May 31st was a day of special significance for the Cardiac Sciences Program as construction began on its new home. The Bergen Cardiac Care Centre is a $20.5 million project that will include state-of-the-art procedure rooms for arrhythmia device implants, electrophysiology and ablation; labs for cardiac catheterization and echocardiography and outpatient clinics (pacemaker and defibrillator, general and specialized cardiology). The third floor will house Cardiac Sciences Program administration and medical education.

Philanthropist Martin Bergen and his family donated $2 million to the project and were on hand for the ribbon cutting.

The Centre is expected to be completed in the summer of 2006 when the relocation of cardiology services begins.
Straight From The Heart

Cardiac Credits

Thank you ... to the staff of ACF Medicine, Surgery, Woman’s Health, Pediatrics and Fetal Assessment clinics, EKG Satellite Lab and Pre-admission clinic for their cooperation in relocating to facilitate work on the Bergen Cardiac Care Center.

Thank you ... to the staff in Emergency, Security and A2 Diagnostic Imaging for their patience in working around the often intrusive sights and sounds of construction in their neighbourhood.

Thank you ... to Dr. Colette Seifer for hosting a social evening and dinner for the new Cardiology Fellows.

The Young Investigators’ Forum

was held April 28th to May 1st.

Congratulations ....to Estrellita Estrella-Holder (CNS, CSP), Lorraine Avery (CNS, CSP) and Dr. Riz Manji (Cardiac ICU Fellow), recognized for their poster presentations and to Dr. Rohit Singal (Sr. Resident, Cardiac Surgery) for his presentation. Dr. Manji’s manuscript has been accepted for publication in “Circulation.” Dr. Singal will be presenting his work at the 91st Annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons later this year.

Cardiovascular Residents’ Research Day—June 13th

Thank you ... to Laura Kryger, Dr. Andrew Morris and Dr. Alan Menkis for setting up this event and to Aventis for providing an unrestricted educational grant. Our guest judge was Dr. Eva Lonn, Cardiologist and Epidemiologist, McMaster University.

Congratulations .... to Dr. Darren Freed (Cardiac Surgery) who received First Prize for his presentation. An Honorable Mention went to Dr. Alex Tishenko (Cardiology Fellow).

Submitted by Dr James Tam

... And the Winner Is ...

In our spring publication, we invited readers to submit their suggestions for a name for our newsletter. The response was overwhelming, competition was fierce, suggestions were creative and catchy.

After much deliberation, Terry Davies’ (SBGH Cath Lab) “Straight From the Heart” was chosen. Terry wins a $100 dinner gift certificate to “Step’N Out” compliments of Verna Judge (“Step’N Out”) and Dr. Alan Menkis. Thanks to all of you who made suggestions and congratulations Terry!

Cardiac Sciences Program Vision and Mandate

The VISION: the Cardiac Sciences Program will

- provide responsible patient-centered cardiac care, education and research within a professional organization that fosters respect, collaboration and open communication
- be a recognized center of clinical and academic excellence – locally, nationally and internationally

The MANDATE: the Cardiac Sciences Program will

- integrate all elements of cardiac care for the Region
- oversee the implementation of two major projects supporting the mandate: the Cardiac Services Enhancement Project (CSEP) and Consolidation of Cardiac Surgery at SBGH (updates on both projects below)

Cardiac Services Enhancement Project Update

In an effort to modernize and improve the delivery of cardiology services in the province, Manitoba Health approved funding for the Cardiac Services Enhancement Project (CSEP). Under this project cardiology services were reviewed and enhanced to meet today’s standards and demand for service.

The Project includes funding for capital construction for a 2-storey addition to the “Y” Block at SBGH. Construction began on the Bergen Cardiac Care Centre (see page 1) in March 2005 and is expected to be complete in the summer of 2006.

Consolidation of Cardiac Surgery at SBGH

Consolidation of Cardiac Surgery at SBGH will occur in two phases, with planning for both phases proceeding concurrently:

Phase 1 – Consolidate all cardiac surgery cases at SBGH (early 2006)
Phase 2 - Develop new infrastructure to support an integrated Cardiac Sciences Program (2007); requirements have been described in a Functional Program which is a detailed description of people, space, capital (construction and equipment) and operating costs to deliver cardiac care in the province.

Completion of the Functional Program is a milestone and represents hours of data collection and analysis by CSP Team members and front line staff. We are awaiting approval of the Functional Program which has been submitted to Manitoba Health via the WRHA. Allocation of resources being considered include:

- New Cardiovascular Intensive Care (CVICU)
- Cardiac Surgery Inpatient Unit
- Outpatient Clinics, including Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery pre-admission (PAC) and post-op follow-up clinics and the integration of pre and post operative Cardiac Transplant clinics into the Heart Failure Clinic
- Program Administration & Medical Education
- Blood Bank renovations
- Energy Plant equipment upgrade
- Satellite Pharmacy development
- Integration of Information Communication Technology (ICT) requirements across all Cardiac Sciences Program components