

## St. Joseph's Foundation Supports Enhanced Dignity and Wellbeing with an Updated Palliative Care Spa Room

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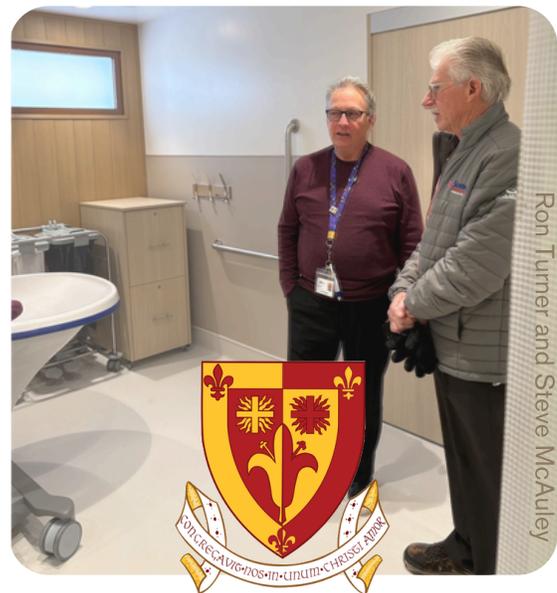
In January, St. Joseph's Care Group opened the newly renovated **Palliative Care Spa Room at St. Joseph's Hospital**. This is a new space designed to support comfort, dignity, and wellbeing for clients receiving **palliative care**. This project was made possible through the generosity of donors to St. Joseph's Foundation of Thunder Bay, whose support funded the transformation of the space into a calming and therapeutic environment.

For individuals living with advanced illness, palliative care focuses on relieving symptoms, reducing stress, and supporting clients and families during some of life's most difficult moments. Spaces like the Palliative Care Spa Room are an important part of care, allowing clients to maintain daily routines such as bathing in a safe, private, and comforting environment.

The updated room includes thoughtful features designed to create a peaceful and welcoming environment, including warm adjustable lighting, a calming sound system, radiant heating panels and a towel warmer for comfort, and cedar-inspired panels that evoke connection to nature and healing. The project reflects a collaborative effort between care teams, clients, families, and the community. **Most importantly, it demonstrates the power of philanthropy in improving client care.**

Following completion of the renovation, St. Joseph's Foundation invited a number of donors to participate in small, private preview visits of the space. **These visits allowed supporters to see firsthand how their generosity has created a place where clients and families can experience comfort and dignity during life's most vulnerable moments.**

In healthcare, some of the most meaningful impacts happen in quiet spaces. Because of donor support, clients receiving palliative care at St. Joseph's Hospital now have access to a peaceful environment that offers comfort, calm, and dignity when it matters most.



**ST. JOSEPH'S FOUNDATION**  
OF THUNDER BAY

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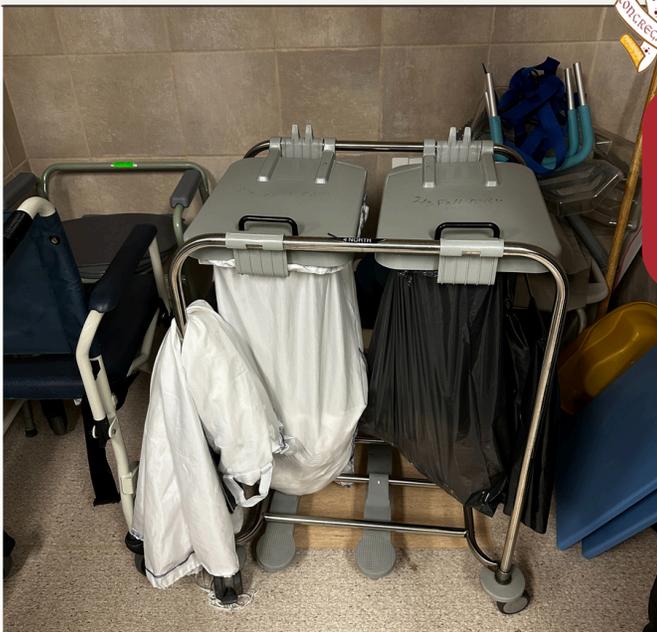
We have included a series of **before and after photos** to show you how your gifts make a difference in people's lives each day.



