

Celebrating TBRHSC's 20th Anniversary: Tell us your story



Name of your Program/Service: Surgical and Ambulatory Services

Name and title of submitter: Laura Lee Barrie

1. Briefly describe your program/service.

The Surgical and Ambulatory Services program provides inpatient and outpatient care for general, neurosurgical, orthopedics, ENT (Ear, Nose, and Throat), gynecological, plastic, oral and dental, ophthalmology, thoracic, vascular, urology and endoscopic services in a comprehensive care environment delivered by an interprofessional team. The service consists of 4 inpatient units comprised of 121 patient spaces, a Surgical Day Care service, Ambulatory Care Unit, Operating Room, Recovery Unit, Endoscopy, Pre Admission Clinic and Rehabilitation services.

2. How has your program/service grown or evolved over the past 20 years?

The Surgical and Ambulatory Services program has evolved through the past two decades to providing specialized bariatric, vascular, and neurosurgical care. Our Ambulatory Care Unit (ACU) is now comprised of several clinics including: colposcopy, urology, urodynamics, intravenous therapy, cystoscopy, dermatology, fracture clinic, laser clinic, opthamology, and PICC Line services. The evolution of services and our team's commitment to regional support has provided surgical services to the Northwest Region in various locations and communities and continues to evolve to best support our patients. We have developed the Acute and Chronic Pain Service, provide outpatient surgery for total hip and knee arthroplasty, specific gynecology and urology procedures for patients who meet the discharge criteria, upgraded our minimally invasive surgery suites in the OR, and Robotic orthopedic knee surgery will begin soon.

3. What is your most cherished accomplishment, milestone or memory?

The Surgical program has evolved with such significance and impact that it is difficult to narrow down specific milestones or accomplishments. The implementation of life-saving and life-changing procedures continues to impact thousands of lives in our community and our region. We have seen our service grow in many ways to support the needs of our communities, whether it be with specialized Bariatric Services and procedures, advanced Urology, Orthopedics, General Surgery or Ambulatory services. The Surgical and Ambulatory Services program continues to evolve at a fast-pace to incorporate technology and exciting new initiatives to bring the very best care to patients in Northwestern Ontario.

