

BUILDING A HEALTHIER TOMORROW FOR PATIENTS TODAY



2023-2024 Impact Report to the Community



Health Sciences North
Foundation | Fondation
Horizon Santé-Nord



NEO Kids
Foundation
Fondation
Enfants NEO



Northern
Cancer
Foundation
Fondation
du Nord
en cancérologie



Health Sciences North
Volunteer Association
Horizon Santé-Nord
Association des bénévoles



Health Sciences North
Horizon Santé-Nord

MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

Thanks to your unwavering dedication, the Foundations at Health Sciences North (HSN) have achieved a record-breaking year for fundraising, with **\$21 million** raised to support excellence in patient care.

Health Sciences North Foundation, NEO Kids Foundation, Northern Cancer Foundation, HSN Volunteer Association, and Volunteer Services are honoured to collaborate in ensuring that your generosity makes a profound impact in the lives of the more than 600,000 people across our region relying on specialized care at HSN.

Your support serves as a vital link, connecting patients to exemplary care and helping to pioneer research aimed at enhancing health outcomes in the Northeast and beyond. It empowers the HSN team to deliver timely, high-quality care using cutting-edge medical equipment and the latest treatment options.

Over the past year, the Foundations invested \$3.7 million directly into patient areas at HSN. This includes successfully funding the construction and equipment costs of a new 52-bed Acute and Reactivation Care Centre. \$2.3 million of this total was generously donated by the HSN Volunteer Association, sourced from proceeds from the HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery for the North.

Our Foundations have further invested in the future of care so that we can build and expand spaces to meet the needs of our community. To date, \$35.5 million has been designated towards future capital projects. These investments aim to strengthen the future of pediatric care, mental health services, and acute patient care, specifically benefiting vulnerable populations such as seniors, children, and individuals facing mental health and addiction challenges.

Our investment in research is driving innovation and breakthroughs in areas across cancer care, cardiac health, mental health and addictions and many other areas critical to our region. This year, through funding various positions and projects, we have invested \$1.1 million in furthering research within our community.

We extend our deepest gratitude for your tireless efforts in advancing high-quality care for patients across Northeastern Ontario.



Anthony Keating
President and Chief
Development Officer,
Foundations and
Volunteer Groups at HSN



