

Sunnybrook Foundation News

Foundation News & Events, When It Matters Most
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Belinda Stronach opens up about her breast cancer to raise funds for the Odette Cancer Centre



Belinda Stronach will host *Live to Tell: Up Close and Personal with Sheryl Crow* on May 20 at the Angus Glen Golf Club.

Belinda Stronach has had her share of being in the public eye, but it wasn't the most comfortable place to be when she learned she had breast cancer and decided not to seek re-election as an MP.

Now, two years later, the auto parts executive is opening up about her diagnosis and treatment to help raise funds for the construction of a new Breast Cancer Research Centre at Sunnybrook.

"I figure if it can be beneficial to other women, families and partners, to hear about my experience, and some of them can relate to them, then I don't mind talking about it publicly," Stronach told *The Canadian Press*.

"At the time I didn't say much. When I first was diagnosed, my focus was really learning about what course of action I wanted to take and then communicating to family and friends."

In spring 2007, the high-flying MP known for her political savvy went to her doctor after finding a large lump in her right breast.

She was diagnosed with a form of cancer called ductal carcinoma in situ and had surgery to remove the lump. And although the cancer hadn't spread, the margins of the area where the tumour had occurred weren't "clean," she said, raising concern about recurrence.

"It's strange because one day you're healthy and you feel good and you're going about your daily activities and the next you're told you have cancer," recalled Stronach, a mother of two teenagers. "So it does change the direction, your priorities change majorly."

Stronach, vice-chairman of her father Frank's Magna International Inc., opted for a mastectomy and breast reconstruction, which allowed her to avoid radiation and virtually eliminated the chance of recurrence. Her surgery was performed in the United States.

"It was important to me at the time that I wanted to preserve my nipple, and that wasn't at the time an option that I was given here."

Without the technique to preserve the nipple, women who have breast reconstruction can opt for a "nipple" tattoo, but that's not what she wanted.

"When you're faced with those pretty difficult decisions, you make the choices that you feel are best for you at that time. I'm not apologizing for it ... I don't view it as a cosmetic surgery. I think it's part of the healing process."

Since her own operation, Stronach has raised more than \$1 million for the Belinda Stronach Chair in Breast

Cancer Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Toronto, so Canadian women will have access to nipple-saving surgery.

Her latest philanthropic venture is fundraising for the Odette Cancer Centre at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

Stronach will host *Live to Tell* on May 20 featuring singer and breast cancer survivor Sheryl Crow, with proceeds from 800 tickets going towards construction of a new Breast Cancer Research Centre at Sunnybrook.

Those wishing to attend the evening event can register online at www.livetotell.ca. Anyone can attend the concert by paying a registration fee of \$75 and fundraise for \$425 or each ticket can be purchased for \$500.

As for Stronach, she plans to continue at Magna and to expand her philanthropy work through her charitable foundation.

"I feel good, I feel strong, I'm doing everything I can to lead a good, healthy lifestyle and have a strong immune system," said Stronach, who has taken up yoga as a mainstay of her exercise routine.

While some women might worry about how a potential mate might react to their having had breast cancer and a reconstruction, Stronach waves away that notion.

"That's part of who I am. Take it or leave it."

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Written by Sheryl Ubelacker
Source: *The Canadian Press*

Live to Tell
UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH
SHERYL CROW

Toronto's top interior designers raise funds for the Women & Babies Program

It was 26 years ago when the Junior League of Toronto Showhouse™ chose McLean House on The Estates of Sunnybrook as the site of their first Showhouse, their signature fundraising event. On May 8, 2009, the Junior League of Toronto will return to the spectacular Georgian-style estate on the grounds of Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre for their eighth Showhouse.

Fifty-three designers have donated their time and expertise in transforming McLean House this time and visitors to the Junior League Showhouse™ will be awed by the beautiful and timeless rooms that have been created.









"This is a wonderful opportunity for many of Toronto's key designers to showcase their expertise and support the community," says Kelly Koselek, President of the Junior League of Toronto. "It is also our premier fundraising event, where we raise monies for our programs and associated charities. One of our recipient charities this year, and one we are very proud to be in association with, is the Women & Babies Program at Sunnybrook." Over the past 25 years, the Junior League of

Toronto Showhouse™ has generated over \$1.6 million for worthy causes.

More than 10,000 visitors attended the last Junior League of Toronto Showhouse™ and the Junior League expects to surpass that number this year. As well as the latest trends in décor, visitors can attend design presentations with "Talks in the Tent", lunch in the café and shop in the boutique as part of this premier event.

The Junior League of Toronto Showhouse is open from May 8 to May 31. Tickets are \$25. Groups of ten, seniors and students are \$20. To purchase tickets visit www.jltshowhouse.org or purchase them at the door.


