

***Building Care Together* Campaign announces final total raised: \$25,200,000**

March 28, 2014

For Immediate Release

Victoria – Surrounded by more than 100 community members and supporters, the Victoria Hospitals Foundation celebrated the successful completion of its *Building Care Together* campaign this afternoon in the Jim Pattison Atrium and Concourse of the Royal Jubilee Hospital Patient Care Centre. Since launching in 2011, the campaign to equip Victoria’s new hospital with state-of-the-art medical equipment has raised a total of \$25,200,000.

Highlights of the celebration included a performance by world renowned harpist Julia Cunningham and multi-talented Victoria musician Daniel Lapp. Victoria Firefighters dramatically rappelled down the eight-storey Patient Care Centre to unfurl a 30-foot banner thanking the community for their donations. Singer Georgia Murray wrapped up the event with a special performance for the community.

Campaign Chair Leslee Farrell, along with Victoria Hospitals Foundation Board Chair Alan Lowe, announced the final total raised and expressed their deep gratitude on behalf of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation and *Building Care Together* Campaign Cabinet: “This is a wonderful day for our community, and the patients and their families who rely on the world class care delivered in this hospital. Thank you to each and every donor for helping us not only achieve, but *surpass*, this monumental goal.”

More than 3,500 donors stepped forward to support this campaign. The funds raised have helped purchase leading-edge equipment for the Patient Care Centre including:

- Smart Beds
- Vital Signs Monitors
- Medication Dispensing Cabinets
- Telemetry Systems
- Wireless Communication Devices (Voceras)
- Rehabilitation equipment

BC Business Leader Jim Pattison was in attendance to thank donors for taking part in the *Community Matching Gift Challenge*, which saw Pattison match \$5 million in donations from community members. “It has been my great pleasure to support the extraordinary medical teams here at the Royal Jubilee by enhancing their technology and equipment. This community, in just six short months, came together to raise a phenomenal amount of money to ensure the *Community Matching Gift Challenge* was a complete success.”

Dr. Brendan Carr, President & CEO of Island Health, echoed the Foundation’s gratitude to donors. “Generosity on this scale has a tremendous impact on the quality of care we provide in the hospital. I am so impressed by the incredible spirit of giving from this community. The \$25 million raised is helping to ensure we are working with the latest and most advanced technology available, which means better care for all patients.”

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Frank Carson, Island Health Board of Directors, highlighted the important role the Foundation and its donors play in healthcare on Vancouver Island. “To raise \$25,200,000 is truly remarkable – these funds will benefit healthcare on Vancouver Island for many years to come, impacting thousands of medical staff and the patients they treat. On behalf of Island Health, I want to thank everyone who has contributed to this incredible campaign.”

The Foundation also released a lipdub video that features Island Health employees lip-syncing and dancing to celebrate the completion of the \$25 million campaign – the video can be viewed and shared at bit.ly/RJHLipdub.

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About the Victoria Hospitals Foundation and the *Building Care Together* Campaign:

Victoria Hospitals Foundation works in partnership with Island Health to enable donations to Vancouver Island’s two largest and most comprehensive hospitals: the Royal Jubilee and the Victoria General. Since 1989, the Victoria Hospitals Foundation has raised nearly \$97 million to benefit our hospitals. *Building Care Together* is the third and most ambitious campaign in the Foundation’s history. The campaign is raising funds to support the purchase of state-of-the-art equipment for the new Patient Care Centre at Royal Jubilee Hospital. For more information, please call the Foundation at 250-519-1750 or visit www.buildingcare.ca.

The *Building Care Together* campaign is chaired by Ms. Leslee Farrell. The following group of community leaders volunteered their time and expertise on the Campaign Cabinet:

Ms. Leslee Farrell (Chair) is an award-winning realtor in the Victoria region with MacDonald Realty.

Mr. Bruce Courtnall is an investment advisor for CIBC World Markets and a founder of the Courtnall Celebrity Classic.

Mr. Walter Creed is a retired partner of Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants and a past Treasurer of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation.

Mr. Eric Donald is the President and General Manager of The Danzo Group of Companies and also leads TPM Management.

Mr. Mark Dickinson is the owner and President of Van Isle Marina Company Ltd.

Dr. Steve Holland is a consultant with Island Health and previously served as a member of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation’s Board of Directors.

Phyllis Kane is retired as President of both the Calgary Prostate Cancer Foundation and Institute, with extensive experience in healthcare governance and management.

Dan McAllister is the General Manager of the Q radio station, and past President of the British Columbia Association of Broadcasters.

John Pollen is the owner and Dealer Principal of Pacific Mazda of Victoria.

Tom Siemens is Vice President, Commercial Financial Services, for the Royal Bank of Canada, Vancouver Island.

Georgina Wong is retired after a 30-year career in the financial sector, and serves as a Director of the Victoria Chinatown Lioness Club.

Supported by: Melanie Mahlman, Victoria Hospitals Foundation Executive Director and the Victoria Hospitals Foundation team.

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