

*You are  
a gift*



# “You give us hope”

## *A message of thanks from a COVID-19 survivor*

Victor Winter can barely remember a thing from the week before he was taken to the hospital and placed on a ventilator to fight against a virus his doctors would later identify as COVID-19.

This was back in March, when most of us were only just beginning to hear about the deadly virus.

After spending 12 hours in the hospital in Leamington, Victor was intubated and taken to Windsor Regional Hospital, where he was almost immediately placed on a ventilator.

A week later, his heart began to fail. His wife, Marilyn, was gently told to prepare for the worst.

“The doctors were working with a virus with which they were unfamiliar,” Victor reminds us now. “Researching and checking with colleagues around the world.”

Victor pulled through. On Good Friday, doctors removed him from the ventilator and by the end of April, he was discharged. Although his fight to fully recover continues.

Victor and his family are deeply grateful to medical staff, who saw him off with a ceremony on the day he was discharged. In fact, he penned a beautiful letter of thanks, of which we have included an excerpt for you below.



### MESSAGE TO COVID PATIENT CAREGIVERS

*I've spent 6 weeks here in this place.*

*You have looked after me, fought for my life, allowed my family to communicate with me.*

*From the bottom of my heart:  
I thank you.*

*During my time here, I have watched you as you bravely served your patients, wearing your PPE, unflinchingly*

Continued on page 2

## “You give us hope”: A message of thanks from a COVID-19 survivor

continued from page 1

courteous and friendly despite adverse conditions.

On my last night at Met, I heard you comfort a patient who screamed in pain most of the night. As you tried to reorient another patient who begged you to end his life. As you kept your cheerful demeanour through all of it.

I could see the strain that these pandemic responsibilities were placing on your shoulders.

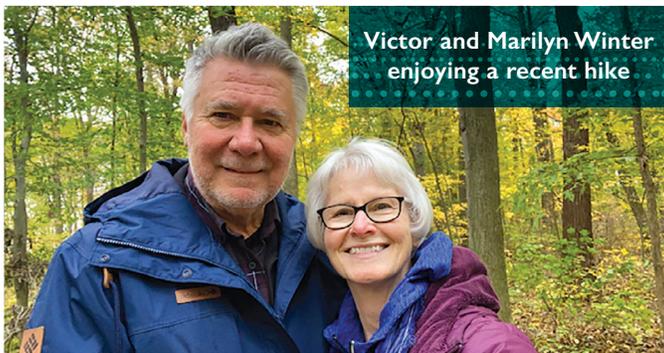
You give us hope. As I watched you work, your quiet friendly professionalism shone through in a way that gave me hope.

You inspire us! In your yellow scrubs and goggles and masks ... you are beautiful!

Thank you for your professionalism and your humanity. Thank you for taking on the added risks posed by this crafty and pernicious virus.

And thank you for offering unconditional hope, no matter what.

- Victor Winter, October 20, 2020



Victor and Marilyn Winter enjoying a recent hike



## Lafferty family donates \$50,000 to new acute care hospital build

For years, a visit to Lafferty Sweet Corn on the corner of County Rd. 42 and the 9th Concession in Windsor has been a summer tradition for many.

Now, the 60 acres of farmland surrounding the location have been chosen as the new acute care hospital site.

And Frank Lafferty couldn't be happier.

In fact, the Lafferty family are such supporters of the future acute care site that they made an incredibly generous donation of \$50,000 toward the hospital build.

“Our family is very thankful to Windsor and Essex County’s support of our business. We would like to give back,” explains Mr. Lafferty.

An official capital campaign for the new acute care hospital will be launched in the future. In the meantime, the Lafferty family hope that their donation will inspire others in the community to donate too.

Frank Lafferty has been proud to provide so many delicious moments to the community over his 60 years of farming. He’s also proud to have employed so many summer students over the years.

Now Mr. Lafferty is anxious to see a new acute care hospital be built to support families living in the region. As he says, “Someone has to start.”

We are deeply grateful to the Lafferty family for their kindness and compassion towards the community they call home.



# Thank you for supporting our 50/50 Draw!

We all fantasize about picking up the phone one day to find out we've hit the jackpot!

But for Windsor Regional Hospital's Candice Conkey that was a fantasy that came true.

In July, Candice entered the hospital foundation's Fantasy 50/50 Draw which ran for a month this summer. And on Saturday, August 8, while working a shift at the Met Campus Lab, she received the news that she had won. Not only had she won, but as they say, she had won big – \$165,000!

As you can imagine, Candice was ecstatic.

*"I'm seriously going to cry! My fiancé and I just had to push back our wedding this year, and we just bought a house! I can't believe we've won! This is such great news!"*



We are thrilled for Candice. But we also know that the real winners are the patients of Windsor Regional Hospital. The proceeds from the raffle are being used to purchase equipment for the hospital's critical care units.

Each piece of equipment is used to help patients who require advanced care and close monitoring due to the seriousness of their illness or because

they have a condition that can change quickly.

This is the second 50/50 draw that the hospital foundation has hosted. With tickets purchased by staff, volunteers and community members across Windsor/Essex County, the proceeds purchased the following **vital equipment**:



A **portable critical care system** for rapidly analyzing blood samples from patients with liver disease.



A **bronchoscope** to access the airways of patients who have respiratory issues – from COVID-19 and other illnesses to help improve their breathing.



A **patient lift**, which enables a single caregiver to move and reposition patients when they need it – letting other frontline staff assist other patients who need them.

"On behalf of the Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation, thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket to support our campaign! Your support allows us to provide life-saving care to Windsor-Essex County," says Beth Ann Prince, President of our Board of Directors.

The inaugural Mega Monthly 50/50 Draw launched in November. The final draw will be held on December 18th. Beginning January 2021, a winner will be drawn once a month. **To purchase tickets to enter the draw, please go online at [www.WRH5050.ca](http://www.WRH5050.ca).**

*Think about buying a ticket – because here in Windsor, fantasies clearly do come true!*

# Together We Can Accomplish Great Things!

My name is Dan Wilson and this is my ninth year serving on the Board of Directors for the Windsor Regional Hospital.

My wife and I have lived in LaSalle for over 30 years. We have three grown children and four grandchildren. All of our three children, and myself, were born at Grace Hospital, and I have spent my entire life in this community.

I want to talk to you today about a great way to support the hospital. It's called monthly giving.

I decided to become a monthly contributor about 6 or 7 years ago. For me, it's an easy way to make sure I'm making regular contributions. Monthly contributions are easy to set up, and it's quite surprising how much a person can contribute over the course of a year by just giving each month.

I feel very comfortable supporting the Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation. Both the hospital and the foundation are doing wonderful things, and I'm



glad to be a part of that.

Important equipment is being purchased, programs are being advanced, and patients are receiving excellent care.

In early 2018 I was hospitalized for several days because of some fractured bones. I was able to see how compassionately, effectively and efficiently the physicians and hospital staff work.

I truly received outstanding care.

I also got to see the areas where the hospital could really use more funding.

I encourage you to consider becoming a monthly supporter yourself. Anyone can make a regular, monthly contribution if you think this is something that's appropriate for you.

Thank you for supporting the Foundation, whether it is through regular or periodic contributions.

Together we can accomplish great things!

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



1995 Lens Avenue, Windsor, ON N8W 1L9

P. (519) 985-2656 [wrhfoundation.ca](http://wrhfoundation.ca)

Join us on [f](#) @WRHFound [t](#) @WRHFound