

# *Chairman's Report*

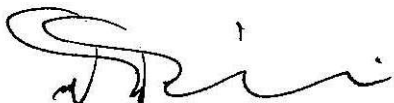
## ST. JOSEPH'S GENERAL HOSPITAL

In the past year I am pleased to report that, with the assistance of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA), we have noted improvement in the availability of acute care beds at St. Joseph's. This occurred because of the reduction in the percentage of acute care beds being occupied by alternate level of care patients year over year from 35% to 23%. Nevertheless this issue continues to impact on the operational efficiency of the hospital.

Throughout the year our management and staff have worked with VIHA to improve the effectiveness in the delivery of healthcare to the members of our community. The hospital continues to be a leader in innovation with the recent installation of LED lighting systems for our OR Department and the addition of a nuclear diagnostic unit. Our Board is very proud of the professionalism exhibited by the medical, nursing and support staff. Management continues to be innovative in dealing with the limited funding provided by the Ministry of Health through the VIHA financing conduit.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to my fellow Board members, our Medical Director, Dr. Don Fockler, the President of the Medical Staff, Dr. Laura Bell, our President and CEO, Michael Pontus, and his management and support staff. Their collaborative contribution to the health services of our community and the efficient running of St. Joseph's General Hospital is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Ron M. Philip  
Chair, Board of Directors