

New Fund Aims to Add More Family Docs to Region



Your Donor Dollars at Work, with CEO Barney Ellis-Perry

Our Foundation exists to improve healthcare for Central and Northern Vancouver Island and we know the healthcare landscape is changing rapidly. This means we must be nimble and we must be engaged in conversations beyond the walls of the facilities we serve.

With over a third of our community not having a family doctor, we know that this issue is of huge concern to you our donors. It is also a huge concern for the leadership of NRGH and the Oceanside Health Center because many patients are forced to come to the NRGH Emergency Department and the Oceanside Urgent Care Center because they do not have family doctor. Often by the time they come to see us their conditions are more serious than they should be.

This is why I am very pleased with the forgivable loan program partnership we have developed with the Nanaimo Division of Family practice to help them attract family doctors to our community - and it's working! On January 23rd I attended the opening of the new Thrive Family Health, the first recipient family practice to receive the \$30,000 forgivable loan to support the opening of their new facility, located in North Nanaimo. They used the \$30,000 forgivable loan to fund an examination table, autoclave sterilizing machine, as well as other equipment critical to providing full spectrum family medicine services for the community.

The program also provides support for immigration legal services and small equipment grants for current and prospective family doctors in our community.

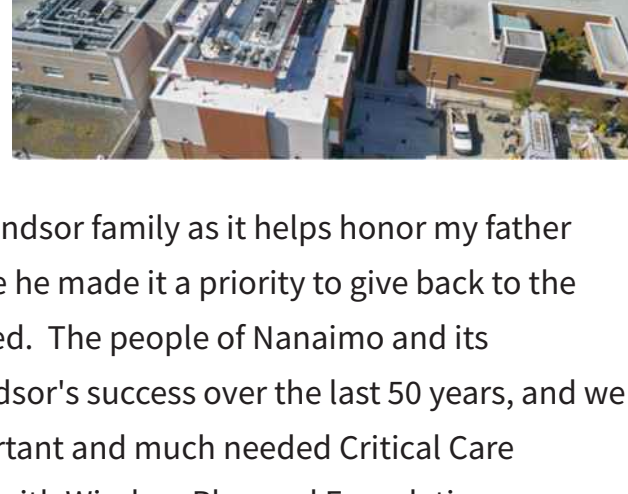
All of this is made possible through gifts to our Greatest Need Fund, thanks to your support.

Warmly,
Barney Ellis-Perry

Windsor Plywood Foundation Makes a Legacy Gift that Transforms Healthcare in our Region

The Windsor Plywood Foundation has donated the largest gift in our Foundation's History.

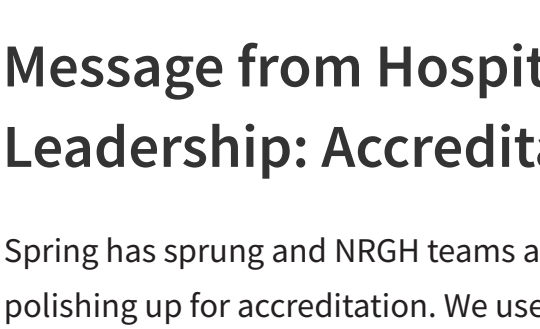
The record \$3 million gift towards NRGH's new Critical Care expansion stamps the Windsor Family's legacy for healthcare in our region.



"This donation is particularly meaningful to the Windsor family as it helps honor my father who recently passed away. Throughout his lifetime he made it a priority to give back to the communities where his customers lived and worked. The people of Nanaimo and its surrounding regions have been a large part of Windsor's success over the last 50 years, and we are delighted to be able to contribute to this important and much needed Critical Care addition" shared Cathy Brown, Executive Director with Windsor Plywood Foundation.

This unwavering commitment to improve healthcare for Central and North Island residents will have transformational change for residents in our region. THANK YOU.

Read more about the Windsor Plywood Foundation donation [here](#).