*Tub area & storage (2025)*



*Tub area & storage (2026)*



*Laundry equipment (2025)*



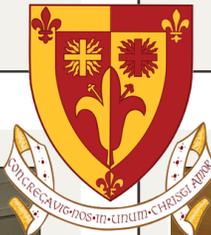
*Laundry equipment (2026)*



Shower (2025)



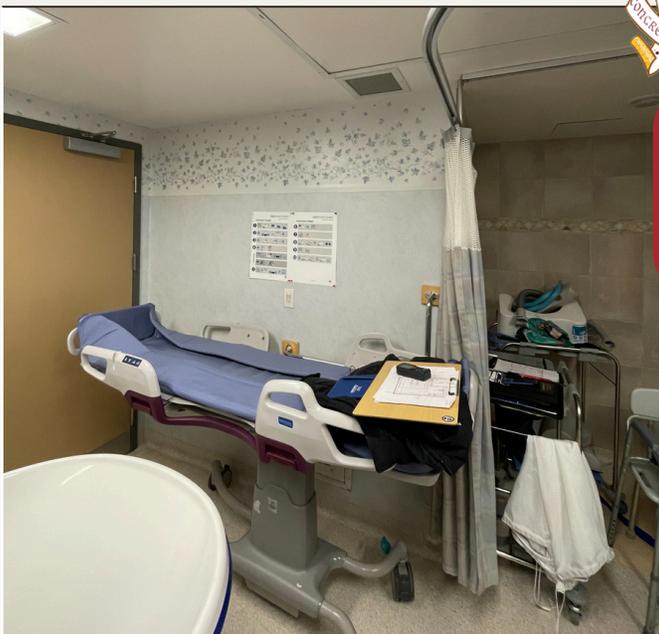
Shower (2026)



VIDEO



360°



Walls & design (2025)



Walls & design (2026)



## **Expanding Comfort and Dignity Across St. Joseph's Care Group**

The newly renovated Palliative Care Spa Room demonstrates how thoughtful environments can make a meaningful difference for individuals and families facing serious illness.

Now, St. Joseph's Care Group is preparing to extend that same impact to other areas of care. Therapeutic bathing spaces are essential for clients receiving palliative and complex care. For individuals living with advanced illness, chronic conditions, or limited mobility, bathing requires specialized equipment that allows care teams to support safety, hygiene, and personal dignity.

Arjo therapeutic bathing equipment provides more than basic care. Warm water can help ease pain, relax muscles, and reduce anxiety for individuals experiencing complex health challenges. For many clients, these moments offer comfort and relief during difficult stages of illness.

**These specialized tubs are used every day throughout St. Joseph's Care Group and typically have a useful life of about ten years. Several units have now reached the point where replacement is necessary.**

In 2026–2027, St. Joseph's Care Group must upgrade five bathing areas across its facilities. **The total cost of these improvements will exceed \$250,000.** Contact the Foundation office to learn how you can help support this project.

# **Thank you for supporting The Palliative Care Spa Room!**

Participants in the reception to thank donors, from left to right:

**Lisa Miedema**  
Clinical Manager of Palliative & Transitional Care  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Rachel Pulkkinen**  
Communications Manager  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Ron Turner**  
Director of Inpatient Rehabilitative Care  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Kimberleigh Callaghan**  
Director of Communications & Government Relations  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Janine Black**  
President & CEO  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Bill Bradica**  
Board of Directors  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Bill Green**  
Donor

**Carolyn Freitag**  
Vice President  
St. Joseph's Care Group

**Steve McAuley**  
Chair of the Board  
St. Joseph's Foundation of Thunder Bay

**Gail Brescia**  
President & CEO  
St. Joseph's Foundation of Thunder Bay

**Paul Wolfe**  
Sr. Philanthropy Associate  
St. Joseph's Foundation of Thunder Bay

*Thank you for your support!*

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