Transforming care for Seniors and Veterans

Honour and Care

Fall 2021



The circle of life – and of service

Peter McKinnon

At the age of 97, Stanley (Stan) M. Parkhouse lives a relatively quiet life these days at Perley Health. It's quite a departure for a man who's devoted most his life to serving his country, community and family.

"People have always depended on me," Stan says with a faint smile. "Now I depend on others."

During the Second World War, Stanley served as a navigator on Wellington bomber crews. After the war, he followed in his father's footsteps and was ordained as a minister, serving a long list of congregations in seven decades. Along the way, he married a WREN and the couple raised two children; two grandchildren followed. During a stellar career in the Canadian Forces, he became the first chaplain to attend staff college and eventually retired with the rank of Brigadier General.

See page 4

Stan Parkhouse shortly after his enlistment in 1942

Inside this issue

- 2 A note from Delphine Haslé
- 3 Commissionaires Ottawa
- 6 Royal Canadian Legion
- 8 It takes a community
- 10 Dedicated to generosity
- 11 A note from Akos Hoffer
- 12 Sponsor-a-Flag
- 13 Relatively small program
- 14 Tributes



The new look of generosity



I am both proud and excited to introduce our new name — Perley Health Foundation — and our new logo. These are important parts of a refreshed brand that captures what it means to provide Veterans and Seniors ever-better care in the modern era. The new brand will help to ensure that your donations maximize quality of life through priority access to equipment, services and housing options. Our mission, vision and dedication to Seniors and Veterans have not changed, however; they remain as constant as the generosity of our donors. All of us at Perley Health deeply appreciate the support of donors and consider it to be a sacred trust.

Canadians have long taken pride in caring for others, particularly the less fortunate. In fact, many people consider this fundamental to our national identity. More than a century ago, heirs of Ottawa lumber baron William Perley established a home to care for people in need of long-term shelter and treatment. Since then, Canadians have continually stepped up to support our Veterans, particularly the more than one million men and women who served in wartime. To meet the changing needs of Veterans and Seniors, all levels of government, along with private donors, funded the 1995 construction of a new facility. Community donors later funded essential additions such as the Guest House, Independentliving apartments for seniors and the Centre of Excellence in Frailty-Informed Care.

I was reminded of the selflessness of Canadians when I attended this year's (physically distanced) gathering of Perley Health's Century Club: 23 residents aged 100 years or more. These men and women contributed so much to this country during their lifetimes. They worked together through wars, pandemics and economic hardships. When COVID-19 struck, donors stepped up immediately to protect the health and safety of our residents, and to maximize their

quality of life. It is fitting that the Century Club celebration is the first in 18 months to feature musicians performing to a live audience.

As day-to-day life slowly returns to normal, residents, staff, visitors and their families are all united in a sense of joy and gratitude.

Community support continues to define Perley Health. Since we incorporated as a registered charity, the community has entrusted us with more than \$40 million in donations for the care and housing of Veterans and Seniors. These funds, along with hundreds of regular volunteers, enable Perley Health to continually transform care for Veterans and Seniors. The trailblazing donation of \$2 million from Commissionaires Ottawa to support the exceptional care of Seniors and Veterans living with frailty at Perley Health and beyond is just the latest example of this enduring trend.

Recently, Perley Health Foundation became a founding partner in a new campaign designed to unleash the power of charitable donations made in a person's will. Known as willpower.ca, the campaign educates Canadians about the advantages of including charitable donations in their wills—an effective and meaningful way to express support for the causes they believe in. Our ongoing, slow but- steady recovery from the worst pandemic in a century inspires many of us to reconsider our own legacies. More and more Canadians recognize a gift-in-will as a modern expression of the age old spirit of generosity and selflessness. Together, we can create a better future for all.

