

# THE IMPACT OF LEGACY GIFTS

A Legacy Gift is the most personal charitable gift, and the Heart Institute is grateful to the donors who have chosen to shape the future of the Heart Institute in such a heartfelt and benevolent way. The impact of Legacy Gifts is immeasurable, ensuring the Heart Institute can continue to care for cardiac patients well into the future through the advancement of research and the development of new treatments.

*“Because it is possible for one action to shape a spectacular outcome.”*

*-Dr. Wilbert J. Keon*

The following are just a few of the many initiatives, studies, resources, protocols, and research made possible thanks to our donors—thanks to Legacy Gifts.

## CANADIAN WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH CENTRE

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women. Women are under-diagnosed, under-treated and under-studied when it comes to cardiovascular disease. In 2014 the Heart Institute launched the Canadian Women's Heart Health Centre. Today, the centre has developed and rolled out a number of transformative initiatives aimed at raising awareness, developing programs, improving care, and advancing research and treatment.

## STEMI PROTOCOL

STEMI is the deadliest form of heart attack. In 2004, after four years in development, the Heart Institute launched the STEMI Protocol. Today, the protocol has cut STEMI deaths by 50%, serving as the model for similar programs across Canada and influencing care around the world.

## HYBRID OR

The Hybrid Operating Room provides the environment for a more patient-centered approach - so that each individual patient gets the best treatment tailored to them. The hybrid OR is an over-sized procedure room where interventional cardiologists, surgeons and imaging specialists can physically work together – making it possible to do less invasive procedures with real time advanced cardiac imaging in the same location to improve procedure outcomes.

## HYBRID OR TABLE

The Hybrid OR Table is ideal for cardiac surgery, easily allowing patients to be repositioned during long surgeries. The tables are electrically controlled and can be raised, lowered, and tilted. The table can accommodate the multitude of accessories required for equipment placement and does not interfere with the superior images obtained through the fluoroscopy imaging systems used in the state-of-the-art Hybrid ORs.

## SURGICAL ROBOT

The Surgical Robot enables the surgeon to perform minimally invasive surgery with an advanced set of instruments. The tiny wristed instruments move like a human hand, but with a greater range of motion. Compared with traditional surgery, the da Vinci vision system also delivers highly magnified, 3D high-definition views of the surgical area. The instrument size makes it possible for surgeons to operate through one or a few small incisions. The benefits of robotically-assisted surgery can include:

- Smaller incisions with minimal scarring
- Less trauma to the patient, including less pain
- Shorter hospital stay (usually 3 to 4 days)
- Decreased use of pain medications
- Less bleeding
- Decreased risk of infection

Shorter recovery and quicker return to daily and professional activities: The patient can resume normal activities and work as soon as he or she feels up to it; there are no specific activity restrictions after robotically-assisted surgery

## CARDIAC RESEARCH

Research is one of our three pillars. Through research we are pioneering a number of treatments, therapies and procedures, including:

- Innovative and less invasive techniques that promote a quicker recovery for our patients, such as the “keyhole surgery”
- Personalized care, identifying the best targeted treatment for each patient based on bedside genetics testing
- Non-invasive Radio-ablation, to treat life threatening Arrhythmias with more permanent results
- Restorative treatments to repair damaged heart muscle

These are just a few of the many research projects being conducted, procedures being integrated, and resources now available at the Heart Institute—and Legacy gifts continue to support the innovation that further translates to excellence in patient care. Thank you for making the Ottawa Heart Institute a part of your legacy!

**FUNDING THE NEXT FRONTIER IN CARDIAC CARE**

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