

Team Quinte Health: We All Make a Difference



Joseph Brant

Facilities Services (Maintenance) Representative

Maintenance staff help uphold the standards of care, safety, and comfort that patients and our teams rely on every day. Joseph Brant has been a member of our highly skilled maintenance team at Quinte Health for 18 years. Joe has rotated between BGH, TMH and PECMH and knows our three southern hospital buildings and their systems well. Joe's friendly, easy-going demeanour makes for an open and approachable conversation, with ample opportunity to learn about all things in the maintenance realm.

Q: What's something people may not know about your role?

A: Well, it's definitely not standing around in hallways changing lights. While that may be one of the tasks people see us doing, most of what we do is behind the scenes. These are not like your systems at home – they are complex, and it takes a lot of effort to keep them running and actively maintained. We also have a lot of standards and regulations to consider in how we do our work including infection control.

Q: What does an average day look like for you?

A: I could be changing a pump or packing valve to prevent leaks and to keep the water system operating, replacing filters, fixing broken equipment, building walls, or replacing motor bearings – it can be different every day. It's all prioritized through our work-order system.

Q: You shared that you are not only a staff member but have also experienced being a surgical patient too. Did you have a good experience?

A: I did. I had my knees done and was treated well. I've also had family members receive care at BGH and they were treated very well. That makes me proud to work here.

Q: Do you have any advice for me as the CEO?

A: Get us new generators. And new chillers – that's something else to add to the list. I also think it's important to ensure the maintenance team is included when it comes to making any changes to our facilities or space. We do have ideas about how we can do things better. When I used to work in manufacturing, I would go to the guys on the floor and say, "This is what they are planning, so what's going to work best for you guys?" The people doing the job need to be asked before decisions affecting us are made.