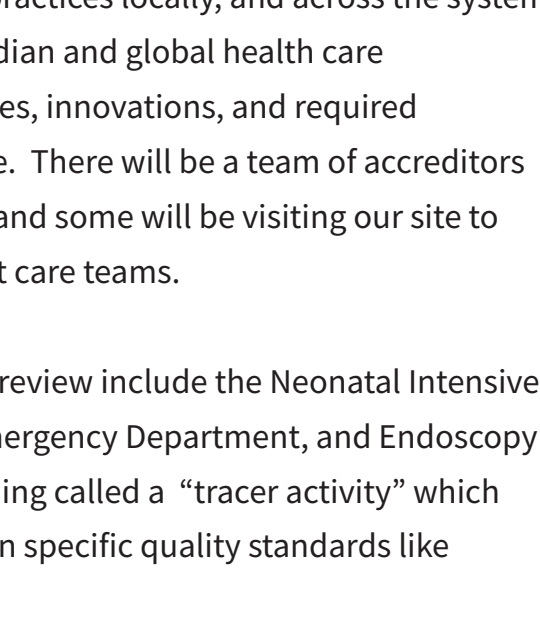


Spiritual Health Care at NRGH

We spoke with Marysia Riverin, one of the two Spiritual Health Practitioners at NRGH, to gain insight into this unique and vital role for patients in our region. Learn how your donor dollars have helped to support care for families and patients at the hospital at times when they need it the most. Thanks Marysia for sharing an insight into your incredible team with our community. Read more [here](#).

Message from Hospital Leadership: Accreditation

Spring has sprung and NRGH teams are busy polishing up for accreditation. We use the word "polishing," as accreditation is actually an ongoing process but the formal on-site surveys and tracer reviews happen in March.



Accreditation is just one portion of our ongoing commitment to quality, and the process (every 4 years) allows us to assess quality and safety practices locally, and across the system of care. Island Health is then compared to other Canadian and global health care organizations, allowing for comparison of best practices, innovations, and required organizational practices that support best patient care. There will be a team of accreditors across Island Health during the week of March 10-15, and some will be visiting our site to review specific services and interacting with our direct care teams.

Specific areas at NRGH that are slated for an in-depth review include the Neonatal Intensive Care, Palliative Care, High Intensity Rehabilitation, Emergency Department, and Endoscopy to name a few. In addition, the surveyors will do something called a "tracer activity" which allows them to follow a patient journey and focus in on specific quality standards like medication management.

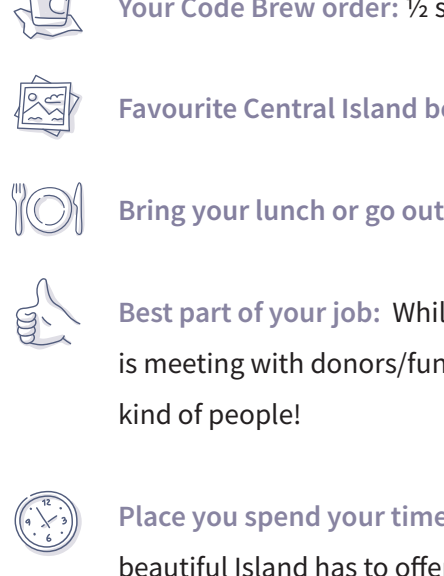
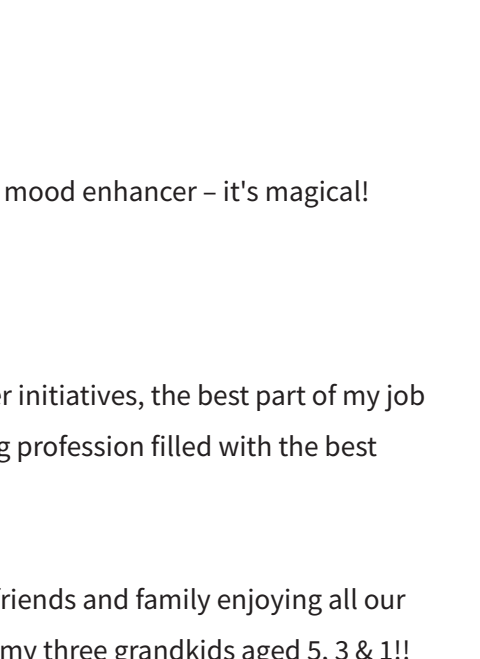
At the end of the survey there will be great feedback provided as to how the organization is doing and specific feedback to our NRGH team that will further inform our ongoing quality improvement work.