Rick Cousineau
Board Chair, NEO Kids
Foundation



Jacob Gauthier
Board Chair, Health
Sciences North
Foundation

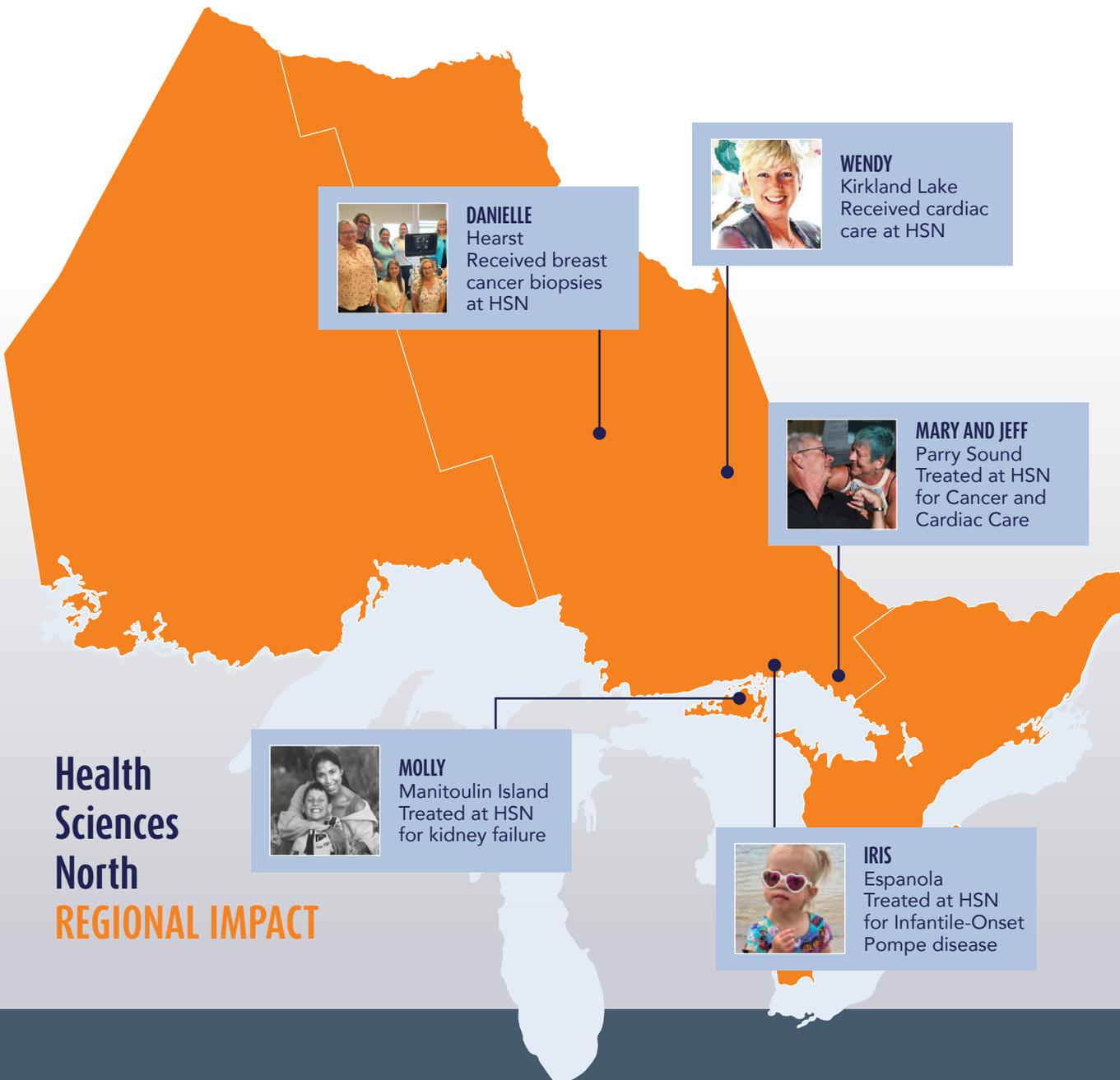


Christine Harvey
Board Chair, Northern
Cancer Foundation



John Van de Rydt
President, HSN Volunteer
Association

Fundraising for the Future of Healthcare in Northeastern Ontario



Health Sciences North
REGIONAL IMPACT

HSN serves as the primary regional healthcare hub in Northeastern Ontario, caring for patients from 22 hospitals across the region for specialized care and treatment.

As the healthcare demands in Northeastern Ontario continue to rise, HSN is committed to expanding its facilities to meet these needs. Our growing and aging population requires state-of-the-art equipment and modern infrastructure to ensure that every patient receives the highest quality of care. Investing in our capital expansion is crucial to support our community's health and well-being, both now and into the future.

Region	Patients referred to HSN and were admitted (2023-2024)
Algoma	1,267
Cochrane	1,039
Nipissing	1,027
Manitoulin	880
Temiskaming	545
Parry Sound	378
Toronto	34
Kenora	28
Halton	27
Simcoe	24
Muskoka	23
Peel	22
Ottawa	21
TOTAL	5,315



Cancer Care at HSN 2023-2024

3000+

new cancer patients

11,584

chemotherapy visits

22,961

radiation therapy visits

Advancing Excellence in Cancer Care: A Pillar of Hope

The Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre is dedicated to providing exceptional cancer care. It stands at the forefront of innovation, research, compassion, and dedication in the fight against cancer. The Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre, which serves a population of more than 600,000 in Northeastern Ontario, is one of the top fourteen regional cancer programs in the province.

For those living across Northeastern Ontario with cancer, getting the right care isn't just about medical treatments.

It's about feeling supported and empowered by your care team during a tough time. Cancer care means patients can access the best treatments close to home, which reduces stress as well as the burdens of travel and allows them to be close to their support system.

The multidisciplinary team of world-renowned oncologists, scientists, and researchers collaborate seamlessly to provide personalized care, from advanced diagnostics to pioneering treatments. In the pursuit of excellence, the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast

Cancer Centre recognizes that innovation is key to transforming cancer care. Through innovative research initiatives, it strives to push the boundaries of knowledge and uncover breakthroughs that redefine treatment and offer new hope to patients.

