

**For Immediate Release**

December 30, 2005

Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation  
Carleton Place, ON

**Carleton Place Hospital Expands Ultrasound Service**



Ultrasound sonographers Francine Germain and Angele Crites with the new ultrasound machine recently purchased by CPDMH

The Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) has once again responded to the needs of the community and has expanded the hours patients are able to receive an ultrasound. The hours for the service are now from 7:30 am – 7:30 pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and 7:30 am – 5:30 pm on Tuesday and Friday. Previously the hours were from Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 3:30 pm

“The demand for an ultrasound was becoming quite high and at one point we had patients waiting 6 weeks for a non-emergency ultrasound,” states Christine Boast, Manager of Diagnostic Imaging. “We felt that was unacceptable and we wanted to do our best to make the service more accessible to the community. The good news is the wait list has now shortened to 24 hours which is a wait time that is more tolerable to us and the community.”

The increase in service for an ultrasound occurred in late September after the hospital acquired another ultrasound machine and hired an additional ultrasound sonographer, Francine Germain. The hospital is

hoping to receive a grant from the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care to pay for the new machine, otherwise the surplus from the *Help Improve Tomorrow Today!* campaign will be used to cover the costs. The cost of the ultrasound machine is \$75,600.

“We are very lucky that the *Help Improve Tomorrow Today!* campaign surpassed its goal of \$1.5 million and raised over \$1.65 million”, stated Mike Gagne, CEO of CPDMH. “The additional funds will allow the hospital to explore the option of offering more programs and services to the community as well as possibly allow us to enhance the services we currently offer, as in the case with ultrasound.”

“The money from the campaign was given by the community to purchase new medical equipment for the hospital”, stated Ian Edwards, President of the CPDMH Foundation. “Once the commitments on the campaign list of needs have been met, the Foundation will ensure that any remaining money will continue to buy new equipment for the hospital. This will result in the better healthcare for the community and that’s the reason the community responded to the campaign in such a positive way.”

“I know how important receiving an ultrasound can be to patient diagnosis and treatment and I’m thrilled that we have been able to increase the access available to the community,” stated Angele Crites, CPDMH Ultrasound Sonographer. “Having an extra sonographer allows me to share my workload and I can now leave work knowing the community has access to better care. I’m sure everyone will agree that’s the end result we all want.”

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