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The Grand Prize Showhome can be seen at 4 Summer Haven Crescent in Rothesay on weekdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on weekends from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. PHOTO: JOHN TRAFFORD/TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

# Hospital Home Lottery shows off Grand Prize Showhome

**JOHN TRAFFORD**  
TELEGRAPH JOURNAL

**ROTHESAY** • Rothesay has a new house that is among the grandest in the greater Saint John region.

The Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation unveiled its 2015 Grand Prize Showhome at 4 Summer Haven Crescent for its eighth annual Hospital Home Lottery.

The home features over 3,100 square feet of living space. The lottery partnered with A.E. McKay Builders to construct the home. Proceeds from the fundraiser go to the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation. This year's lottery profits will contribute to purchasing a new O-Arm X-ray imaging machine for the operating room of the hospital.

Foundation president and CEO Jeff McAloon welcomed guests to the official opening of the home on Tuesday. He noted that during the course of eight years, the lottery has raised over \$4 million.

"Everyone of those 4 million dollars stay right here in our community to support Saint Johners and support New Brunswickers," he said.

McAloon noted that the lucky winner of the Hospital Home Lottery's grand prize will win more than just a magnificent home.

"Of course, as in previous years, this home is awarded fully furnished, professionally decorated and landscaped along with 5,000 dollars cash," he said.

Steve Titus, the vice-chairman of the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation's board of directors, said the donation of new X-Ray equipment will help the hospital's surgery services.

"It's a large, 360 degree X-ray machine that helps the surgeons be far more precise with their operating procedures," he said.

McAloon said there has been a constant increase in the funds raised by the lottery over eight years.

"We've seen a steady increase over the years, last year being our largest to date and we're hoping to see a similar increase again this year. The needs of the hospital aren't diminishing so it's important that we have good programs like this in place," said McAloon.

"We raised over a million dollars (last year), that was the net profit for the whole program and that goes directly back into programs for the hospital," said McAloon.

McAloon noted that moving into a new home can be a daunting task and so he said the Hospital Home Lottery offers support services to the lucky winner.

"We provide all kinds of support for the family that wins in terms of the legal fees and the process of transferring ownership of the home. We never want the prize to be a burden, that is the main thing," said McAloon.

Titus said the day the winner is contacted never fails to be exciting.

"The stories that we hear when we call, it is one of the best days of the year

when we call the prize winners and it always manages to hit someone at the right time in life, they have a need, something that has happened in their family, this prize has been transformational for them," he said.

A.E. McKay Builders president Andrew McKay said building the home was an ever-changing project.

"There were so many hours as it is being constructed, you almost kind of evolutionize it as the detail in it, the ceiling detail, the walling detail, I almost have to kind of have to bring it along to a certain point before I decide what I want to do with it," he said.

McKay employed about 20 construction workers during the building process for the home. Private tradespeople, such as plumbers and electricians, brought the number of people working on the home to about 70.

McKay noted that he has already started thinking about next year's showhome.

"I have an idea of what I want to do, it'll be a little different design. We'll decorate it a bit differently, I've got some ideas about how I'm going to do it already," he said.

Information on purchasing tickets for the home can be found at nbhospitallottery.com and can be purchased at the home itself at 4 Summer Haven Crescent, Rothesay from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. through the week and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. The deadline to purchase tickets is midnight on Nov. 20. Tickets are \$100 each.