

200+ ROCKS CREATED, DISTRIBUTED IN NEW HDS KINDNESS ROCK GARDEN



Suffice to say Hotel Dieu Shaver's new Kindness Rock Garden is in full bloom!

Since the garden launched in front of our Inpatient Building in late May, more than 200 rocks have been painted, placed in the garden, and taken for inspiration by those who are passing by!

The Kindness Rock Garden is more than just a collection of painted rocks; it's a vibrant symbol of hope, resilience, and community. Patients at Hotel Dieu Shaver are taking part in this creative project, painting rocks with uplifting messages and colourful designs. These rocks are then placed in the garden, creating a visual tapestry of kindness and support for all to see.

Everyone in the Hotel Dieu Shaver community is welcome to take part in this wonderful project. Whether you are a patient -- like the fantastic Reinette (featured in the adjacent photo), who is ensuring that the garden continues to grow and inspire! -- family member, or staff, your contribution to the Kindness Rock Garden is a valuable part of our collective mission to spread joy and support each other.

Want to get involved? Stop by the Courtyard and check in with Michelle Publicover, Rehab Assistant, to drop off your painted rock or pick up a rock to paint! Read the launch announcement [here](#).

PATIENT STORY: ALLAN SPAAN, STROKE SURVIVOR

"I'm Allan, and I want to tell you about a scary experience I had when I was 51."

June marked Stroke Awareness Month in Canada, which brought an opportunity for everyone to learn the signs and symptoms of a stroke and understand how we can reduce our risk of having a stroke.

We'd like to highlight a powerful and timely video created by Allan Spaan -- a graduate of our Outpatient Stroke Program, a former inpatient, a client of our Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) Clinic, and a Stroke Survivor.

We are so proud of Allan, his resilient spirit, and his passion for raising awareness about stroke.

Watch Allan's video [here](#).



Follow us on social media!



@hoteldieushaver

Stroke Distinction™ 2025



HOTEL DIEU SHAVER PREPARES FOR STROKE DISTINCTION™

Hotel Dieu Shaver has embarked on a significant quality improvement initiative by enrolling in [Accreditation Canada's Stroke Distinction™ Program](#), and teams of staff and physicians are preparing now to welcome surveyors from Accreditation Canada in May 2025.

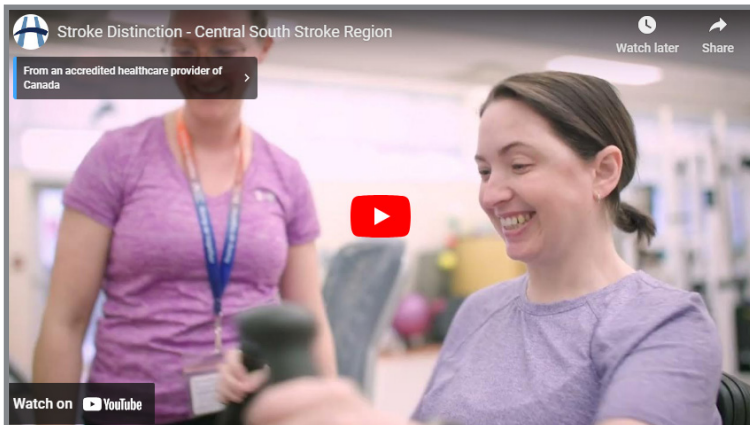
Stroke Distinction™ is a rigorous and highly advanced program for acute and inpatient rehabilitation services who offer specialized stroke care. The program follows standards based on the best practices of the Canadian Stroke Best Practice Recommendations and includes comprehensive stroke-specific performance indicators and protocols.

Commitment to leadership in stroke services

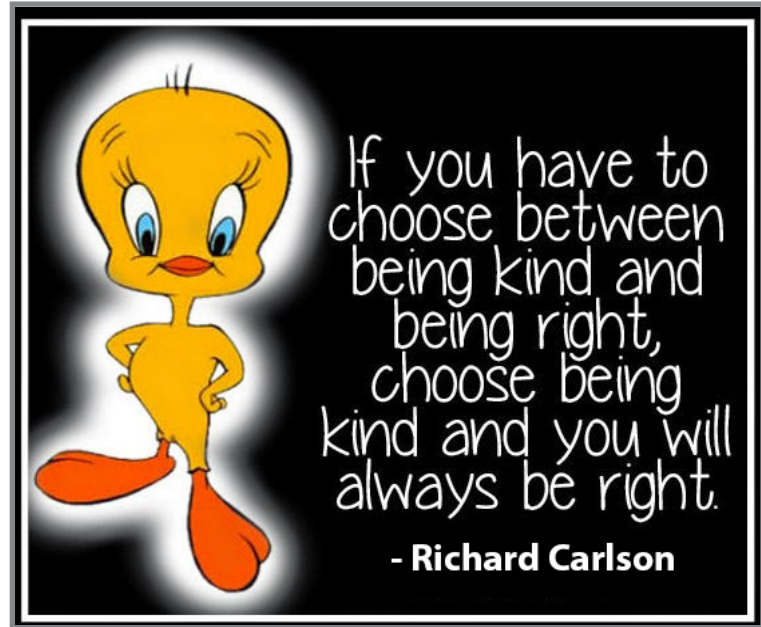
An organization that achieves the designation of Stroke Distinction™ has demonstrated national leadership in providing high-quality stroke care. This achievement conveys a clear message that we are dedicated to improving the quality of care and providing clinical excellence that focuses on the needs of the patient. Through the process, we will learn about where we excel, and what we can do to improve our stroke care best practices.

Preparations are underway

The work currently taking place is to ensure that key best practices and processes are consistently in place, and that they meet or exceed Accreditation Canada standards for Stroke Distinction™. [Learn why this is important by watching our promotional video](#), which prominently features Hotel Dieu Shaver throughout.



MISSION REFLECTION



If you take a stroll around our grounds, you will notice the beautiful flowers adorning our property, especially those in our Healing Garden. Many of these flowers, which were graciously donated by Seaway Farms, were planted by our patients as part of our Therapeutic Recreation program. We deeply appreciate Seaway Farms' ongoing support of our Hospital.

HDS FOUNDATION NEWS

THANK YOU!



Thank you to all HDS team members who participated in the 2024 **Rankin Cancer Run!** Whether you walked or donated, we appreciate your support of our Rankin Family Cancer Rehab Program and many other wonderful cancer care organizations across Niagara.

NEW TEAM MEMBER



Hotel Dieu Shaver Foundation is thrilled to welcome Julie van der Zalm to our team. Julie will be a familiar face to many of you as she has been a much-loved member of the HDS team for nearly 17 years.

Julie's wealth of HDS knowledge, infectious enthusiasm and dedication make her a valuable asset to our team. She has joined HDS Foundation as our Events & Community Giving Coordinator. Her portfolio includes all signature events (like Hope in Motion and our Celebrity Ice Cup), third-party events, our battery recycling program, staff 50/50 and more!

Julie welcomes an email, call or visit if you have any questions about how you can get involved!

Julie.Vanderzalm@hoteldieushaver.org | x84239

PLEASE JOIN US!



HOPE IN MOTION



Whether your goal is 50m or 5,000m, 1 lap or 10 laps, all abilities are invited to help us set **Hope in Motion!**

For more information on how to get involved in our second annual Hope in Motion event, please watch [Julie's video to staff](#) and visit HopelnMotion.ca.