Delphine Haslé, CFRE Granddaughter, Donor, Executive Director

Commissionaires Ottawa donates \$2 million to Perley Health Foundation



L-R: Delphine Halsé, Foundation Executive Director, Captain (N) Paul A. Guindon, (Ret'd), CEO Commissionaires Ottawa

and Akos Hoffer, Perley Health CEO



The largest division of Canada's leading private sector employer of Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP Veterans has made a trailblazing donation to Perley Health Foundation's Answering the Call campaign. On June 15, Commissionaires Ottawa announced a gift of \$2 million to fund critically needed research and innovation in the care of Veterans and Seniors living with frailty, a medical condition that increases our vulnerability as we age. It is the largest philanthropic gift in the history of both Commissionaires Ottawa and Perley Health.

"To a great extent, the freedom and peaceful way of life enjoyed by Canadians today is the result of sacrifices made by Veterans and their families for generations," said Captain (N) Paul A. Guindon (Ret'd), CEO of Commissionaires Ottawa. "Our aging loved ones deserve the best possible care to help them enjoy their lives to the fullest. We hope others join us in donating to this cause."

In 2018, Perley Health established Canada's first Centre of Excellence in Frailty-Informed Care.

Raising funds for the Centre of Excellence is a key

goal of the Answering the Call campaign.

"The gift supports our vision of becoming Canada's leading provider, educator, and innovator in frailty-informed care for Veterans and Seniors," said Akos Hoffer, CEO of Perley Health.

With more than 4,000 employees,
Commissionaires Ottawa provides a wide range
of security and background screening services,
and manages the largest digital fingerprinting
infrastructure in Canada. In 2012, Commissionaires
Ottawa donated \$1 million to help fund the Seniors'
Village, a Perley Health project that built 139
independent-living apartments. The success of the
Seniors' Village enabled Perley Health to expand
its programs and services, and made it possible to
establish the Centre of Excellence.

In recognition of the gift, the title of research chair will now be known as the Commissionaires Ottawa Research Chair in Frailty-Informed Care. The position is currently held by Dr. Annie Robitaille, an Assistant Professor at the University of Ottawa's Interdisciplinary School of Health Sciences. Dr. Robitaille has dedicated her career to researching a broad spectrum of aging-related issues. **HC**

The circle of life -and of service

Continued from page 1

"The people I met and the things I witnessed during the war profoundly impacted me and the path I followed in life," says Stan.

Stanley grew up in Fergus, a small town in central Ontario, and enlisted in the Royal Canadian Airforce when he was 19.

"Many of us chose the air force because flying in aircraft seemed exciting," says Stan. "We told ourselves that in the army, all they did was march all day long."

After training at RCAF Station Malton (Toronto) and in England, Stanley was assigned to a Wellington crew for the North African campaign. Known as the Desert War, the campaign took place in the deserts of Egypt and Libya from 1940 through 1943. Stanley and his crewmates lived in tents and flew many bombing missions against Italian targets in Libya.

"We never knew whether we'd make it back," recalls Stan. "It was often terrifying."

In between missions, the crews found ways to cope with sandstorms, scorpions, temperature extremes and other hardships.

"Many of us would trade our cigarettes with American soldiers for their food rations, which we much better than ours," he says.

After the war, Stan took advantage of the Veterans Charter, a Government of Canada program that covered the cost of university studies or vocational training for returning Veterans. Determined to become a minister, he enrolled at Emmanuel College in Toronto, a university affiliated with the United Church of Canada. While on campus one day, three bridge players asked if he'd join them. One of them was Jean Isabel Brandon, who had served in the Women's Royal Navy Service, popularly known as the WRENs. The two soon fell in love, married in 1948 and would continue to play bridge together for the next six decades.



Stan and Jean wed in 1948.

Following Stan's ordination to United Church ministry, the couple moved to Levack, a town near Sudbury, Ontario. Stan knew, however, that he could make a larger contribution as a military chaplain than as a minister of a civilian congregation.

"I understood the central moral conflict that service personnel must confront: we enlist to keep the peace, but have to make war sometimes," says Stan.

He re-enlisted and the couple embarked on the itinerant life of a military family, with Stan as chaplain and Jean involved in Sunday school. For the next three decades, they lived on bases across Canada and Europe, adopting two children—Anne and John— along the way. "Growing up, we moved at least every four years," says daughter Anne Mulholland. "At one point, we moved three years in a row."

