

# Inspire

FALL 2022

STORIES FROM OUR COMMUNITY

## Losing a Limb *Turns into a New Athletic Career*



*Janz Stein, elite track and field athlete in his competition gear*

Though an injury requiring amputation is often considered unfortunate, that is not always the case, as we discovered after talking with 41-year-old Janz Stein of Regina. Janz was a skateboarder and martial arts fighter before shattering his tibia and fibula and dislocating his left ankle during a dirt bike accident, in 2011. The damage was so severe that doctors surgically inserted 18 screws and three metal plates to fix it.

Despite the reconstructive surgeries, Janz experienced constant pain. Doctors suggested fusing his ankle and leg, but the results would have hindered his movement, his job and his lifestyle.

“I have a physically demanding job, so my career probably would’ve been shot with the fusion,” says Janz, who owns a hauling business and a metal-working shop, in addition to coaching Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. “The likelihood of me continuing my life as I wanted was nil.” So, after considerable research and contemplation, Janz was led to consider amputation.

Though many doctors tried to change his mind, he knew this was his only way forward and a below-the-knee amputation took place in June, 2013. After considerable healing time and a few corrective surgeries, he was fitted for a prosthetic leg implant. When people lose a limb, it is important that they have timely access to quality orthotic and prosthetic services to facilitate the rehabilitation process. In southern Saskatchewan we are fortunate to have the Orthotic and Prosthetic Department, at Wascana Rehabilitation Centre (WRC) in Regina, which provides high quality orthotic and prosthetic services and products to both adults and children.

Janz says his doctors, as well as his prosthetist (a healthcare professional specializing in prosthetic and orthotic treatment), are great and his experience has been very positive at WRC. They provide physiotherapy, chiropractic

services, x-ray services, therapy pools, and the prosthetic clinic all in the same facility. Few other facilities combine all these specialties in one building. “We are very fortunate to have this here,” says Janz.

“Our prosthetics program aims to be a one stop shop for amputees. We serve many patients, ranging from children with birth defects, to grandparents with diabetic foot wounds, to elite athletes,” says Dr. Yifan Wang, Janz’s Physiatrist at WRC. “It involves a lot of trouble shooting and this is especially true in the case of Janz - an elite athlete. His case is a perfect example illustrating the importance of supporting Hospitals of Regina Foundation in their efforts to keep crucial prosthetic/orthotic services going here in Regina.”

This journey transformed Janz’s life. He switched to track and field, and within two years he was competing and winning against both para and open class athletes. He recently won 3 gold medals in a row, qualified for the last 3 Paralympics and is now focusing on competing in the Paris Paralympics in 2024. We wish him the best!



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## Taylor Automotive Supports New Children's Cancer Care Clinic

The Taylor Automotive Group has always been a community oriented organization, and has made a point of giving back whenever possible to invest in the future of the community they live and work in. Their most recent initiative is a partnership with Hospitals of Regina Foundation in support of our new Children's Cancer Clinic and is further proof of their commitment to making lives better for the people of Saskatchewan.

The Taylor Automotive Group's new \$75,000 pledge will support the Foundation \$1.5 million goal to create the Clinic at Regina's General Hospital. Every year, approximately 30 children and teens from Regina and southern Saskatchewan are diagnosed with cancer. Currently, an additional 160 are being monitored or receiving follow up care. Our new Children's Cancer Clinic will provide kids and their families with

**"The creation of the new Children's Cancer Clinic will ensure that children will receive the comfort and care they need, as close to home as possible."**

Chad Taylor

a dedicated space, helping them to feel welcome and cared for in a positive environment while undergoing treatment.

"Being able to give back and strengthen the community has always been a strong core value for both my family and Taylor Automotive Group over the last 44 years. The creation of the new Children's Cancer Clinic will ensure that children will receive the comfort

and care they need, as close to home as possible" explains Chad Taylor, Dealer Principal, Taylor Automotive Group. "By partnering with and supporting Hospitals of Regina Foundation, we are working together to ensure kids in our southern Saskatchewan community can get the cancer care they need, when they need it most."

"With the ongoing support of our partners like the Taylor Automotive Group, we can continue bringing the children of southern Saskatchewan the best care possible", says Dino Sophocleous, President & CEO, Hospitals of Regina Foundation. "Thank you to Chad Taylor, Dale Kane, Dallas Taylor and all the staff at Taylor Automotive Group for supporting us in the creation of a new Children's Cancer Care Clinic."