Your support enables the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre to continue its vital work, ensuring that those living in Northeastern Ontario receive the care and compassion they deserve on their path to a brighter tomorrow.

Oncologists Leading the Path to Patient-Centered Excellence

Excellence is reflected in the work taking place every day at the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre, and as Dr. Nathan Thangaroopan and Dr. Luisa Bonilla say, our community plays an essential role in driving the excellence of our Cancer Centre to reach new limits.



Dr. Nathan Thangaroopan joined the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre team as a Radiation Oncologist in 2021 and has already seen exceptional growth in the outcomes of cancer patients.

*“In the three years I’ve been with the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre team, we have made incredible accomplishments to the level of care provided. Innovation and new technology have allowed us to significantly reduce the number of radiation treatments required for patients with breast or prostate cancer without compromising their treatment outcomes, having, in select cases, reduced radiation treatment **from 38 sessions down to 5 sessions**. These accomplishments are made possible because of the generosity of our donor community who believes in our work at the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre.”*



Dr. Luisa Bonilla, a Medical Oncologist, believes that the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre is more than a medical facility. It’s a place of hope for breakthroughs in cancer care for Northeastern Ontario patients and families.

“Worldwide, cancer is considered a pandemic, and that is the reality in our community too. Cancer understanding and treatments are constantly evolving, and we are developing new options for effective treatments. It is important for our community to be involved in our mission to provide the best cancer care. It ensures we can continue to improve outcomes through research and innovation to be that much closer to a future without cancer.”

Caring for Patients Where and When They Need it Most



Traveling to HSN for Specialized Care

Mary and Jeff live in Parry Sound but have frequently travelled to Sudbury to receive specialized care throughout their lives.

Mary was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2004, which reoccurred in 2018. Both times, she was glad to be surrounded by the compassionate team at the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre at HSN, who helped her through her treatment. Understanding that Mary was from out of town, her oncologist and health team worked with her local hospital and OTN to ensure she was getting the care she needed, where she needed it.

Jeff had a heart attack in 2017 and was rushed from Parry Sound to HSN to receive specialized cardiac care. During this scary time, Mary and Jeff found comfort as they learned about HSN's history of excellence in cardiac care. Jeff was in the hospital for nearly two weeks, recovering from a life-saving bypass surgery, and Mary made numerous trips from Parry Sound to HSN, much closer than driving to Southern Ontario.

Both Mary and Jeff are grateful for the care they received at HSN and hope that, through the generosity of our community, HSN can continue to be an exceptional leader in cardiac and cancer care for Northeastern Ontario residents.

Donor-Funded OMNI Beds Save Lives in the NICU

After his mother Katie's diagnosis with a rare pregnancy complication, while 30 weeks pregnant, Theo arrived nearly 10 weeks early via emergency C-section at HSN.

Being born prematurely and weighing only 2lbs 10oz meant Theo required extra care in the NICU. His breathing was unstable which required multiple interventions and numerous hours spent in an OMNI Bed receiving care. After six long weeks in the NICU, he was finally able to go home with his family for the first time.

"I am thankful for all of the doctors, nurses and staff who have supported my son, husband, and I - and continue to support us. I don't know where we would be without NEO Kids!" said Katie.

Although he arrived early, Theo is in good health and continues to receive care at the Children's Treatment Centre. Katie has made a full recovery and enjoys watching Theo grow. Katie and her family are grateful for our community's help to fund specialized medical equipment, like an OMNI Bed that helped save her son's life.



"Patients are the heart of everything we do, and having access to the best medical equipment allows us to provide quality care close to home."

*Dr. Krista Marcotte,
Pediatrician, pictured beside
an OMNI Bed.*

Donors Making A Difference

One Million Reasons to be Thankful – United Steelworkers (USW) Local 6500 Surpasses \$1 Million in Lifetime Giving

Since their first gift in 1988 to their most recent gift of \$50,000 earlier this year, the USW Local 6500 has surpassed a remarkable milestone of \$1 million donated to enhance patient care through the Foundations at HSN.

