

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



## A Foundation for the Health of the Highlands



Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation  
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## What an extraordinary year it has been.

When we launched the *Here for You in the Highlands* campaign in April 2024, we knew raising \$4.3 million in one of Ontario's most rural counties would be ambitious. Thanks to you—our donors, volunteers, and community champions—we not only met that goal, we exceeded it. Under the leadership of Campaign Chair, Tayce Wakefield, and Vice-Chair, Roger Trull, and the dedicated efforts of the incredible Campaign Cabinet, we proudly raised an outstanding \$6.3 million to bring transformative healthcare advancements to Haliburton County.

Equally important to the growth and advancement of rural healthcare is annual giving—the steady, reliable support that sustains our mission year after year. These donations fund urgent needs, patient care priorities, and targeted education all of which fall outside campaign efforts. If campaigns build for the future, annual giving sustains yearly needs which keeps the care flowing.

Our success this year was driven by unforgettable moments—including the sell-out Matt Duchene Charity Golf Tournament, the record breaking two-day Health Radiothon, cottagers opening their homes for fundraising events, an extraordinary event featuring the talented local arts community, and local businesses championing our cause.

To the over 700 donors who gave from the heart – we thank you. We are honoured to recognize many of you on our Donors of Distinction Walls at both HHHS sites as a permanent reminder of your belief in a healthier future. You've shown what's possible when a community unites with purpose.

As we look ahead, we carry this momentum forward. We'll continue to share updates, celebrate milestones, and raise funds for the annual needs of community healthcare. Together, with your ongoing support—we will keep building a healthcare system that meets the moment and prepares for the future.

Thank you for your support.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Blodgett'.

David Blodgett  
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanie Klodt Wong'.

Melanie Klodt Wong  
Executive Director





# 2024-2025 Highlights



## Matt Duchene Charity Golf Classic

### A Record-Breaking Success!

The 2024 Matt Duchene Charity Golf Classic was bigger and better than ever — netting an incredible **\$180,000** in support for the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation!

This much-anticipated annual event is more than just a day on the course — it's a reunion of friends, neighbours, and supporters golfing together for one vital cause: local healthcare.

From exciting rounds of golf to an unforgettable dinner, silent and live auctions, and the incredible generosity of our sponsors — it truly was a day to remember.



## MooseFM Health Radiothon

As part of the *Here for You in the Highlands* Campaign this year, the 2024 Health Radiothon with a double-match raised over **\$600,000** in support of women's health and life-saving mammography equipment!

This record-breaking success was made possible by the power of community, the generosity of donors and the energy, drive and dedication of announcer Rick Lowes. A special thank-you to our Double-Match Donors, Richard Muir, and Scott & Cheré Campbell, with Richard doubling his match during the event to keep the momentum going!

Excitement soared in the final hour thanks to impactful contributions from Kim Emmerson (Emmerson Lumber) and Tammy & Tran LaRue (Minden Subaru) — a thrilling close to 24 hours of giving!



## Not-for-Profit of the Year

We are proud and honoured to be the recipient of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Award for Not-for-Profit of the Year 2024.

This recognition belongs to every donor, volunteer, business partner, and supporter who made this a truly unforgettable year. Your generosity and community spirit drive everything we do.



## Community Support

Local service clubs and community groups offer more than just impressive fundraising support — they are deeply woven into the fabric of Haliburton County.

The Minden Kin Club welcomed Melanie and Veronica to share a meal and discuss how they could support local healthcare. The conversation ended on a high note — with a generous \$50,000 gift toward diagnostic imaging. Now that's a powerful end to a meal!



## The Magic of Giving is Real

Thanks to your generosity, Believe in the Magic of Giving provided an incredible **\$228,000** in funding to support the Foundation's four key funding pillars.

Your kindness during the holiday season, enables us to continue to subsidize Meals on Wheels and transportation through Community Support Services and to fund essential capital equipment for Haliburton Highlands Health Services and our long-term care homes. From community care to life-saving equipment, your support ensures that local healthcare remains accessible and responsive for everyone in Haliburton County. Thank you for believing in the magic.

