



YOU make all the difference

About two years ago, Melissa Nantais found her eyes were getting blurry.

She saw her eye doctor, and thought, “I probably have a brain tumour.”

That eye doctor referred her to a specialist, who referred her for an MRI.

And that’s exactly what the doctors found. A brain tumour — called meningioma.

Melissa was put into the care of Windsor Regional Hospital’s Dr. Dyer, who she describes as “absolutely phenomenal.”

Dr. Dyer ordered ultrasounds of Melissa’s pelvis, chest, and abdomen, to check for any cancer.



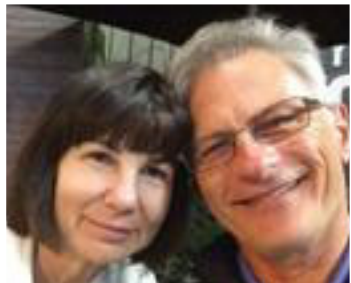
Melissa Nantais

And that’s when they found the cancer in Melissa’s kidney.

While Dr. Dyer and her colleagues are keeping a close eye on Melissa’s brain tumour with regular MRIs until it warrants treatment, Melissa began seeing

Dr. Marzouk about her kidney cancer.

“I was so overwhelmed — going from a healthy, 58-year-old with blurry eyes to discovering I had a brain tumour. And then kidney cancer. All unrelated.



Melissa Nantais and her husband

But Dr. Marzouk was so patient and so kind. He was so confident that he knew how to take care of me. I confided in him that I was really nervous. And his reply was ... “We’re going to take care of this.”

He removed the 10% of my kidney that was cancerous. And now I’m one year cancer-free!

The equipment that was used to give me a “robotic” operation on my kidney was amazing too. It made the procedure minimally invasive, so within a day or two it was like I had never had surgery at all!

That’s why I want people to know that when they support Windsor Regional Hospital, they are making a difference for people’s lives. Having this equipment, and this calibre of physicians and health care workers in our own community, so we don’t have to travel, it makes all the difference. It really does.

They make all the difference.”

Helping one generation after another

In January 2013, my then 20-year-old son was in a snowboarding accident. He was in Michigan at the time. At the hospital in Michigan, we slept on the floor for a month. That experience made me realize we needed to somehow pay back the system.



Janet Fleming

He was transferred to the Ouellette campus of Windsor Regional Hospital when he was stable enough to move. That's where I really got to see the things that our local hospital was in urgent need of.

My son is better now. He even has a job at the hospital in housekeeping.

As for me, the hospital asked me to become a member of the Patient and Family Advisory Committee, and I have been on it for eight years.

Being on the committee, I can see what equipment the hospitals are in need of. It is essential for patient care. Having the best in high-tech equipment is a great recruiting tool for encouraging doctors to come to Windsor — and this hospital has great doctors.

Four years ago, I had breast cancer. I was one of the lucky ones — they found it at stage one. I had the regular mammogram, a digital mammogram,

and an ultrasound. And now, my 92-year-old father is treated in Urology. All our care has relied on having the very best equipment. A lot of the equipment was funded by generous donors.

I think a lot of people believe our healthcare covers everything. They don't realize that not every area has everything they need.

I learned a lot — spending four months in the hospital with my son, you really see the bigger picture.

“ Now I'm a monthly donor. My monthly donations will help the hospital keep going, and contribute to the new hospital — making sure the people of our region continue to have the best of the best healthcare, whenever they need it. ”

In the big picture, there's a great need. Even if one more person becomes a monthly donor today because they read this article, it will be so appreciated.

—Janet Fleming, Proud monthly donor

If you wish to join the monthly giving program, please fill in the back of the reply form enclosed or please contact [Cristina Naccarato](mailto:Cristina.Naccarato@wrh.on.ca) at 519-254-5577 ext. 52056 or by email at Cristina.Naccarato@wrh.on.ca.

Your Gifts Support Essential Equipment

Your gift to the Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation helps your hospital to provide the best possible care for our patients.



Chemo ducks

To provide education and comfort to children and families going through cancer treatment.

Cost: \$50 each



Defibrillator for NICU

Used to help start babies' hearts to beat.

Cost: \$25,500



Endoscopic Ultrasound

Used in the detection and treatment plan for a variety of gastrointestinal (GI) cancers.

Cost: \$400,000

Thank you for supporting patients with kidney disease

ArcelorMittal Windsor, a long-time supporter of the Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation, donated \$10,000 to help purchase a Centrifuge for the Renal Program through its Charitable Donation Campaign. Employees made donations that were topped up to \$10,000 by the company. This Centrifuge improves safe and timely blood sampling for patients undergoing hemodialysis to ensure proper treatment.



Centrifuge for the Renal Program



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