

***Bringing Breast Screening
to YOU!***



Saskatchewan Breast Screening Bus Campaign

Ensuring all women in Saskatchewan have access to breast screening mammograms

Driven to improve access to screening

Every year, more than 6,000 people in Saskatchewan hear the words, “You have cancer.” That’s over 16 people each and every day.

It’s a devastating diagnosis and you can’t possibly prepare for it. But if it’s caught early, you have more treatment options and better outcomes.

The **Cancer Foundation of Saskatchewan** is the fundraising partner of the **Saskatchewan Cancer Agency**. Every dollar you are able to give to the Foundation supports cancer care for the province’s 1.17 million residents.

But we cannot do it alone.

Our goal is to replace the breast screening bus that performs more than 8,000 breast screening mammograms every year throughout rural and remote Saskatchewan.

Both the 20-year old vehicle and the digital mammography machine need to be replaced.

With your help, we need to raise \$2 million to replace and fully equip a new breast screening bus.

Together, we can ensure that all women in Saskatchewan have access to breast screening mammography.

Early detection saves lives. Your gift saves lives.



“The mammography bus has the ability to go to the people. In its 20 years, a lot has changed. We need to bring our breast screening bus into the future”

**Kelly Rae, cervical cancer survivor,
breast screening bus client,
and past-President of Prairie Women on Snowmobiles**

Screening Program for Breast Cancer

In 1990, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency (Agency) launched the Screening Program for Breast Cancer (Screening Program).

Screening mammograms are available in 2 permanent centres, 6 satellite centres, and a mobile bus.

In an average year, approximately 37,000 screening mammograms are provided through the Screening Program. More than 8,000 of these are performed on the breast screening bus.

Saskatchewan is geographically dispersed, making access to cancer treatment and screening programs much more difficult.

Access to services can be challenging for many in the rural areas of our province.

The good news is that the Agency brings the exam to you!

The breast screening bus visits approximately 40 rural and remote communities in Saskatchewan on an odd/even year cycle.

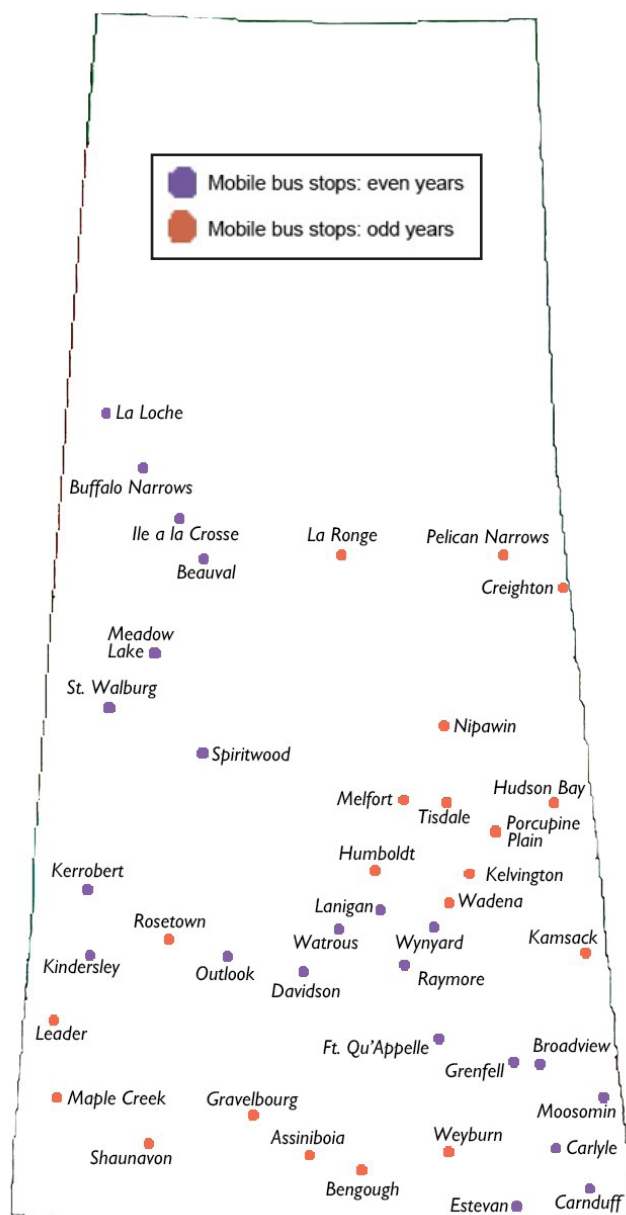
Of the breast cancer cases detected through the Screening Program, 75 per cent were diagnosed at an early stage* allowing for **more treatment options, greater survival rates and better outcomes** for breast cancer patients.

The goal of the Screening Program is to ensure that **everyone has equitable access to screening - we need your help.**

Breast cancer is the #1 diagnosed cancer in women.

