



## Victoria Hospitals Foundation launches \$25 million *Building Care Together* campaign

(VICTORIA) – Today the Victoria Hospital Foundation formally launched its \$25 million *Building Care Together* capital campaign to raise funds for state-of-the-art equipment for the Royal Jubilee Hospital’s new Patient Care Centre.

Board Chair Starr McMichael also announced the campaign will be co-chaired by the Honourable Ted Hughes and Ms. Leslee Farrell. Hughes is best known as former Deputy Attorney General of BC and BC’s first Conflict-of-Interest Commissioner. Farrell is an award-winning realtor with MacDonald Realty in Victoria, and a long-time supporter of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation.

“This is the most ambitious campaign ever undertaken in the Foundation’s history. And as a result of our outstanding team, combined with the strength and generosity of the community, we are delighted to say that we have already been able to raise \$10.2 million in pledges towards our goal,” said Hughes.

Hughes and Farrell went on to say that the following group of community leaders have joined the Campaign Cabinet that will help reach this ambitious campaign goal by volunteering their time and expertise:

- Bonnie E. Campbell
- Walter Creed
- Steve Holland, M.D.
- Dan McAllister
- Tom Siemens
- Georgina Wong
- Bruce Courtnall
- Mark Dickinson
- Phyllis Kane
- John Pollen
- Hans van de Sande, Ph.D.

“Together this team of volunteers will achieve a significant and lasting legacy that will make our community proud for years to come,” said Farrell.

Funds raised through *Building Care Together* will support multiple areas of care in the state-of-the-art Patient Care Centre. The facility is based on three pillars of design: provide an attractive work place, be elder friendly and adhere to Pacific Green environmental standards. It has already been recognized internationally for setting a new standard in health care design.

Hughes and Farrell hope individuals and corporations will see the value of being part of a campaign that touches each and every member of the community.

“Our hospitals are there for us when we need them most, providing the best possible patient care,” said Hughes. “Efforts to improve the quality of care at our hospitals must be applauded, but none of us can do it alone. All of us have a role to play, and every donation—whether a one-time contribution or a pledge over time — provides vitally important resources needed to equip and renovate our hospitals.”

“It’s all about the patients,” said Farrell. “This new centre is the world’s first to provide a health care design specifically designed to accommodate our elder citizens. The equipment we will purchase through the generosity of our donors will ensure the patient care experience in this facility is second to none.”

To date the Victoria Hospitals Foundation has completed two successful capital campaigns: *Better Together* ending in 1997 with \$12.3 million raised and *Together We Care* ending in 2004 with \$17.3 million raised.

“Now more than ever it is critical that our community join together to secure the continued excellence, innovation, and quality care that has become our hospitals’ tradition □ and which *Building Care Together* will ensure into our future,” said Hughes.

A new campaign website has also been created and can be viewed at [www.buildingcare.ca](http://www.buildingcare.ca).

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#### **About the Victoria Hospitals Foundation:**

The Victoria Hospitals Foundation works in partnership with the Vancouver Island Health Authority to enable donations to Vancouver Island’s two largest and most comprehensive hospitals: the Royal Jubilee and the Victoria General. Every year we fund approximately 40 per cent of capital equipment purchases for these hospitals, and last year this amounted to nearly \$6 million for urgently needed medical equipment and special projects that help these two hospitals provide care to all 752,000 residents of Vancouver Island. Since 1989, the Victoria Hospitals Foundation has raised more than \$76 million to benefit our hospitals. For more information, call the Foundation at 250-414-6688 or go to [www.victoriahf.ca](http://www.victoriahf.ca).

#### **Media Contacts:**

Carla Higgins, senior manager, communications & recognition  
Victoria Hospitals Foundation  
250-414-6688, cell 250-208-0661, or [carla.higgins@viha.ca](mailto:carla.higgins@viha.ca)

Kim van Bruggen  
Acumen Communications  
250-727-7464 or [kim@acumencommunications.ca](mailto:kim@acumencommunications.ca)