Earn a Free Month with Lifeline Nanaimo this Heart Smart Month

Need a medical detection device for you or a loved one? [Lifeline Nanaimo](#) is offering one-month free service in support of Heart Month. Allowing you or your family member to live independently with peace of mind.



Email [Chelsea](#) with subject line Heart Month to redeem your free first month. As a 100% owned and operated service of the Foundation, your peace of mind directly supports healthcare in your region.



Meet Your Foundation Team: Karen McCarthy - Manager of Strategic Initiatives & Grants

Meet Karen McCarthy, the vibrant powerhouse behind strategic initiatives and grants at NDHF! With her stepping into this new role a year ago, she's been sprinkling magic into our operations and funding opportunities. Join us in celebrating her remarkable contributions and infectious enthusiasm for making a difference!

- How Many Years have you been at the Foundation For? 3 ½ years
- How long have you called Nanaimo home? 29 years
- Your Code Brew order: ½ sweet matcha latte with oat milk
- Favourite Central Island beach or park: Jack Point is always a mood enhancer – it's magical!
- Bring your lunch or go out (and if so where): Bring my lunch
- Best part of your job: While I love researching grants and other initiatives, the best part of my job is meeting with donors/funders. Philanthropy is a very uplifting profession filled with the best kind of people!
- Place you spend your time most (outside of the office): With friends and family enjoying all our beautiful ISLAND has to offer. I especially love hanging out with my three grandkids aged 5, 3 & 1!!
- Why is it in YOUR nature to give: I was raised by parents for whom giving of time or money was a core value, so volunteerism & charitable giving has just always been a part of my life. I've also spent almost 20 years in the healthcare field and know that it isn't perfect, and that it needs help. I love meeting people and organizations who endeavor to fill the gaps in our healthcare system for the betterment of all!

Read more about Karen in her bio on our staff page [here](#).

Now Hiring

Our 2023-2026 Strategic Plan calls on us to double our revenues in three years, and we are seeking gifted and driven team players to join us on this exciting and rewarding journey. Join the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation team, where every day your role brings new opportunities to advance healthcare in our region.



We are currently recruiting for three full-time positions:

- Finance & Data Specialist
- Marketing & Communications Coordinator
- Annual Giving Coordinator

For full job descriptions and how to apply please visit nanaimohospitalfoundation.com/career-opportunities

In the Community



Pet Smart Nanaimo Donation Record

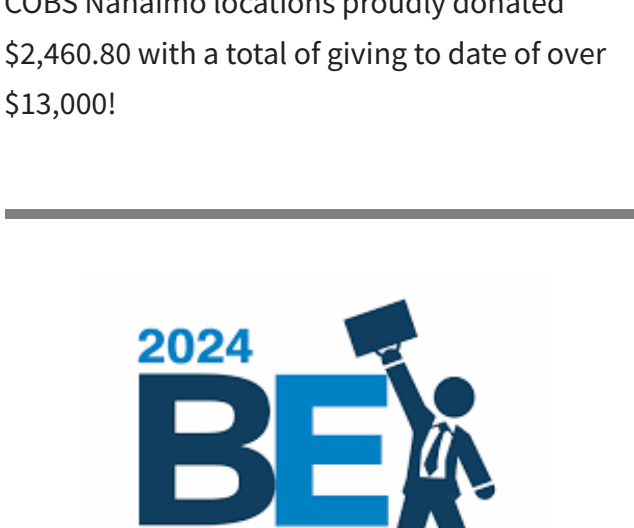
Thanks to our amazing partners at PetSmart Nanaimo, this season we ensured that every child and youth received a gift. With PetSmart's GENEROUS donation of 4417 Stuffedies, the LARGEST donation in Canada to date, we were able to bring joy to countless hearts.