It is estimated in 2022 that 760 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in Saskatchewan. 170 women will lose their battle.

www.cancer.ca



* www.saskcancer.ca

Sandra's Story: Caught Early

Sandra Donnelly of Stoughton booked a mammogram while the breast screening bus was visiting a neighbouring town.

The appointment was effortless to schedule and attend, and Sandra was sure that receiving her first mammogram would be just as simple.

But when the technologists and radiologist detected an abnormality, her day went from relaxed to hectic.

She was sent directly to Regina for a second mammogram, followed by an ultrasound and a biopsy. **She was told that she had stage 1 breast cancer.**

Sandra met with her doctor at the Allan Blair Cancer Centre to determine what her treatments would entail. She looks back on the experience with great humour, "You face the doctor across their desk and ask, 'What can I do?' Tell me to stand on my head and I'll do it."

But she knew she was in good hands and her doctor laid out an effective treatment plan.

Sandra received a lumpectomy to remove the tumour, which was no bigger than the size of a sunflower seed. The margins were clean and her prognosis was good. She had six weeks of radiation therapy to ensure all the cancerous cells were eliminated, followed by hormone therapy for five years to help prevent a recurrence.

Even now, more than 20 years cancer-free, Sandra keeps up her mammogram exams and she encourages other women to have their regular screening as well.

"Don't wait for the lump. Get your baseline mammogram done early. It's the responsible thing to do – and it's easy!"



"I am so thankful that I am here for my son, Sam and daughter, Melissa."

Sandra Donnelly (left)

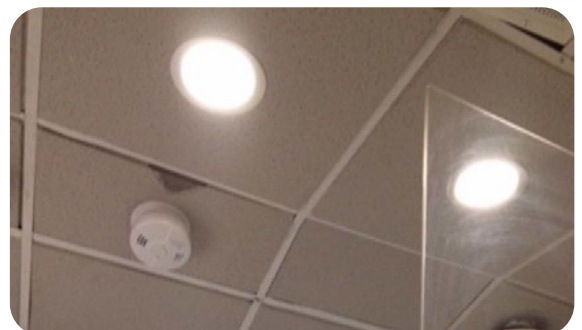
Breast Screening Bus

Purchased in 2002, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's current breast screening bus is at the end of its useful life after delivering more than 250,000 mammograms to women across this province.

Both the vehicle and the digital mammography machine used for the screening on the bus need to be replaced and upgraded.

There are mechanical and operating issues with the bus. Some of these include:

- Unanticipated bus breakdowns that require time off the road, rescheduling patients and lost appointments. This is happening more frequently, for longer periods of time;
- Air ride system isn't working properly; requires the bus to be parked on wood blocks to keep the bus level when parked;
- Floors are not heated and space heaters are required to keep staff and client's feet warm in the winter;
- Drafts from windows and front door; and leaks occur from windows and AC units when it rains;
- Cupboard doors are kept shut with duct tape during transport; and
- Cloth seats in the waiting room are worn and unable to be sanitized.



Get on board for breast health



Average-risk women 50 years and older should have regular screening mammograms. Once a woman turns 50, she will receive a letter inviting her to have a screening mammogram.

You do not need a referral to have a screening mammogram if you are over the age of 50. Simply call the Agency's Breast Screening Program toll-free at 1-855-584-8228 to schedule.

By investing in a new breast screening bus, you can **help ensure all women have access to breast screening mammograms.**

"The breast screening bus has completed over 250,000 mammography exams – providing care in over 40 different rural and remote sites in the province. Replacing the current bus helps bring specialized care closer to home for clients."

Leah Palmer, Manager of Screening Program for Breast Cancer, Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency provides approximately **37,000 breast screening mammograms annually**. More than 20% of those mammograms take place on the breast screening bus.

Of the breast cancer detected, **75% of cases were diagnosed at an early stage.**

This can mean more treatment options and better outcomes for patients.

www.saskcancer.ca

Screening saves lives

Regular screenings allow for the earliest detection of cancer.

And early detection offers more treatment options and better outcomes.

We need your support to ensure that Saskatchewan women, just like Sandra Donnelly have access to regular breast screening mammography.

Every dollar you give to a new breast screening bus means you're helping your sister, daughter, mother or yourself access life-saving screening closer to home.

You've heard the numbers. 760 women face a breast cancer diagnosis each year in Saskatchewan.

You know the stories. Now is the time for you to make a difference through your support.



"That mammogram saved my life."

Sandra Donnelly with husband, Garry

The total cost of a fully-equipped replacement breast screening bus is \$2 million.

We need your help to ensure that breast screening mammography is available to all women across Saskatchewan.

You can protect the women in your life. Make your thoughtful gift today.

**Screening saves lives.
Give today.**



We look forward to following up with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

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