One of USW Local 6500's key contributions over the years was a \$500,000 donation towards the construction of the Children's Treatment Centre, which officially opened in 2010. Further, their support extended to the funding of various equipment across HSN, including two new ventilators for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and HSN's PET scanner, one of only thirteen in Ontario, which allows Northeastern Ontario patients to stay closer to home for this type of advanced medical imaging.

"HSN's services have touched our lives in many ways," said Nick Larochelle, President of USW Local 6500. "We feel strongly about giving back to causes meaningful to our members, and this has included pediatric care, oncology, research, and everything in between.



Pediatric Care at HSN Receives Generous \$100,000 Gift from Allain Labelle and Family

NEO Kids Foundation is grateful for a generous gift of \$100,000 from Allain Labelle, Partner at Innova Wealth and Vice President of Club Richelieu Sudbury, using funds from his registered retirement income fund (RRIF) to enhance care for children and their families at HSN.

"Children have unique needs which require access to the most advanced equipment and procedures to help them get healthy. I hope my gift will encourage others to give back and empower and support the next generations of young leaders in Northeastern Ontario," said Allain Labelle.



GENERATIONAL GIVING: A Family's Legacy in Philanthropy

Nick and Janelle Foligno's Gift Transforms Pediatric ACU

Thanks to a generous gift from Nick and Janelle Foligno, the Pediatric Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU) has undergone a major transformation into a child-friendly, under-the-sea theme. This newly renovated space offers captivating underwater scenes, 3D characters, and new exam rooms to enhance the care experience for pediatric patients and families across Northeastern Ontario.

The new space features vibrant murals and stickers of coral and sea animals, a distraction room with a bubble tower and changing lights to provide sensory stimuli for children during treatment, and life-sized 3D characters, including a manatee, fish, and ducks.



Investing in Breast Cancer Research: Janis Foligno's Legacy

As a tribute to Janis Foligno's legacy, the Janis Foligno Foundation Award in Breast Cancer was established thanks to a generous \$50,000 donation. This award will be granted to a research or clinical project focused on breast cancer and breast cancer care and will help make a significant difference in the lives of those affected by breast cancer in Northeastern Ontario.

Everlasting Light: The Legacy of a Cancer Donor

When Aline Belanger would walk into a room, everyone would feel the love, comfort, and happiness she brought with her. Even after her diagnosis with a severe case of ovarian cancer, Aline remained positive and kept her spirits high.

Sadly, Aline lost her battle with cancer in November of 2023. To honour her legacy and express their gratitude for the compassionate care she received, her family donated a portion of funds from her estate to the Northern Cancer Foundation. Aline's family will forever be grateful for the time they had with her and the light she brought to all of their lives. Her light will continue to shine through this generous gift that will help others along their cancer journey.



Continuous Compassion: A Monthly Commitment to Care



After moving to Sudbury 16 years ago, Pat was determined to get involved in her new community and make it her home. She began volunteering and giving back to local organizations meaningful to her, like the HSN Foundation, in honour of her husband and granddaughter, who receive regular MRIs and care.

"Sudbury is my home, and HSN is where my family and friends go when they need care. Monthly giving allows me to make convenient and manageable donations and provides the Foundations with predictable funding to plan long-term initiatives that will ultimately benefit myself and my loved ones. I know that, through my donations, HSN will have the tools and resources ready when we need them right here at home."

Thank you Pat and all our monthly donors, for helping us purchase state-of-the-art medical equipment, advance research to better treatment outcomes, and build HSN into a facility designed to meet the needs of our growing community.

YOU MAKE GREAT CARE POSSIBLE

Your kindness helped invest \$4.8 million back to support equipment purchases and research.

Here are a Few Ways You're Making a Difference



DIALYSIS CHAIRS – Dialysis patients can now experience greater comfort during their treatments thanks to new, donor-funded chairs. With dialysis typically lasting four hours, three times a week, the increased comfort will make a significant difference in their treatment experience.

CARDIAC ULTRASOUNDS –

Community support has helped fund the replacement of two cardiovascular ultrasound systems (ECHOs) for HSN. Set to arrive in 2024, the ECHOs are critical to diagnosing, planning treatments, monitoring, and providing follow-up care for thousands of patients across all areas of HSN, including oncology and pediatrics.



