

## Ride participants continue the fight for better cancer care

*Ride for Cancer* powered by BMO Bank of Montreal celebrates 4th year

### RIDE FOR CANCER | DONOR IMPACT



2015 | apheresis machine

Apheresis machines are vital in the treatment of blood cancers. This equipment allows the transfer of stem cells to patients undergoing cancer therapy at the QEII.



2016 | EBUS technology

Endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) provides a safer and less-invasive alternative to diagnosing lung cancer and lymphoma. Prior to this funding, Nova Scotia was the only province in Canada without this technology.



2017 | vital equipment

Donors supported a new cancer therapy preparation lab at the QEII with the purchase of flow hoods; helping to double capacity and shorten wait times for cancer patients on the day of their treatments.

As riders crossed the finish line on September 29, family and friends waited eagerly to hug their loved ones and congratulate them on continuing the fight against cancer.

Since its inception in 2015, *Ride for Cancer* powered by BMO Bank of Montreal has raised over \$1.75 million to fund critical advances in cancer care at the QEII Health Sciences Centre and vital blood cancer research through event partner The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Canada.

Next year, participants will celebrate the five year anniversary of *Ride for Cancer*. **Thank you to everyone who has supported this life saving event for all Atlantic Canadians.**



2018 | cancer therapy

Ride supporters continued their fight to purchase life-saving equipment for cancer treatment at the QEII, helping to build the most innovative cancer program in our country.

## For patients like Jen Johnston, breast cancer survivor

How your support helps patients continue to find amazing moments

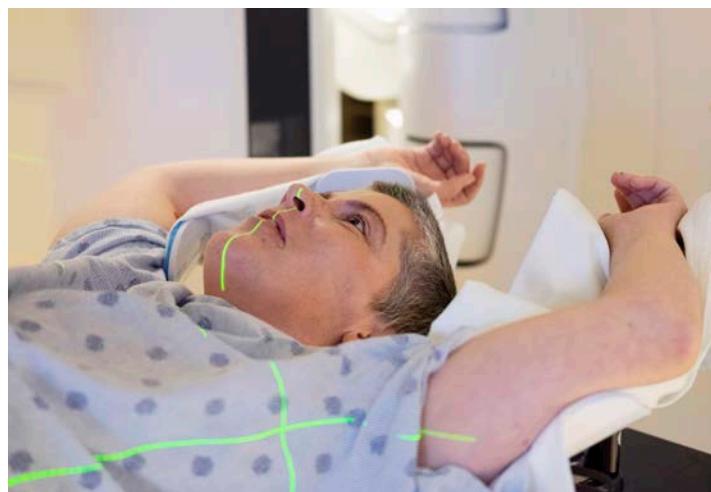
When Jen Johnston, of Rawdon Hills, NS, was diagnosed with double negative breast cancer, the news came as a shock. "I had no red flags for breast cancer. I needed a reason why," she says.

During her chemotherapy, Jen underwent genetic testing that would inform her care decisions moving forward. Though the tumor was in her left breast, the tests revealed she was highly likely to get cancer on both sides, so Jen had a double mastectomy at the QEII in June, 2018.

"I can't say enough good things about the team at the QEII – what a bunch of amazing people. I never felt alone – there was never a moment I felt afraid," she says. "Chemo is nerve-wracking, but after spending five minutes with my oncologist, Dr. Rayson, I was totally at ease," she says.

As a final course of treatment, Jen completed radiation therapy at the expanded James and Edna Claydon Radiation Treatment Clinic. And after that, she will fly to Atlanta, Georgia to pursue her passion of makeup art.

"I refuse to sit back and let all of the amazing things happening in my life take a back seat to cancer," she says.



Jen Johnston completed therapy in September at the QEII's expanded James and Edna Claydon Radiation Treatment Clinic.