

## Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital Foundation Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Campaign 2023: A Case for Support

*"Magnifying care close to home...because the details matter."*

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The Province of Ontario announced in December 2022 that it is working to improve people's access to diagnostic imaging services and reducing wait times by providing operating funding to support the addition of 27 new MRI machines across Ontario. The Province will provide funding to operate the machine (staff, etc.) but not the dollars needed to buy the actual unit and renovate the clinic space. We need to fund raise to fill the gaps where provincial funding ends. The Foundation needs the support of our community to raise the required \$6.1 million over three years to bring MRI technology to PSFDH.

### What is an MRI and How Does it Work?

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) is a specialised imaging test that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed 3D images of organs and structures inside your body. Healthcare providers use MRI to evaluate, diagnose and monitor several different medical conditions not visualized well with other imaging tests. MRI scans illustrate the difference between healthy and diseased tissue, and can provide important information about the brain, spine, joints and internal organs. It can lead to early detection and treatment of disease and has no known side effects.

*"The Diagnostic Team at PSFDH is very excited to be able to offer state of the art MRI services to our patients we serve. This MRI enhances diagnosis and allows your treating physician to provider faster and better care."*

Dr. Nimish Parikh, Clinical Chief, Radiology

### How is it different from CT scan technology?

Both MRI and CT create cross-sectional images of the body. The main difference is that MRI uses a large magnet and radio waves to produce images where as a CT scanner uses ionizing radiation. The systems complement each other well as they both have their inherent strengths and weaknesses.

### Why MRI Technology?

MRIs are typically seen as a regional program. PSFDH's priority is to provide top-tier services to the extended Perth and Smiths Falls region. The MRI service will support a broader geographic area and expand the scope of patient care.

MRI technology will:

- ✓ Improve access to care by reducing wait times and improving accessibility
- ✓ Support an aging population
- ✓ Keep care closer to home minimizing the inconveniences and undue stress of patients and families having to travel to larger centres

- ✓ Enhance recruitment and retention of health care professionals who expect access to current technology
- ✓ Keep pace with key services required to support our growing and changing community.

### How much will the MRI machine cost?

The cost for the actual MRI machine is \$4.1 million. In addition to the cost of the MRI machine is the \$2 million associated with renovating the space and installing the unit.

**\$4.1 million + \$2 million = \$6.1 million**

### How we will achieve our goals.

An MRI Campaign has been established by the Foundation and is led by community-minded individuals who each have one thing in common: keeping care closer to home to better support and serve our community. With their leadership, we will ensure the success of this campaign and the sustainability and vitality of the PSFDH.

### How you can help.

The addition of MRI technology at PSFDH is an amazing opportunity for our community.

Supporting the "*Magnifying care close to home...because the details matter*" MRI campaign is an opportunity for area residents, businesses, staff and professional staff to work together to improve access to services typically only found in larger centres.

Having MRI technology in place locally will ensure PSFDH can provide care for you and your loved ones closer to home when needed.

The PSFDH community has always showed their steadfast support and gratitude for our hospital and healthcare team on many occasions through annual asks, fundraising events and situations like the COVID-19 pandemic, to name a few.

Join us as we bring MRI services to our community and welcome our first patient for an MRI test in October 2023.

Contact a member of the Foundation to discuss how you can support the MRI campaign. For more information, please visit <https://careclosetohome.ca/>.

If you would like to join our team and be part of the success or discuss this program in more detail, don't hesitate to contact Margot Hallam, CEO, PSFDH Foundation at 343-881-GIVE (4483) ext. 227 or by email at [margot.hallam@psfdhfoundation.com](mailto:margot.hallam@psfdhfoundation.com).

*"The hospital is constantly striving to deliver better health care close to home. Our new MRI is a big step in this direction. Like all the other equipment in our hospital, the MRI is paid for ENTIRELY by donors to our Foundation - not by the Government but by local residents."*

Gardner Church, Chair PSFDH

Perth & Smiths Falls District Hospital Foundation  
343.881.GIVE (4483)

[www.careclosetohome.ca](http://www.careclosetohome.ca)

Perth Site: 33 Drummond Street West, Perth, ON K7H 2K1  
Smiths Falls Site: 60 Cornelia Street West, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2H9

## The Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital

The Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital (PSFDH) is a fully accredited acute care health care organization located on two state-of-the-art sites situated in the heart of the Rideau Canal region. PSFDH proudly provides health services to more than 60,000 people in the surrounding communities delivering a broad range of primary and secondary services and programs such as emergency care, diagnostic imaging, obstetrics, general and specialty surgical services, and dialysis, as well as laboratory and infection control services.

## Our Hospital's History

PSFDH has a special place in the hearts of the communities we serve. PSFDH has been an integral part of the local communities and a source of help when needed. PSFDH has always met the needs and challenges of the day with outbreaks such as influenza, polio, SARS and most recently, COVID-19.

Our dedicated physicians, specialists, nurses, professional staff, and support staff are all committed to providing top quality care while maintaining small-town personal service. With the addition of MRI technology to our hospital, our residents will continue to receive exceptional care closer to home.

## The Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital Foundation: Our Foundation's History

In 2021, the Perth and Smiths Falls District Hospital Foundation (PDSFH) was created from the amalgamation of the Great War Memorial Hospital Foundation and the Smiths Falls Community Hospital Foundation. The amalgamated foundation merged two very strong and dedicated fundraising teams, allowing for a broader reach in the PSFDH catchment area. The Foundation's fundraising successes and achievements have been made possible through our communities' hard work, dedication and support.

The Foundation bases its work on the motto, "one Hospital, one Foundation, two sites." With a stronger and broader Foundation, we can realize the goal of bringing MRI technology to the PSFDH.

## Our Mission

*In partnership with our communities, raise and steward funds for projects and services for health care at our hospital.*

## Our Vision

*To raise funds for equipment and services for high-quality care close to home.*

*"Our hospital is a vital service in our community, and we are fortunate to have two sites, Perth and Smiths Falls, which allow us to provide care close to home. Having MRI machine is a great enhancement to our services. Our residents will have their overall travel and wait times greatly reduced. In addition to potentially saving lives, having a locally-based service will improve the quality of life for our residents. Our Provincial Government does NOT pay for the purchase or the required infrastructure for the MRI. The PSFDH Foundation will do everything in its power to raise the over \$6 Million from within our community."*

Kristine Fair, PSFDH Foundation Chair

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