Family games and outings helped to offset the disadvantages of military life.

"We played cards and board games regularly," says Anne. "And while we lived in Europe, the four of us camped and hiked from the tip of Norway to southern Spain. Dad had Mondays off and he'd sometimes take us out of school for the day to go on a family adventure."

Recognizing Stan's exceptional abilities, the Canadian Forces sent him to staff college. Soon after completing the training—the first chaplain to do so—he was assigned increasingly senior positions, eventually rising to the rank of Brigadier General. After retiring from the Canadian Forces in 1981, the couple settled near Bobcaygeon, Ontario, and Stan returned to ministering to civilian United Church congregations, sometimes as a supply minister.

"Throughout his military and civilian career,my father earned a great deal of respect for his ability to console others," says Anne. "He was the first person called in the event of tragedy, such as a fatal accident or suicide, for instance. Marital counselling is another important part of a chaplain's job, as many couples struggle with the stress of military life. As kids, we knew he had bad days, but he never brought it home to us."

As Stan worked less, he and Jean spent more time at the family cottage and nearby woodlot. He loved harvesting wood from his lot and continued to wield a chainsaw effectively well into his 90s. In the 2000s, Jean developed Alzheimer's and initially, Stan was able to care for her at home. By 2009, her care needs had increased significantly, and she moved into Perley Health. Stan visited her there daily, while their adult children visited a couple of times a week. Anne's two sons—accomplished clarinetists— also visited regularly, sometimes performing for residents.

"We were all impressed with the quality of care that Jean received," says Stan. "I started to recognize that this might also be a good place for me one day."



The birthdays of Jean Parkhouse and her son John are only a few days apart, so the family often celebrated them together at the cottage. In this photo, taken in the late 1990s, Jean and Stan are joined by their two adult children, along with Anne's two sons: Michael (left) and Patrick (right).

Jean Parkhouse passed away in 2011. Stan lived with Anne's family for a few years, before moving into Perley Health in 2019. Now he spends his time reading, painting in the Therapeutic Recreation and Creative Arts studio, and taking part in exercise classes and musical events.

Given his career path, it's no surprise that Stan always seeks to engage and connect with anyone he meets. One day, he met Ted, a Personal Support Worker at Perley Health. After a brief exchange, Stan suggested that he had baptized Ted five decades earlier, while serving in Comox, British Columbia. Ted checked his records and confirmed it.

"I still find it hard to believe that a baby I held and baptized over 50 years ago came to care for my wife and me many years later," Stan says with a smile. "That's the circle of life."

For a man who devoted so much of his life and career to helping others, the term "circle of service" seems more appropriate. **HC**

Ongoing support from the Royal Canadian Legion





The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Ottawa generously donated tulips, puzzles and chocolates to Perley Health residents. We are grateful both for the Embassy's longstanding support and for their efforts to celebrate the enduring friendly ties between Dutch and Canadian citizens.



A generous \$5,000 donation from the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 616 West Carleton will do much to improve the lives of Veteran residents!



Members of the Korean Veterans Association of Canada (KVA) made a generous donation of \$1,000, and delivered gift bags on behalf of the Korean Embassy to all Korean War Veterans residing at Perley Health. The KVA aims to address the welfare and concerns of Canadian Korean War Veterans and their families, and we are grateful for their support.

It takes a co

Good Deed Spreads Good Cheer

On August 17, Perley Health residents enjoyed tasty ice cream sandwiches and a live performance from the Ottawa Police Service Pipe Band thanks to radio station CHEZ 106 and the Ottawa Police Service Association. The event is part of CHEZ 106's "Good Deeds" campaign, designed to bolster community spirits during the pandemic. Ottawa Flowers participated in the good deed by providing a special bouquet of flowers to each Perley Health nursing station.