DEEP RESOLVE MRI 3T TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION – Deep Resolve is an advanced image reconstruction technology that can take a blurry MRI picture and make it clearer. Pediatric patients, in particular, will benefit from this technology integration because children have difficulty remaining still for long periods of time. In the past, they sometimes required multiple MRI scans or sedation to generate a clear image. This new technology means that our patients can be scanned faster and have a more comfortable experience.

HSN by the Numbers 2023-2024



30,694

Cardiac patient visits



416,729

Diagnostic exams



669,397

Patient visits



72,495

Emergency department visits



1,541

Babies delivered



37,234

Pediatric outpatient visits



2,408

Mental health admissions

Community Champions: Fundraising to Enhance Patient Care



Toronto Celebrates Sudbury

Born from the idea of bringing together both current and former Sudburians to raise funds for local charitable organizations in a fun and social way, Toronto Celebrates Sudbury returned to Toronto after four years to celebrate the vibrant Sudbury community while raising crucial funds.



Palladino Golf Tournament

The 2023 Palladino Auto Group Golf Classic for NEO Kids generated over \$200,000 in support of pediatric care at HSN. This contribution pushes overall fundraising efforts closer to the impressive \$1 million mark since the event's inception in 2015.



Luncheon of Hope – 25th anniversary

The Luncheon of Hope marked its 25th anniversary of dedicated support towards equipment, funding research, and advancing treatments for breast cancer patients, fostering continual improvement in care. The event featured keynote speaker Jeanne Beker; Canadian TV personality, fashion editor and breast cancer survivor.



Scrap Cancer – A record breaking year

Scrap Cancer raised in excess of \$110,000 in support of cancer research, vital equipment purchases, and patient care at the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre! This incredible achievement marks a new pinnacle for the campaign, breaking its previous record of \$68,000 in 2012.



Tim Hortons Smile Cookies

Bringing joy to our community one smile cookie at a time. Tim Hortons generously contributed over \$90,000 from their Smile Cookie campaign to enhance patient care excellence at HSN.

Volunteers Supporting Patient Care

Meet Pauline

If you've ever visited the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre, you have likely been greeted by our kind and compassionate volunteer, Pauline Demers.

Having served as an HSN volunteer since 1997 (more than 27 years!), Pauline began her journey in the Boutique and was later offered a volunteer position within the Shirley and Jim Fielding Northeast Cancer Centre.

At first, she was reluctant to make the move, having lost the majority of her family to the disease. Through this reluctance came strength, and eventually, she found herself guiding her family through their cancer journeys from a volunteer perspective.

"My nieces would ask me if I was volunteering on the days of their appointments – they always felt more comfortable coming in when they knew I was there," said Pauline.

Pauline's hope is simple: to bring a moment of comfort and a smile to every patient she encounters. Her dedication embodies the spirit of volunteerism and reminds us all of the power of compassion.



Volunteer Quick Facts

Number of volunteers throughout the year: **394**

Total Volunteer hours contributed: **46,483**



Meet Alice

Alice came to Canada from Uganda in 2023 to study at Laurentian University. Back home, she had volunteered with children at her local hospital.

Missing home and her family, Alice decided to start volunteering at HSN so she could continue helping people in her community. Alice volunteers her time at the Volunteer Desk at HSN where she helps patients and visitors find their way around the hospital.

"I've had the chance to bond with regular visiting patients who now recognize me and come to say hello each time they come in. I love learning about people, and creating those connections is my favourite part of volunteering," says Alice. "I hope my work brings smiles to patient's faces, and I hope it means an easier trip to the hospital for everyone I see."

HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery for the North

Since inception:

23,631
average buyers/month

565 communities
purchased across Ontario

\$50.7 million
ticket sales

\$25 million+
grand prizes awarded

\$17.6 million

dedicated to HSN and HSNRI to
support patient care, research
and future investments

figures as of March 31, 2024



"I had a head rush when I heard the number over the phone. Still don't believe it," said Bill Lynn, who won December's \$1,169,522 jackpot, "I've been buying tickets every month and sure, I dreamed I would win, but I really bought to support. HSN saved my life a couple of times, so it's not hard for me to put a few bucks every month to a good cause."