Chad Taylor, Dealer Principal, Dale Kane, Chief Financial Officer and Taylor Automotive Group staff present a cheque for \$75,000 towards our new Children's Cancer Care Clinic.



*Dino Sophocleous, President & CEO, Hospitals of Regina Foundation accepts cheque from Nigel Jones, CEO of Vaderstad Industries, Sean Young, Assistant General Manager, Young's Equipment, and Philip Korczak, Director, Sales, Vaderstad Industries*

## Regina's NICU receives Big Boost from Group Donation

A group of community-minded corporate donors joined forces to provide a big boost to our efforts to support the life-saving work of our neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), at the Rawlco Centre for Mother Baby Care at Regina's General Hospital (RGH). The group, led by Young's Equipment and two of Young's suppliers – MacDon Industries and Vaderstad Canada – contributed \$300,000 to Hospitals of Regina Foundation in December, 2021 to help us invest in one of two new transport isolettes for our NICU.

Essentially, an isolette is a portable NICU, containing an incubator system for a newborn who needs to be transported safely by our specialized medical team to our NICU. Given the urgency of getting medically fragile newborns into specialized care as soon as possible, it is not a stretch to

conclude the isolette will be a life-saver, particularly in rural areas of southern Saskatchewan.

"It was an easy decision for us to support this important initiative," says Sean Young, assistant general manager of the family-operated Young's Equipment. "The majority of our business is done in rural Saskatchewan, so this is a great way for us to give back to those communities. There's also a very personal reason why this made a lot of sense for our company, and our family."

In fact, this cause hits particularly close to home for the Young family. That's because Sean's youngest son Cameron spent his first seven weeks in Regina's NICU, after being born prematurely in December, 2020.

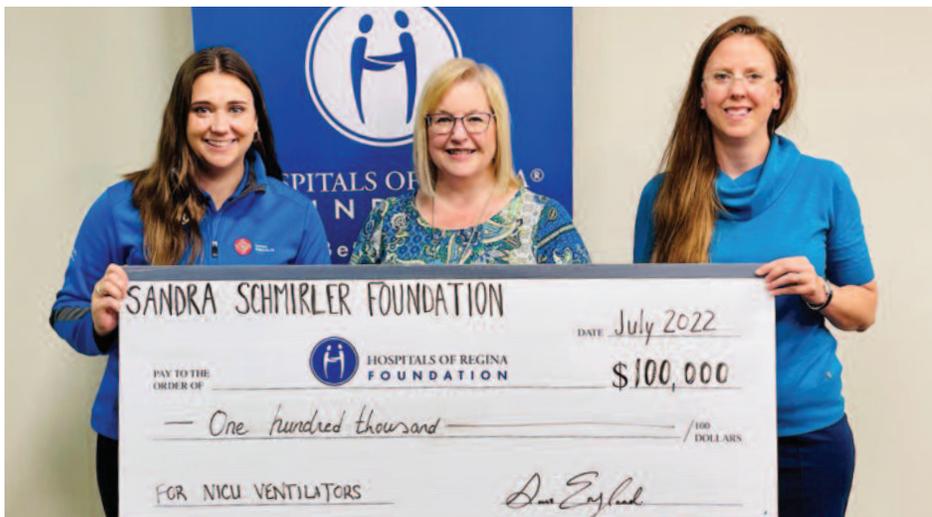
"It really hits home when it's your own child, and you see the work the NICU

team does first-hand," Sean states. "We're just so grateful for the excellent and compassionate care Cameron received, and continues to receive, from Regina's hospitals. That's why we didn't hesitate to throw our support behind the Foundation's fundraising effort for the new isolettes. It's important to us as a business, but also as a family."

Each year, an average of 500 newborns receive specialized care at our NICU. The NICU is especially critical in the case of babies who arrive prematurely, since these are the tiniest, most fragile patients seen in Regina's hospitals, and they require round-the-clock care to have a fighting chance at life.

"We are so grateful for the support of Young's Equipment, MacDon Industries and Vaderstad Canada," said Dino Sophocleous, President and CEO Hospitals of Regina Foundation. "Thanks to Sean Young's leadership and the generosity of all three partners, we invested in this essential technology for our NICU, which will give babies across southern Saskatchewan and the province access to the best possible health care, regardless of where they live."