"It's always great to have visitors, especially during a pandemic," said resident Arnold (Robbie) Roberts. "And we all appreciate the opportunity to hear live music again!"







mmunity

Newcomer to Volunteer to Donor

A huge thank you (and belated happy birthday) to volunteer Marlène Djipaps! Born in Cameroon, where she trained and worked as a physician, Marlène immigrated to Canada in 2020 and began to volunteer as a Meal Assistant at Perley Health in 2021.

"Every day I volunteered, I walked past the Priority Needs List posted outside the Foundation office," Marlène said. "I saw the amount listed beside each program and piece of equipment and knew that I could help. Seeing it made it feel like something I could touch." To celebrate her birthday, Marlène generously hosted a Facebook event, raising \$563.00 for Priority Needs.



If you'd like to host a similar fundraiser, call Sara Francis at 613-526-7173.



Young Writer Pays Tribute to Veterans

Un grand merci à Sophie LeVasseur! Sophie donated the proceeds from the sale of a book about the Battle of Vimy Ridge that she co-wrote and self-published with her father, Gilles LeVasseur, a Foundation Board Member and University of Ottawa professor. Sophie's grandfather, a Second World War Veteran, resided at Perley Health and her greatgrandfather served in World War I. Published in both official languages (The Duty of a Soldier and a Country; Le devoir du soldat et d'un pays), the book will be distributed to public schools across Canada.

Dedicated to generosity

Hyman (Hymie) Smith, a centenarian who passed away earlier this year, capped a lifetime of service with donations to the Perley Health Foundation. A Veteran of the Second World War, Hymie was the last surviving member of one of Ottawa's leading philanthropic families.

Hymie's parents, Louis Smith and Anne Glazer, emigrated from Russia to Canada and raised 13 children. The family lived above Louis' shoemaker's shop in the rough-and-tumble neighbourhood of Lower Town.

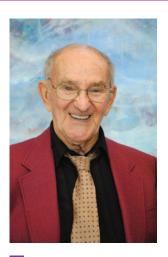
"I first met the Smith family in 1940, when I went to get my skates sharpened at the shoemaker's shop," recalls Seymour Eisenberg, a longtime friend and executor of Hymie's estate. "The Smiths always had a pot of soup on the stove and needy people never went hungry. Hymie's passing marks the end of an era."

The Smith family's dedication to community is legendary. During the Second World War, no fewer than five Smith boys enlisted in the Canadian Forces; Hymie served overseas as an airplane mechanic, a career he pursued after the war. In 1959, younger brother Dave opened Nate's Deli, the first of several successful restaurants, and soon became a tireless fundraiser. Dave is credited with raising more than \$150 million for charity during his lifetime and founded the Dave Smith Youth Treatment Centre for young people struggling with addictions issues.

After the war, Hymie moved west, embarking on a 30-year career servicing aircraft, mostly for the oil-and gas industry. For several years, he maintained the helicopter on board C.D. Howe, the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker that delivered essential supplies to remote Arctic communities. Along the way, he met and married the love of his life: Erika, a woman of German descent. "I've had a good life and a good wife," Hymie was fond of saying.

The couple had no children and settled in the mining community of Dawson City, Yukon, where

they established a grocery store. At the time, many miners were paid infrequently, so Hymie and Erika allowed them to purchase groceries on credit. When asked about it, Hymie is reported to have said: "If I can't do a man any good, I won't do him any harm." One day, however, the store burned to the ground and all credit records



Hymie Smith

were destroyed. Hymie's reported reaction: "Suddenly, no one owed me any money."

After Erika passed away, Hymie moved back to Ottawa. He worked alongside brother Dave and sister Freda at The Place Next Door, a restaurant that regularly attracted celebrities and politicians. In his early nineties, with his care needs increasing, Hymie moved into the Perley Health.

"Hymie was very happy at the Perley," recalls Seymour Eisenberg. "Always had a smile on his face and was quick with a song or a joke. And he kept two 25-pound weights in his room and did bicep curls regularly. I used to warn people about shaking his hand, his grip was so strong."

Late in his life, Hymie sought help to ensure that charities benefited from the wealth he'd accumulated during his lifetime. He turned to Seymour, a retired financial advisor and trusted friend, who helped him establish a foundation.