Carbs for a Good Cause with Dempster's

Thanks to our amazing partners at Quality Foods, shoppers can support healthcare on Central Vancouver Island two ways this month!

- 1- By simply swiping their Rewards card. Just let your local QF cashier know you would like to donate your points (in increments of 1000) at the end of your transaction.
- 2 – Every purchase of Dempster's products will donate 25 cents direct to NDHF. A sandwich for a good cause? We can get behind that!



Doughnation Day is (almost) Back at COBS

Mark your calendars! Donation day is back, and a month early this year! This March 2nd, \$2 of every hot cross buns pack sold at the Pleasant Valley bakery will be donated to NDHF. Last year COBS Nanaimo locations proudly donated \$2,460.80 with a total of giving to date of over \$13,000!

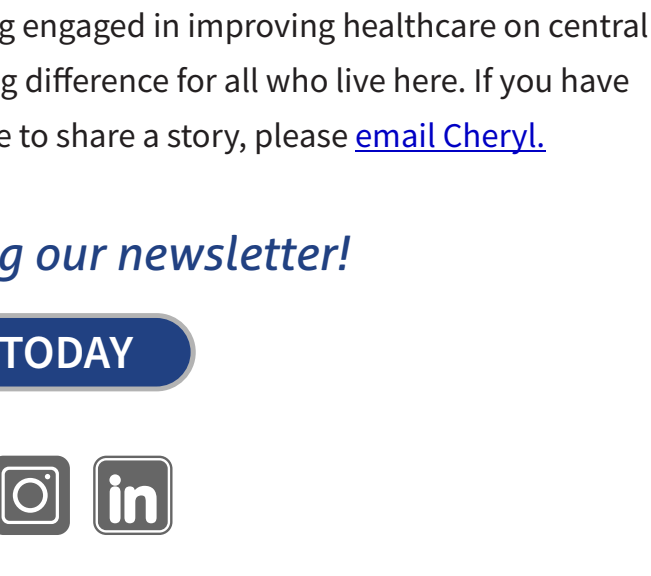


Nanaimo Honda Revs Up Support for the Hospital

This past holiday season, our friends at Nanaimo Honda shared the joy of giving with a \$5,000 donation. Thanks to our incredible friends and corporate partners at Nanaimo Honda for revving up their support for your hospital!

Business Excellence Awards Nominate NDHF

NDHF Chief Executive Officer Barney Ellis-Perry and Chief Development Officer Janice Krall attended the 2024 Vancouver Island Business Excellence Awards this month as they proudly joined 350+ business owners and leaders from across Vancouver Island, to celebrate the best of the best in organizations across 17 different categories. We were incredibly honoured to be nominated alongside so many great organizations in the Not for Profit category. Thank you to everyone at The Business Examiner.



London Drugs Foundation Supports HAU

We are so grateful to the London Drugs Foundation for their gift of \$1,000 towards equipment for the High Acuity Unit! This Foundation has been supporting NRGH for over 23 years and has given an amazing total of more than \$55,000 to

Thank you to each and every one of you for being engaged in improving healthcare on central Vancouver Island. Together, we are making a big difference for all who live here. If you have any comments or questions, or would like to share a story, please [email Cheryl](mailto:Cheryl).

Thanks for reading our newsletter!

[DONATE TODAY](#)