## Sandra Schmirler Foundation *Partnership Supports Regina's NICU*



*Sara England from the Sandra Schmirler Foundation presents, Lisa Green, Senior Vice President and Jessica Rawn, Director of Development with a \$100,000 pledge in support of Regina's NICU*

Our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), in the Rawlco Centre for Mother Baby Care at Regina General Hospital, will benefit once again from the long-standing partnership between Hospitals of Regina Foundation and the Sandra Schmirler Foundation.

The Sandra Schmirler Foundation was created as a legacy to Sandra's memory, who is remembered not only as a great curling champion but also as generous and devoted to family and friends. Countless babies who were born prematurely and critically ill have been saved with life-saving technology funded in her name. This year, the Sandra Schmirler Foundation made a new, two year pledge of \$100,000 to support Hospitals of Regina Foundation's investment in High Frequency Jet Ventilators (HFJV) for our NICU.

"We believe that every baby deserves the chance to grow up and be a champion like Sandra. We're very proud to once again partner with Hospitals of Regina Foundation to help fund this innovative life-saving equipment for the NICU at Regina General Hospital," says Bernadette McIntyre, Chair, Sandra Schmirler Foundation. "The Foundation is committed to keeping Sandra's love of family alive in Saskatchewan and across Canada by helping to give these miracle babies the chance to live their dreams."

A new category of premature babies has recently been created, called micro-preemies, which refers to babies born earlier than 26 weeks gestation. At one time, these babies would never have survived but that is no longer the case. A baby's lungs are one of the last things to fully develop, so micro-preemies are

not able to breath on their own and require a high-frequency jet ventilator which delivers very quick, short, gentle bursts of oxygen, inducing around 400 breaths per minute. Because it delivers oxygen gently and more frequently, this ventilator protects the baby's fragile lungs from too high a volume of oxygen, which can tear a hole in the fragile tissue.

"We are pleased to once again partner with the Sandra Schmirler Foundation to invest in our NICU," says Dino Sophocleous, President and CEO, Hospitals of Regina Foundation. "Ensuring our medical teams have the technology they need to provide life-saving care for our smallest patients is always a priority. This wouldn't be possible without generous long time partners like the Sandra Schmirler Foundation."



*Baby Dawsyn Malo spent the first 132 days of her life in our Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)*

# *Regina's Emergency and NICU Teams are* There for One of Their Own

Dr. Nishma Patel is no stranger to our hospitals or sudden emergencies. As a psychiatrist in the Regina General Hospital's emergency department, and with a rich family history in healthcare, she has spent the majority of her life in and around the medical field. However, Dr. Patel and her family didn't expect that this familiarity would suddenly be flipped upside down, placing her in the patient role during her second pregnancy.

During her first pregnancy with her daughter Naya, now 3 years old, Nishma developed preeclampsia, a complication which results in high blood pressure and signs of damage to another organ system. In Nishma's case, it was her kidneys. That led to her being induced and baby Naya was born at 37 weeks.

"Dr. Erin Kot and her team were wonderful." Nishma recalls. "After the preeclampsia during my pregnancy with Naya, Dr. Kot and I decided extra monitoring for my second pregnancy with Diya was a good idea, just to put both of us in the safest position possible."

Under the watchful eye of Dr. Kot and her team, Nishma received regular checkups until, at 32 weeks, she noticed some fluid leaking. A visit to Regina General Hospital confirmed the amniotic sac around baby Diya had broken and Nishma was admitted to the hospital for monitoring.

After safely delaying labour for an additional 2 weeks, Nishma was admitted to Labour & Birth after some



*Dr. Nishma Patel, newborn baby Diya and her husband Kirk Battiste on their way home*

cramping began. Once she received a requested epidural, she told the medical team that she was feeling very heavy in her limbs and she was having trouble communicating. The baby's heart rate had also dropped suddenly and significantly.

Within 6 minutes, Nishma was in the operating room where an emergency C-section was performed to deliver Diya. During the procedure, the doctors discovered that Nishma had suffered a placental abruption, causing the placenta to separate from the wall of the uterus which caused the sudden drop in both her and Diya's vital signs. The detachment of the placenta meant that Diya was not receiving the essential oxygen and nutrients she needed to survive, and Nishma's health was also at risk.

