



PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL'S CURRENT MRI IS PUT TO USE 24/7, 365 DAYS/YEAR. **LOGAN IS ONE OF THE NEARLY 7,000 PATIENTS** WHO RECEIVE AN MRI THERE ANNUALLY. MANY MORE PATIENTS ARE STILL WAITING, AND THE LIST IS GETTING LONGER. ADDING THIS NEW MRI SUITE WILL HELP INCREASE CAPACITY FOR DECADES TO COME.

## LOGAN LA ROUE

My first appointment was for an X-Ray at Peace Arch Hospital. I arrived and was ushered into a busy waiting area, eventually thrust back-and-forth between the change-room and exam room due to malfunctioning x-ray equipment. Many patients, including those from the ER, were forced to wait their turn to be examined with equipment that appeared to be unreliable. My results were inconclusive.

In March 2022, everything finally came full circle when I received an MRI. After enduring a cramped and anxiety-inducing hour in Peace Arch Hospital's outdated MRI unit, doctors made the discovery of a large, unexpected tumor on my spinal cord. I was immediately referred off to emergency surgery to remove it.

My surgeon was shocked I could still walk or remain continent — the tumor's size and positioning had made it dangerously close to cutting off important nerve functions. As

a young woman in her 20's with no history of health issues, this was incredibly scary to hear. So was finding out that there was an additional mass on one of my ovaries. And it didn't end there.

When I returned from my surgery and began recovering at home, I couldn't walk or look after myself, so my mother was going to assist me. But this plan didn't last long. My mother's Crohn's Disease found her in the ER at Peace Arch Hospital — unable to assist me when it was critically-needed as she became a patient, too, and was forced to await her own critical diagnostic scans.

It's been a few months, now, and we're both still waiting for further imaging. Although grateful for the care we have received thus far, we believe more can, and should, be done. Not just for us, but for people in even more critical situations — and for our entire community, too.



“For years I battled chronic, unexplained pain and numbness in my hip and leg. I had to advocate many times for medical imaging, and when my doctor finally agreed, I spent months on wait lists awaiting my first diagnostic scans.”

**LOGAN LA ROUE, GRATEFUL PATIENT,  
SPINAL TUMOR**

“I wouldn't know that I have cancer today without the scans, and the close monitoring of my Urologist, Dr. Kwan.”

**KELLY WINDOVER, GRATEFUL PATIENT, PROSTATE CANCER**



**Patient experience**



“We got the prostate cancer diagnosis last August...and the last MRI was at Surrey Memorial Hospital because the MRI at Peace Arch Hospital was broken.”

DEBBIE WINDOVER, KELLY'S WIFE

## KELLY WINDOVER

My father previously suffered from prostate cancer, so I knew I had a family history of it. Our family history was an indicator that I should get checked out. If they hadn't of found the anomaly growths on the digital scans, I wouldn't have known that I'd had it.

It all started in 2010 and where my very first biopsy had actually come up clean. Wait lists were long and there was a period of two years where we didn't have answers. My first MRI was at a private clinic all the way in Richmond, because I was told the wait lists at Peace Arch Hospital were long. I wish I didn't have to purchase a private MRI to move things forward faster, but we didn't know what was happening, so I decided to do it.

When 2018 rolled around, we had an understanding around where things were. I was getting regular blood tests and biopsies and monitoring my PSA. In 2020 I needed another MRI, but that one had to be at Surrey Memorial Hospital because the MRI at Peace Arch Hospital was broken.

It was a bit disappointing to not be able to receive these scans at our community hospital — I've lived here for nearly ten years and live in close proximity to Peace Arch Hospital.



I wouldn't know that I have cancer today without the scans, and the close monitoring of my Urologist, Dr. Kwan. Right now, we're just trying to figure out if it's an aggressive or slow-growing cancer. I've also been focused on sitting down and talking to my son about it — he'll need to start getting his own tests to keep track of his health with our family history in mind. He's 36.

Five or ten years down the road, this cancer might become a major issue for me, and I might not be able to deal with it. I hope I'll be able to walk or ride my bike to Peace Arch Hospital where we will make plans to either treat it or live with it. Whichever option unfolds, new imaging equipment would be a real big help. For me, for my son's future testing, or for whoever needs.

Right now, I just do the best I can to stay healthy and positive. My wife will say I'm not very excitable about anything, but I am glad that we were able to detect the cancer so that we can continue to monitor it and plan from there.



PEOPLE OF ALL AGES IN OUR COMMUNITY SUFFER FROM CHRONIC PAIN DUE TO INJURY, AGING, OR DISEASE. SOME TREATMENTS INCLUDE X-RAY AND FLUOROSCOPIC-GUIDED INJECTIONS OF MEDICINE DIRECTLY INTO MUSCLES AND JOINTS. THESE INJECTIONS CAN HELP DIAGNOSE THE SOURCE OF PAIN, AS WELL AS ALLEVIATE LONG-TERM DISCOMFORT. **A NEW X-RAY AND FLUOROSCOPIC UNIT WILL INCREASE THESE SERVICES AT PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL.**

## PRICILLA DEO

Last year, I fell down a set of stairs and shattered my ankle. I required multiple X-rays, surgeries, and related treatments at Peace Arch Hospital.