"I'm looking forward to spoiling the grandkids a little and maybe spoiling myself a bit, but this kind of money can make a big difference for my family down the road, too. It's exciting to think about, even if I still think I'm dreaming."

Here are some of our other big winners over the past year – congratulations!



Enhanced Seniors Care Made Possible by HSN 50/50 Supporters

The number of older adults living with frailty in Northeastern Ontario is growing rapidly, and so is the need to deliver them specialized care. In November 2023, the Acute and Rehabilitation Care Centre (ARCC) was opened at HSN. This 52-bed facility was purposefully designed to deliver precise care for older adults by a clinical team with specialized expertise.

Total capital costs for the project are \$11.9 million, including \$2.3 million coming from the HSN Volunteer Association through the HSN 50/50. This funding covers 10% of construction expenses and all equipment within the ARCC.

Patients at the ARCC are provided with recreational and rehabilitative care activities and have access to a full team of nurses and allied health professionals with specialized training throughout their stay. The facility includes amenities such as a gym, communal dining area, and courtyard, all aimed at promoting recovery and preserving independence and quality of life. By focusing on providing the best care possible to patients in the ARCC, patients spend, on average, eight days less in the hospital and transition to home or the community sooner with decreased chances of requiring long-term care.



HSN Research Institute Home to Some of the Brightest Minds in Research



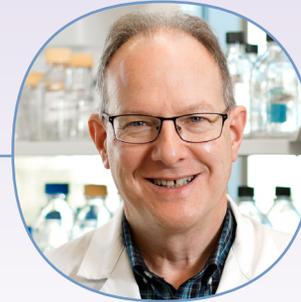
Researcher: Dr. Cahill
Funding Awarded: \$30,000

Dr. Cahill's research focuses on the patient experience and surgical outcomes of colorectal surgery patients who use a specified diet to facilitate weight loss in the weeks before surgery.



Researcher: Dr. Le
Funding Awarded: \$35,000

Dr. Le's group is looking to develop new innovative therapies that stimulate the immune system in cancer patients to eradicate the cancer and reduce the side effects during treatment.



Researcher: Dr. Parissenti
Funding Awarded: \$35,000

Dr. Parissenti's research focuses on how chemotherapy agents induce responses in tumour cells (such as RNA degradation) and how responses can be used to predict patient outcomes and tailor patient care.



Researcher: Dr. Pearce
Funding Awarded: \$30,000

Dr. Pearce is working towards identifying genetic factors that would help predict the severity of radiation treatment side effects to the throat to decreasing side effects experienced by future patients.

Donor-Funded Research Chairs Enhancing Care

In 2023, HSNRI appointed a third distinguished research chair, Dr. Mohammed Shurrab, whose role is supported by HSN Foundation. The two existing chairs, Dr. David Marsh and Dr. Stacey Santi, continued their dedicated work in conducting research to improve health outcomes for people across Northeastern Ontario.



Dr. David Marsh
Health Sciences North Foundation
Research Chair in Mental Health and Addictions

Dr. Marsh continues to make progress toward developing a research program with diverse areas of expertise and lived experience. By bringing a range of perspectives to the challenges posed by substance use, he hopes to identify innovative solutions and clear opportunities for improvement in the existing system of care for mental health and addictions patients.



Researcher: Dr. Pitre
Funding Awarded: \$25,000

Dr. Pitre and her team are advancing the use of clinical trials and expanding the availability of clinical trials in Northeastern Ontario communities.



Researcher: Dr. Saunders
Funding Awarded: \$35,000

Dr. Saunders' research explores long-term treatment outcomes and genetic variations in head and neck cancer patients who smoke.



Researcher: Dr. Tharmalingam
Funding Awarded: \$40,000

Dr. Tharmalingam is rewiring the genetic code to alter breast cancer clinical outcomes and prevent a resurgence of secondary cancers.



Researcher: Dr. Thome
Funding Awarded: \$40,000

Dr. Thome is using genetically modified microbes to combat side effects and improve the quality of life for patients following radiation therapy.



