebec’s youth homes. The work resulted in a change in the government’s approach to youth services – to favour the use of foster homes over institutional care, the involvement of the community in creating more humane environments, and better-trained child-care workers – and a new Youth Protection Act in 1979. Thirteen years later, when four English-language child-protection groups merged, they were named in his honour to become the Batshaw Youth and Family Centres.

His lifelong efforts were further recognized in 1995, when he was inducted into the National Order of Quebec. Three years later, McGill University awarded him an honorary doctorate and, in 2003, he was named to the Order of Canada.

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