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Recognizing investments in Sunnybrook this quarter

Sunnybrook Foundation is extremely grateful to all of its donors. As of March 31, 2009, the Campaign has raised \$246 million. At this time, we would like to recognize new gifts of \$5,000+ made to the Campaign from January 1 - March 31, 2009. Thank you to all of our donors.

\$250,000 - \$499,999

- Breast Cancer Society of Canada
- McLeish Orlando LLP
- Oatley, Vigmond Personal Injury Lawyers

- 1 Anonymous Donor

\$100,000 - \$249,999

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Thank you to all of our donors for being there, when it matters most.

Call for submissions for the Sunnybrook Rose Award

Established in 2008, the Sunnybrook Rose Award recognizes the exemplary efforts of volunteers for outstanding service to Sunnybrook in a fundraising capacity and hospital staff and physicians for outstanding work to support the philanthropic objectives of Sunnybrook.

This award's name is derived from the spirit of philanthropy demonstrated by Alexandre and Jeanine Raab, longstanding donors and dedicated volunteers of Sunnybrook. The Raabs fought for freedom as World War II resistance fighters in France, and were drawn to Sunnybrook in their adopted country because of our history as a veterans hospital and transformation into a major academic health sciences centre. Horticulturalists and entrepreneurs, the Raabs created a hybrid rose specifically for the Hospital and aptly named it the Sunnybrook Rose. That rose now serves as the symbol and name the Foundation uses to recognize the dedication of volunteers to philanthropy at Sunnybrook.

Eligibility & Nomination Criteria:

Any member of the Sunnybrook community (volunteer and staff) may submit a nomination for this award.

The nominee would be considered by the Committee along the following criteria:

1. Quality leadership and organizational ability in fundraising
2. Time, effort and commitment
3. Success in recruiting and motivating others
4. Fundraising goals achieved by his/her effort

Recognition:

Award recipients will be honoured at a cocktail reception held at the Estates of Sunnybrook in the fall. In addition, each recipient's name will be added to the Sunnybrook Rose Award recognition plaque located in M1. Award recipients will also be recognized in Sunnybrook

Foundation News and on the Foundation's website.

Submission Criteria:

Each nomination must include a nomination form and narrative.

The narrative should be no longer than two pages (12-point format with 1" margins). Supporting documents are accepted, but only to support the narrative. No more than six pages of supporting documents are allowed. Please do not introduce new information in the supporting documents.

The Donor Relations Committee will be asked to review candidates based on the eligibility criteria. If in the judgment of the Committee, no applications meet the criteria in any given year, no awards will be given.

All nominations are to be given and reviewed in confidence.

Completed nomination form and narrative may be submitted to:

Mark Appel
Chair, Donor Relations Committee
c/o Emma Thomas
Sunnybrook Foundation
2075 Bayview Avenue, H-361
Toronto, ON M4N 3M5

For more information or nomination forms contact Emma Thomas at 416-480-5285. Nomination forms can also be downloaded at www.sunnybrookfoundation.ca.

Deadline for 2009 nomination submissions is Friday, May 29, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

A family of NICU graduates



The Steane brothers (clockwise from top): Nathan, Matthew and Michael.

No other place holds the significance that Sunnybrook's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) does for Nicole and Dave Steane. Their sons Nathan, Matthew, and Michael are all healthy, active NICU graduates.

Their eldest son Nathan surprised Nicole and Dave by arriving three months early at 27 weeks, weighing only 2lbs 60z. Their sons Matthew and Michael each required intensive respiratory therapy in their first weeks of life. In the first days while Nicole was too ill to visit Nathan, the nurses at the NICU brought her photos of her baby.

Dave and Nicole stayed with Nathan in shifts during the day and evening. "At times, when we had to leave Nathan, the nurses completely took over," says Nicole. "We knew he was in good hands and I could call them day or night and they would give me a complete update."

Their sons Matthew and Michael were each subsequently born at Sunnybrook, both requiring intensive respiratory therapy in their first weeks of life.

Dave and Nicole have nothing but praise for the doctors and nurses who have cared for their family since their difficult first weeks of life.

The Steanes look forward to visiting, and only visiting, the new and improved home of their favourite NICU nurses and doctors when it opens in 2010.

To learn how you can support the Women & Babies Program visit www.sunnybrookfoundation.ca or contact Lee Maziarz, Campaign Director at 416-480-5156.

DID YOU KNOW...

Sunnybrook was the only hospital to be recently named one of *Canada's Most Earth-Friendly Employers*, by Canada's Top 100 Employers. This special designation recognizes employers who are leaders in integrating environmental principles into their corporate culture and have developed environmentally friendly programs that are recognized not only within the facility but also throughout the community.

The Campaign for Sunnybrook is a \$300 million effort to ensure the Hospital can continue to provide the best care to its patients, now and in the future. Support your Sunnybrook, when it matters most.

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