Diya was born in November, 2021, at 34 weeks. She stayed for 15 days in our NICU, at the Rawlco Centre for Mother Baby Care at Regina General Hospital, before going home as a healthy newborn. Nishma also needed some extra care and was kept in our hospital for 5 days to recover from the eventful delivery.

"Without the amazing doctors and their quick thinking, my daughter and I might not be here today." Nishma says. "Their ability to diagnose the issue quickly, and then having the capability and the equipment to treat me made all the difference. Without the support from the community and Hospitals of Regina Foundation, that would not have been possible. It really was a true team effort, and my family and I are thankful to everyone."

## 2022 Spring Home Lottery

### *Another Incredible Show of Support*



*Michael Fox – Go Your Own Way Package Winner*

The generosity and support of our amazing community for the Foundation's Home Lottery never ceases to amaze us. For the third time in the history of our 50/50 Add-On, the 2022 spring lottery 50/50 reached over \$1 million! Thank you Saskatchewan for your amazing support. This proves, as we long suspected, that the people of this province are the most generous in the country.



*Brenden Bennett – Go Your Own Way Package Winner with his fiancé Afroditi Papageorgiu*

All of the funds raised by the lottery will be invested in priorities for our pediatrics, cancer, cardiac, trauma, surgical, research and other programs that support the healthcare of our community.

We are very pleased to announce the winners of our 2022 Spring Home Lottery. Doreen Willerth of Indian Head was the winner of the Ripplinger built \$1.4 Million Grand Prize Showhome + \$30,000 CASH! Also winning big were Michael Fox of Regina

and Brenden Bennett of Regina, who each won the Go Your Own Way Prize Package! And Mary Lynne Birrell of Regina took home a whopping \$617,050 in yet another record 50/50 that surpassed \$1.2 Million.

Congratulations to all our winners, big and small. Your support continues to help us deliver the best health care possible and make lives better for everyone in Regina and southern Saskatchewan.

Your support continues to help us invest in the best health care possible and make lives better for everyone in Regina and southern Saskatchewan.



*Doreen Willerth – Grand Prize Showhome Winner*



*Mary Lynne Birrell – 50/50 Winner*

# \$410,000 raised for our new Children's Cancer Clinic

After holding a successful "virtual" Four Seasons Ball in 2021, we were excited to hold our 2022 Four Seasons Ball in-person! Thank you to our wonderful sponsors, supporters, volunteers and the community as a whole, for your support of our pediatric programs in southern Saskatchewan. It was truly a remarkable evening in support of our new Children's Cancer Clinic at Regina's General Hospital.

**THANK YOU**



*Four Seasons Ball*  
A HOSPITALS OF REGINA FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

It was an elegant, magnificent evening. Thank you to Thyssen Mining, our proud presenting sponsor, and all our sponsors, who helped make this year's Ball a tremendous success. Through the dedication of our sponsors, donors, supporters and volunteers – our community – the 2022 Four Seasons Ball raised \$410,000. This will help the Foundation fund the creation of a Children's Cancer Clinic at Regina General Hospital, so children in southern Saskatchewan receive the care they need, as close to home as possible.

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## Thank you *for generously supporting our hospitals*



Every year, individuals, organizations and businesses in our community host fundraisers to support the Foundation. And with each event, we are amazed by your commitment and dedication. Thank you for organizing dinners, golf tournaments, motorcycle poker runs, and more to support our hospitals and help make lives better in southern Saskatchewan. Because of your generosity, we can continue to ensure great health care is available, right here at home in Regina.

Here are some of the events that took place between April and August 2022 in support of Hospitals of Regina Foundation:



- Cooking for a Cause at Home (\$2,810 raised)
- Skott Enns Mortgage Advisor - Donation for every mortgage signed (\$3,700 raised)
- Midnight Madness Volleyball Tournament at Vibank Regional School (\$2,009 raised)
- Bigfoot 50 Trail Run (\$3,933 raised)
- Motorcycle Ride for the Boys (\$4,810 raised)
- Eric Calibaba Memorial Classic (\$13,489 raised)
- Chick-a-dee Golf Tournament (\$4,500+ raised)
- Mexican Scramble Golf Tournament (\$2,972 raised)



To learn how you can host your own fundraiser, contact **Brianne Moore** at [Brianne.Moore@hrf.sk.ca](mailto:Brianne.Moore@hrf.sk.ca) or call (306) 781-7509.