My ankle injury led to osteoarthritis and a limited range of motion for my leg. I am a restaurant owner and pastry chef, which means I must typically spend long hours on my feet at work. The chronic pain I face is incredibly hard to deal with and has impacted my ability to do what I love and complete many necessary tasks related to running my business.

Image-guided steroid injections have really made a big difference for me when I can get them. They allow me to have a normal life and still make my pastries, but it's always very difficult waiting between treatment appointments.

Because they require x-ray or fluoroscopic-guidance, there is a tremendously long wait list at Peace Arch Hospital in order to get these injections. I usually wait more than six months to get an appointment, and once it's finally booked, I'll have to wait at least another three months to go in and get it. Right now,

I've been waiting almost a year to receive this treatment — my longest wait to date.

I've been told that injections are the best option to prevent further surgeries, but my specialist told me that another surgery would be inevitable if the pain could not be controlled. Being in my mid-thirties, I want to live a normal life like everyone else. The lack of treatment options has caused my quality of life to go down, including healthy living — exercise is hard to do while in pain.

Opening a restaurant was my ultimate dream, but this pain has kept me from being able to do everything else that I want to do in restaurant and life. All I can do is look forward to the date of my injections where there is an immediate sense of relief. I continue to count down each month, each week, each day.

And when I finally come back to work and get to experience that immediate relief from being in pain — that's truly life changing. I am able to get a full night's sleep, see my loved ones, and enjoy a social life. I just want to be okay.



“Opening a restaurant was my ultimate dream, but this pain has kept me from being able to do everything that I want to do. All I can do is look forward to the date of my injections where there is an immediate sense of relief.”

**PRICILLA DEO, GRATEFUL PATIENT,  
SURGERY & PAIN MANAGEMENT**



Patient experience

“One of the most profound moments is realizing that you are in the right place at the right time, in the right hands.”

JOELLE PALEOLOGOU, GRATEFUL PATIENT, SURGERY AND DIAGNOSTIC CARE

“The challenges that we are having with our current equipment is that it is at end-of-life. It doesn't have some of the newer technologies that have been developed over the last few years. We have more days where [devices] are down for maintenance and that, of course, takes away from the number of patients we can get done on a monthly basis.”

CHERYL MASON, MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHER, PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL

“Medical Imaging is really at the cornerstone of any medical decision. If you have problems relating to cancer, you need to have a CT scan to identify the concern and plan your treatment. Early detection of many diseases is key to a successful recovery and cure.”

**DR. GILLES SOULEZ, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RADIOLOGISTS**

## JOELLE PALEOLOGOU

I've had a number of surgeries in my life already, mostly from an early diagnosis of colon cancer. But the last time is the most recent, and that was actually just days after we did the Cirque Gala — a wonderful event for our hospital.

I knew something wasn't right, the feeling was familiar. I had a full obstruction in my colon due to old scar tissue from other surgeries. George was beside himself, he moved heaven and earth to make sure that they would transfer us to Peace Arch Hospital. We know doctors here, it's our community, and I've put a lot of time into helping the hospital.

It was incredulous to come off this incredible gala with my team to realize that I myself would need the hospital.

When we got to the hospital, I had to wait. I was in excruciating pain. And in that time of waiting, my colon twisted again, so I was cut off in two places.



JOELLE IS A DEDICATED PHILANTHROPIST WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED AS A KEY VOLUNTEER WITH PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL'S GALA COMMITTEE SINCE 2013.

But I was incredibly lucky that they were able to diagnose me and get me in. One of the most profound moments is realizing that you are in the right place at the right time, in the right hands.

I think it is quite conceivable that I wouldn't have had this second obstruction if we weren't waiting...I'm lucky to be here. I could have died. If I had to wait any longer, I don't think I'd be sitting here today.

We can't be complacent with our healthcare and our community. We can't expect that the government is going to pay for all of this [new equipment], we must take it into our own hands. If there's a problem, we need to step up.

“Medical imaging has a central role in disease detection, management, and treatment. The tools and technologies available in medical imaging are continuously being updated and improved. Keeping up to date with the latest equipment at Peace Arch Hospital will help us provide the highest quality care possible for the people in our community.”

**DR. BIPPAN SANGHA, MD, FRCPC**  
RADIOLOGIST, PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL

## **Our community deserves the best care possible**

**AND WE IMAGINE A FUTURE WHERE PATIENTS  
DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR IT.**

**Increased growth and a shift in demographics continue  
to place extraordinary demands on our hospital:**

By 2046, the population of Peace Arch Hospital's catchment area is expected to grow to 177,700, an increase of nearly 70,000 from 2016. This is largely due to the influx of young families moving to the area.

In addition to the increasing number of children, our senior population is on the rise. As of 2021, 30% of the White Rock and South Surrey catchment area was 65 years or older, with significant health service requirements. This number continues to rise.



“It is difficult for us to find the correct techniques with current equipment. The equipment fails or malfunctions unexpectedly, resulting in having to re-do portions, or all, of our exams. When the equipment fails, it can take a long time to be fixed as parts are no longer available for repair. This results in significant delays for the patients.”

**ANDREA NOLAND, RSLP, PEACE ARCH HOSPITAL**