## In Memorium

Each year, the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation is honoured to receive memorial donations made in tribute to cherished family members and friends. Your thoughtfulness and generosity honours the memory of your loved ones and helps make a meaningful difference in the lives of others in our community. We are deeply grateful.

## Here for You in the Highlands Highly Successful Capital Campaign

On November 1, 2024, Campaign Chair Tayce Wakefield, proudly announced the successful completion of the Here for You Campaign to fund the addition of CT, state-of-the-art Mammography, replacement Ultrasound, Picture Archiving Communications System (PACS) and even raising enough to fund an urgently-needed new X-ray suite.

This milestone moment marked the culmination of an extraordinary community effort. With the generous support of donations of all sizes and the unwavering dedication of our volunteer Campaign Cabinet, we achieved something truly remarkable for local healthcare. Kudos to this incredible team of volunteers expertly led by Tayce Wakefield and Vice-Chair Roger Trull who poured their hearts into fundraising in support of making local health care facilities available for everyone.

A heartfelt thank you to the visionary donors whose matching gifts and impactful contributions helped lead us to success. This includes anonymous donors, Yorke Towne, Michael Harrison and the Harrison Family, Wally Ozog, Richard Muir, Christine Tuttsell and Rob Holl and the first-ever highly successful Arts Extravaganza. We are especially grateful to our luminary donors: Scott and Cheré Campbell, the Cockwell Family and Haliburton Forest, and the County of Haliburton.

### Here for You in the Highlands Campaign Cabinet

Pictured left to right: Kurtis Bishop, Melanie Klodt Wong, Veronica Nelson, Greg Bishop, David Blodgett, Tayce Wakefield (Chair), Keith Sjögren, Roger Trull (Vice Chair), Klara Oylar, Pat Kennedy, Dale Walker, and Peter Henry. Inset: Michael Harrison.



Click this [link](#) to watch the video that celebrates the over 700 donors who made this happen, **THANK YOU!**

## The Future of Care

Upgrades to diagnostic imaging are a strong signal of HHHS' commitment to becoming a leader in rural healthcare. HHHS is undergoing a Master Planning process for both Hospital and Long-Term Care - an important opportunity to collaborate with the community to reimagine and modernize local healthcare infrastructure. By understanding challenges, HHHS will build a strong, responsive system that meets the needs of the community today and into the future. The HHHS Foundation and HHHS are working together on this path and together assessing the local share of funds needed to prepare for the future. Please [click here to visit HHHS' Master Planning page](#) to watch recordings and have your questions answered about this exciting journey.

## 2025-2026

This year, the HHHS Foundation is focused on raising funds for immediate needs in the hospital and long-term care homes and subsidies for community support services. Specific needs include emergency department equipment like a Portable ECG and Vital Signs Machine with pediatric tools, equipment for the new gynecology and internal medicine clinics, education assistance for staff advancement at HHHS, and subsidies for seniors-in-need living in the county.

There are so many things that make Haliburton County special – the beautiful environment, the vibrant arts community, recreational activities to be enjoyed year-round. But above all, it's the people that make this a special place, people who care, people like you. HHHS and HHHS Foundation look forward to working with you to continue to innovate and grow rural healthcare together.

### HHHS Foundation 2025-2026 Board of Directors

David Blodgett, Chair  
Peter Henry, Vice Chair  
Ross Sykes, Treasurer  
Troy Austen  
David Coulson  
Karen Hudson  
Susannah Moylan  
Kelli Preston  
Roger Trull  
Christine Tuttsell  
Katie Walmsley

### HHHSF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2025 - 2026

1. Continue current successful fundraising initiatives
2. Build for the future
3. Be accountable to our communities
4. Be recognized as a leading not-for-profit in the Highlands

The Foundation team is grateful for the sustained generosity and engagement of donors and supporters throughout the year. We are honoured to steward your gifts with care and respect.

Interested in supporting local healthcare in the Highlands?

Looking for more information or our audited statements?

Please contact Executive Director, **Melanie Klodt Wong**, to discuss the many ways that you can make a difference in support of the health of the Highlands today and for future generations.

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[hhhs.ca/foundation](http://hhhs.ca/foundation)

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