Dr. Stacey Santi
Northern Cancer Foundation Research
Chair in Cancer Solutions

In addition to supporting various researchers and their projects within the Cancer Solutions team, Dr. Santi continues her work towards assessing the burden of cancer-related costs for Northern Ontario patients. This research aims to address disparities between Northern and Southern Ontario residents around access to and impacts of cancer care.



Dr. Mohammed Shurrab
Health Sciences North Foundation
Research Chair in Cardiovascular Health

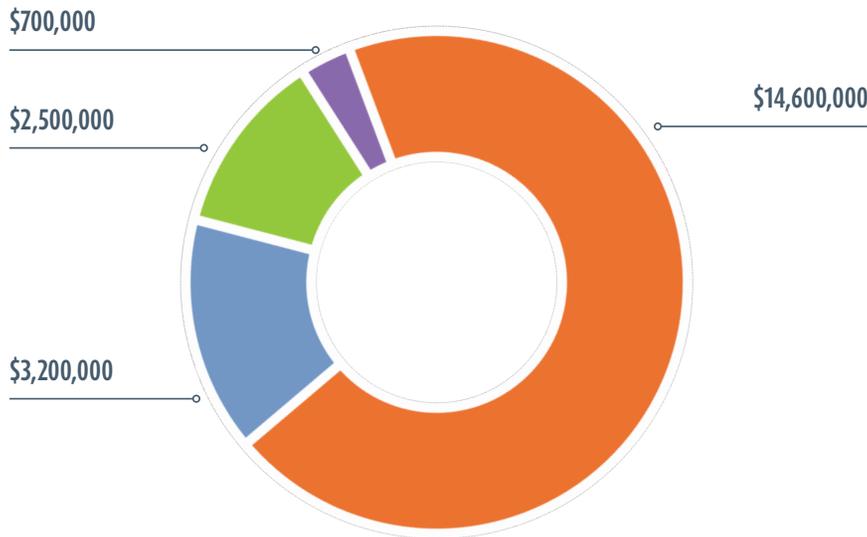
This role enables Dr. Shurrab to dedicate time to his critical research, focusing on quality improvement and delivering evidence-based care to patients at HSN, helping to improve patient outcomes. Further to this, he is investigating healthcare disparities between cardiac patients in Northern and Southern Ontario and aims to reduce barriers to care.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY – APRIL 1, 2023 TO MARCH 31, 2024

HEALTH SCIENCES NORTH FOUNDATION, NEO KIDS FOUNDATION AND THE NORTHERN CANCER FOUNDATION

Total Revenue

Foundations Combined \$21 million

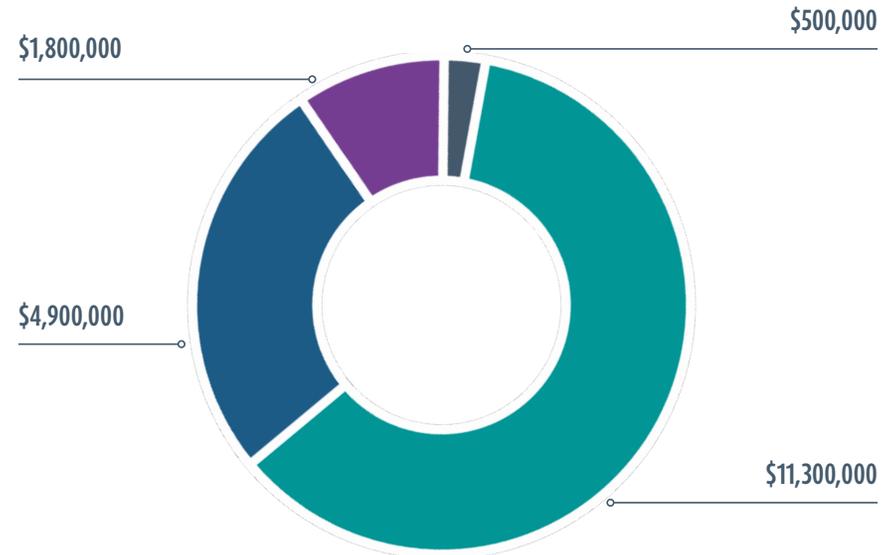


- Donation and fundraising
- Net funds generated through HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery for the North⁽¹⁾
- Municipal contributions
- Net investments and other income

(1) – does not include \$1.1 million of net funds generated through HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery for the North included in the financial results of Health Sciences North Volunteer Association.