"Hymie told me his money is 'for the needy, not the greedy," says Seymour.

Immediately before his death, as well as in his will, Hymie made generous donations to several charities, including the Perley Health Foundation, where the funds will help meet the priority needs of Veteran residents. It's the latest example of how the Smith family's legacy lives on. **HC**

New brand, renewed purpose



As regular readers of Honour and Care will note, this issue features a new name – Perley Health Foundation – and brand identity. While the Foundation and Perley Health are independent organizations, each with its own staff and Board of Directors, the two have always worked closely together toward the same goal: to improve the care we provide to Veterans and Seniors. The new brand, along with updates to Perley Health's strategic plan and support from generous donors, better position us to transform care for Veterans and Seniors across Canada. To understand the rationale behind these changes requires a firm grasp of larger shifts underway in society.

Perhaps the biggest shift involves key demographic trends. The number of Veterans who saw action overseas is in steep decline. At the same time, Canada's population is rapidly aging. In the next two decades, the number of Canadians aged 85 and older will more than double, and the surge could well overwhelm healthcare and long-term care systems across the country. During the pandemic, the need for better systems of care has taken on a new sense of urgency.

The models of care and housing we have developed, implemented and refined during the last 25 years—largely because of our Veteran residents—point toward effective solutions. Perley Health's future lies in continuing to empower Seniors and Veterans to reach their full potential and live their best possible life at every age. We must advocate for better care, and conduct, validate and disseminate the research needed to improve care, with a stronger focus on supporting the growing numbers of older adults living with frailty. We must also help resolve the full spectrum of related issues: human resources, training, housing and more. And we must continue to honour and serve Canada's Veterans.

Evolving to better meet the needs of the people we serve has been a constant in our history, as well as in the history of the organizations amalgamated 25 years ago to create us: Perley Hospital, Rideau Veterans' Home and the

Veterans Wing of the National Defence Medical Centre. In 2007, for instance, we opened the Guest House to provide respite care to individuals living with dementia. In 2013, financial support from government and community donors enabled us to build 139 independent-living apartments—now known as Perley Health Senior Living. More recent partnerships led us to open on-site clinics and to provide learning opportunities to future generations of caregivers. The establishment of the Perley Health Centre of Excellence in Frailty-Informed Care two years ago is particularly significant, because it will advance the care of older adults living with frailty through applied, practical research and knowledge transfer.

Today, Perley Health is a community where Seniors and Veterans thrive in a variety of settings: from independent living to long-term care. Our model of person- and family-centric care supports all aspects of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being. Perley Health actively engages in research and new methodologies in frailty-informed care, and shares our findings and best practices widely. And we continually strive for higher standards of excellence and foster a culture of self-improvement.

We are blessed with a wealth of attributes: a talented and dedicated workforce, exceptional community support, effective partnerships with leading academic and healthcare institutions, and a strong reputation for innovation and excellence in care.

Our new brand enables us to better leverage these attributes and increase our contribution to the community. The exceptional care that residents receive at Perley Health is thanks in part to the generosity of our community. Together, we are transforming care for Seniors and Veterans.

Thank you!

Akos Hoffer,

CEO, Perley Health

Sponsor-a-Flag campaign returns

A highlight of Remembrance Day 2020 at Perley Health was the sea of tiny Canadian flags surrounding the cenotaph and blanketing the grounds. The sponsor-a-flag campaign is back for 2021 and the Foundation hopes that members of the community will make it even more impressive. The campaign involves planting small Canadian flags outside Perley Health, where they are visible to residents and visitors before and after Remembrance Day. Last year, members of the community sponsored more than 800 flags, raising the spirits of pandemic-isolated residents, along with more than \$16,000 for the care of Veterans and Seniors.

"The sponsor-a-flag campaign is a great way for individuals to express their support for servicemen and servicewomen," says Foundation Director of Development Courtney Rock. "More than 200 of our residents served. The sacrifices they made contributed so much to the quality of life Canadians enjoy today."

