

### Victoria Central Lions Club donates \$20,000 towards neonatal care at Victoria General Hospital

February 17, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Victoria - The Victoria Central Lions Club has donated \$20,000 towards the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Victoria General Hospital. This gift will help fund an Open Care Unit, used to treat premature and critically ill babies in the NICU.

Premature babies are extremely fragile and require specialized, attentive care. An Open Care Unit is a kind of incubator that helps stabilize and regulate a baby's temperature, while providing caregivers with easy access to the baby for medical procedures.

"We are very grateful for the Victoria Central Lions Club's generous gift towards the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit," said Gord Macatee, Board Chair for the Victoria Hospitals Foundation. "Over 400 babies born each year in the delivery rooms of Victoria General will need intensive care, and having access to equipment like this is crucial to providing our tiniest patients with the best possible treatment."

After more than 70 years of serving the community, the Victoria Central Lions Club will soon be closing down. The Club has been a strong supporter of Vancouver Island healthcare throughout their many years of operation, donating more than \$50,000 to the Victoria Hospitals Foundation since 1989.

"We care deeply about the community that we serve," said Chuck Mowbray, Director of the Victoria Central Lions Club. "It has been wonderful working with the Victoria Hospitals Foundation over the years, and we are very happy being able to support this important equipment for Neonatal Intensive Care at Victoria General."

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

The 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. Last year we raised \$10 million for urgently needed medical equipment and special projects that help these two hospitals provide care to all 765,000 residents of Vancouver Island. Since 1989, the Victoria Hospitals Foundation has raised nearly \$107 million to benefit our hospitals. For more information, call the Foundation at 250-519-1750 or visit [www.victoriahf.ca](http://www.victoriahf.ca).

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