Total Expenses, Restrictions and Distributions

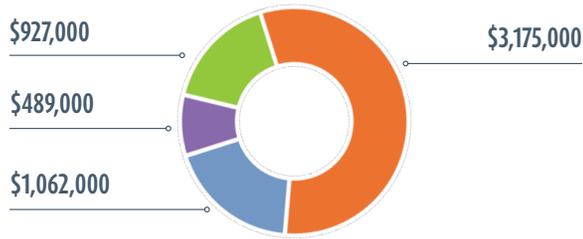
Foundations Combined \$18.5 million



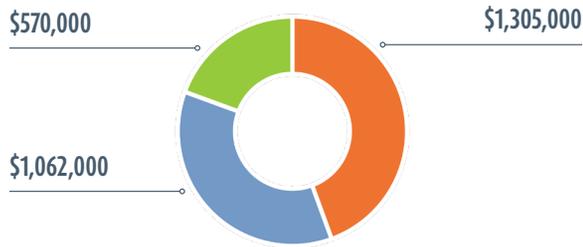
- Charitable disbursements
- Fundraising costs
- Administrative expenses
- Net surplus restricted toward future projects

Total Revenues

Health Sciences North Foundation



NEO Kids Foundation



Northern Cancer Foundation



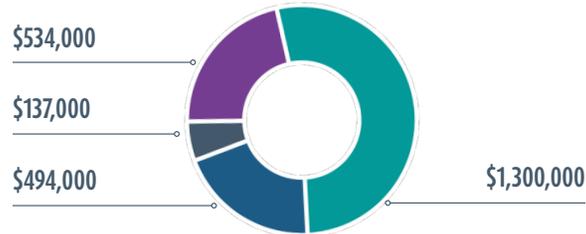
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- Municipal contributions
- Net investments and other income

Total Expenses, Restrictions and Distributions

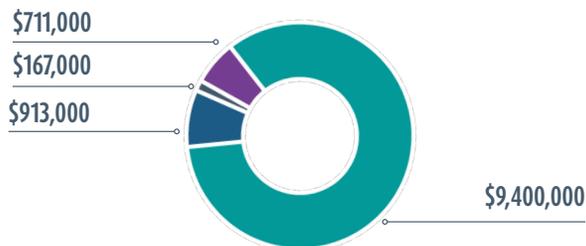
Health Sciences North Foundation



NEO Kids Foundation



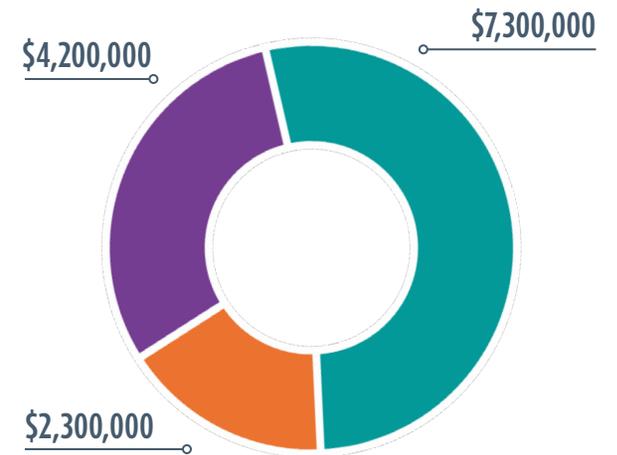
Northern Cancer Foundation



- Charitable disbursements
- Fundraising costs
- Administrative expenses
- Net surplus restricted toward future projects

HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery for the North

The HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery generated \$13.8 million in revenue



- Total prizes won
- Total direct costs
- Net revenue – supporting patient care

Health Sciences North Foundation, NEO Kids Foundation, Northern Cancer Foundation and HSN Volunteer Association share equally in the net revenue of the HSN 50/50 Cash Lottery.



Thank You

**Health Sciences
North Foundation**
705-523-7130
hsnfoundation.com

**NEO Kids
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