The presence of Veterans has enabled Perley Health to develop and share innovative approaches to Seniors' care for more than 25 years. In recent years, the pace of innovation at Perley Health has increased significantly, thanks to broad community support and effective partnerships.



The flags can be sponsored for \$20 each through PerleyHealthFoundation.ca or by calling 613-526-7173.





Relatively small program, exceptionally large support

Peter McKinnon



The fundraising efforts of one relatively small Department of National Defence Program demonstrates the defence community's remarkable respect for Canada's Veterans. Since 2018, Director General Aerospace Equipment Program Management (DGAEPM) has raised more than \$25,000 to help meet the needs of the approximately 200 Veteran residents of Perley Health.

DGAEPM has actively fundraised for the Perley Health since 2006. This support accelerated significantly in 2017 with the appointment of a new Director General: Colonel Nancy Tremblay (now Major-General) is a dedicated champion of Perley Health. Under her leadership, DGAEPM stepped up and diversified its fundraising, encouraging members to host garage sales and other events, and to collect sponsorships for the annual Tamarack Race Weekend. During 2021, DGAEPM members raised an astonishing total of \$16,116. DND recently promoted Tremblay to the rank of Major-General and appointed her to Chief Materiel Program, where she will oversee Canadian Armed Forces procurement and acquisition.

During Tremblay's 34 years in the CAF, the needs of Canada's Veterans have evolved significantly. In recent years, access to long-term care at Perley Health has expanded to welcome more Veterans,

including those who served after the Korean War and in United Nations peacekeeping forces. Perley Health leads and partners in a growing number of innovative programs and research projects, and a wide range of clinical, therapeutic and recreational services are available on-site.

"Support from organizations such as DGAEPM enable us to design and deliver ever-better care to Veterans," says Louise Mercier, Chair of the Perley Health Foundation Board of Directors. "I'm honoured to be a part of it." **HC**



The Fortin-Demers family cheered on a group of DGAEPM members (including mother and wife Anick Demers) on their virtual Ottawa Race Weekend runs.

Donations in memory

April 13, 2021 - September 9, 2021

Mr. David Adams Mr. Victor Allen Mrs. Irene Beazlev Mrs. Ethel Belanger Mr. Barry Blair Ms. Thelma Boles Mme Marie-Claire Bourgeois Létorneau Mr. Joseph (Bob) Brady Mr. Yvan Brazeau Mr. Ewan R. Caldwell Mr. Moe Cardish Mr. Léo-Paul Charron Mr. Bruce Hamilton Chick, Jr. Ms. Cathy Chrysler Mr. William Coburn Ms. Elizabeth Cooper Mr. Bob Daley Mr. Lee Day Mrs. Freda de March Mr. Russell J. Dickson CStJ CWO Joe Drouin, (Ret'd)

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Mr. George Yaworsky

Ms. Isabel M. Porter

Thank you for your role in transforming care for Seniors and Veterans.

Mr. George Murphy

Mrs. Joan O'Donnell

Mr. René E.S. Péron

Col. J.R. O'Brien. (Ret'd)

Mr. Jacob Julien Olson

Donations in honour

April 13, 2021 - September 9, 2021

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Together we improve the well-being of the people we serve.



Publications Mail Agreement No. 40069406

Return Undeliverable Canadian Address to: Perley Health Foundation, 1750 Russell Road, Ottawa ON K1G 5Z6

Email: foundation@perleyhealth.ca

Perley Health is a community where over 600 Seniors and Veterans thrive – from independent living to long-term care. We support each resident with a person and family-centric approach to the continuum of care to improve not only their physical well-being but their mental and emotional health, too.

Louise Mercier

Foundation Board Chair

Delphine Haslé

Foundation Executive Director

Margaret Tansey

Perley Health Board Chair

Akos Hoffer

Perley Health Chief Executive Officer

Perley Health Foundation publishes Honour and Care three times a year.

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The Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre Foundation / La Foundation du Centre de santé Perley et Rideau pour anciens combattants is operating as Perley Health Foundation

