

## Victoria Hospitals Foundation Launches Fall Campaign for Surgical Excellence

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For Immediate Release

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Victoria, BC – Raising funds for 72 pieces of surgical equipment for Victoria General and Royal Jubilee hospitals is the focus of the Victoria Hospitals Foundation’s Fall Campaign, Board Chair John Madden announced today. The campaign aims to raise \$1.8 million for 14 surgical specialties, including cardiac surgery, orthopedic surgery, eye surgery and neurosurgery.

“This campaign will power the quiet revolution in care happening in our hospitals,” said Madden. “Over the past decade Royal Jubilee and Victoria General hospitals have experienced a significant shift in the way surgeries are performed. Surgical teams have introduced proven innovations that lead to less invasive and more sophisticated procedures. These, in turn, have shortened recovery times, decreased hospital stays and improved patient outcomes.”

Madden was joined by Dr. Paul Whelan, Executive Medical Director of Surgical Services for Island Health, who spoke about how upgraded surgery equipment will vastly improve care. “Ultimately the most important thing we care for is the well-being of our patients. To achieve that goal, our surgical teams need to perform procedures using the latest techniques. Funding through the Victoria Hospitals Foundation will allow us to have specialized equipment to do just that.”

These ground-breaking techniques have allowed our surgeons to increase surgical complexity. By offering leading-edge procedures not previously available, most patients can now stay close to their loved ones. Today, 98% of all surgeries can be done here on Vancouver Island.

Dr. Rusty Ritenour, an eye surgeon with Island Health, reiterated the importance of state-of-the-art equipment. “Current machines need to be replaced. Much like any technology, surgical equipment changes quickly and we need to upgrade our equipment to ensure we stay in step with innovative techniques and provide the best care to our patients.”

Ritenour showed a video of former patient Cheryl, who prior to having eye surgery at Royal Jubilee was slowly losing her vision due to Fuchs’ Dystrophy. “I would have become legally blind without the specialized eye surgery provided by Island Health. My first corneal transplant was in 2012 and Dr. Ritenour operated on my other eye in 2014. Today, I am still practicing my passion as a nurse thanks to the skills of the surgical team and the advanced equipment available to them.”

About 52,000 surgeries are performed at Royal Jubilee and Victoria General hospitals every year. Some of the equipment the Foundation is raising funds for this fall includes:

- two phacoemulsification machines to regulate fluid in a patient's eye during eye surgery,
- 18 specialized precision tools used to replace joints during orthopedic procedures, and,
- a new high-resolution touch-screen monitor to manipulate images during brain and spinal cord surgeries.

A complete list of all the equipment is attached.

The Fall Campaign for Surgical Excellence will roll out over 14 weeks. Holding true to the campaign tagline, *Behind the Mask: A Quiet Revolution in Care*, the Victoria Hospitals Foundation will release one patient-doctor narrative each week to tell the story of surgical excellence in our hospitals.

This is the Victoria Hospitals Foundation's largest fall campaign to date. Contributions can be made by donating online at [www.victoriahf.ca](http://www.victoriahf.ca), calling 250-519-1750 or mailing to Wilson Block, 1952 Bay Street, Victoria BC, V8R 1J8.

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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. Last year, we raised nearly \$7 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 more than \$121 million to benefit our hospitals. For more information, call the Foundation at 250-519-1750 or visit [www.victoriahf.ca](http://www.victoriahf.ca).

# Victoria Hospitals Foundation 2016 Fall Campaign for Surgical Excellence

## MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

The Victoria Hospitals Foundation's 2016 Fall Campaign for Surgical Excellence will fund the priority surgical tools needed to support more sophisticated, less invasive procedures in the specialized surgical suites at Royal Jubilee and Victoria General hospitals. Below please find the list of equipment that will be purchased as a result of this campaign.

Specialty/Area	Equipment	Number of Pieces
Eye Surgery	Retinal Probes	3
	Eye Surgery Stretchers	2
	Indirect Ophthalmoscope	1
	Phacoemulsification Machines	2
Cardiac Surgery	ECMO Transport System	1
	Valve Retractor	1
Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery	ENT Navigation System	1
	ENT Navigation Instrument Set	1
Vascular Surgery	Transcranial Doppler	1
Thoracic Surgery	Video-Assisted Bronchoscope	1
	Video Assisted Thoracic Instruments	3
Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery	Infiltration Pumps	1
Urology	Greenlight Laser Resectoscopes	4
	Urology Camera Heads	6
Orthopedic Surgery	Drills and Saws	18
Neurosurgery	Neurosurgery Monitor	1
	Spine Positioning Equipment Set	2
	Spine Instrumentation	1
Gynecology	Gamma Detection System	1
Anesthesiology	Difficult-Intubation Scopes	12
	Transcutaneous CO <sub>2</sub> Monitor	1
Dental Surgery	Dental Processor	1
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	TMJ Arthroscope	1
General Surgery	Low Temperature Plasma Sterilizer	3
	Bariatric Stretchers	2
	Bladder Scanner	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72</b>