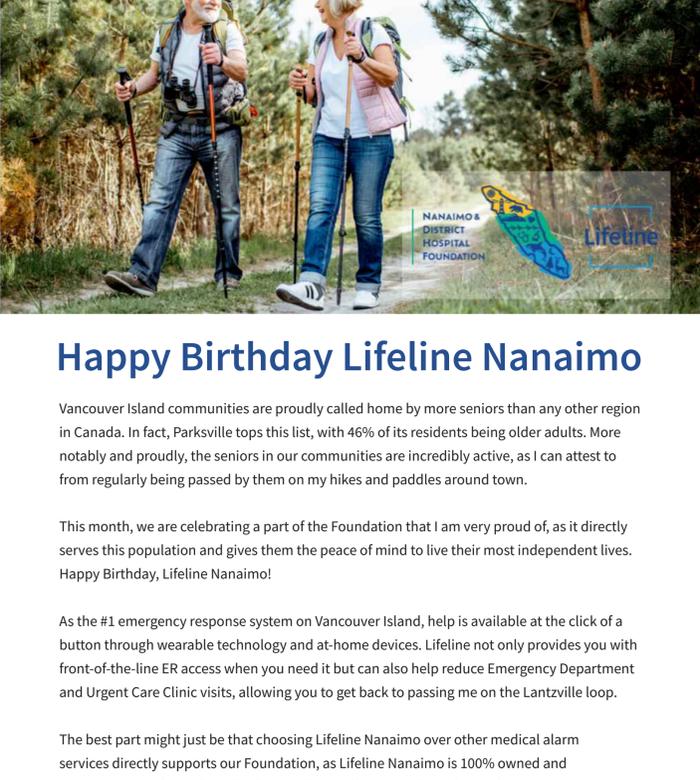


Message from Barney Ellis-Perry, CEO



Happy Birthday Lifeline Nanaimo

Vancouver Island communities are proudly called home by more seniors than any other region in Canada. In fact, Parksville tops this list, with 46% of its residents being older adults. More notably and proudly, the seniors in our communities are incredibly active, as I can attest to from regularly being passed by them on my hikes and paddles around town.

This month, we are celebrating a part of the Foundation that I am very proud of, as it directly serves this population and gives them the peace of mind to live their most independent lives. Happy Birthday, Lifeline Nanaimo!

As the #1 emergency response system on Vancouver Island, help is available at the click of a button through wearable technology and at-home devices. Lifeline not only provides you with front-of-the-line ER access when you need it but can also help reduce Emergency Department and Urgent Care Clinic visits, allowing you to get back to passing me on the Lantzville loop.

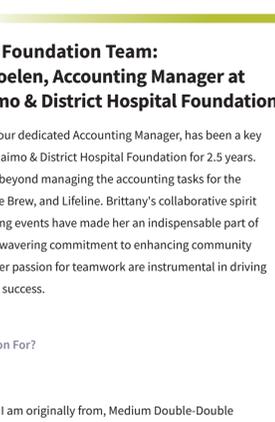
The best part might just be that choosing Lifeline Nanaimo over other medical alarm services directly supports our Foundation, as Lifeline Nanaimo is 100% owned and operated by our incredible NDHF team. The profits from this business directly support the Foundation's fundraising expenses, allowing more donor dollars to directly impact healthcare in our region.

The amazing local Lifeline team would love nothing more this birthday month than to chat with you or a family member to help them live their most independent life! To learn more, contact Chelsea Carne by email, or call 250-739-5770.

Message from Hospital Leadership

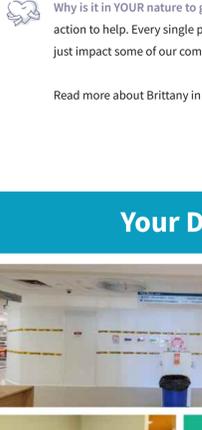
Welcome to Therapy Services and the High Intensity Rehabilitation Unit!

Currently Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH) has a pilot project underway for both Therapy and the High Intensity Rehabilitation Unit – the addition of Recreational Therapy! Recreational Therapy is new to NRGH – rec therapists support patients with improving and maintaining physical and psychosocial functioning through intentional engagement and activities. Within NRGH, we have a recreational therapist, Jon, who works on the ALC Courtyard (patients awaiting long-term care or discharge home). Jon has been working for the past year in establishing a program for patients inclusive of baking, bingo, music, gardening, games and developing an amazing recreational therapy room for patients and families.



In April of this year, we started a pilot project adding recreational therapy to the High Intensity Rehabilitation Unit, with Courtney joining us, from GF Strong in Vancouver bringing a wealth of experience and expertise.

Courtney has been instrumental in bringing accessibility of the outdoors to patients with a borrowed a TrailRider. A TrailRider is a unique mobility device offering accessibility to wilderness areas as per evidence-based research. Two or more people are needed to power the device, enabling a person with a physical disability to take part in hikes and excursions to enjoy nature adding to their quality of life. For the past couple of months, Jon and Courtney bring patients to the parks around the hospital Tuesday afternoons. We are looking to purchase our own TrailRider for NRGH, as well as actively seeking volunteers to assist with outings.



Meet Your Foundation Team: Brittany Roelen, Accounting Manager at the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation

Brittany Roelen, our dedicated Accounting Manager, has been a key player at the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation for 2.5 years. Her role extends beyond managing the accounting tasks for the Foundation, Code Brew, and Lifeline. Brittany's collaborative spirit and support during events have made her an indispensable part of our team. Her unwavering commitment to enhancing community healthcare and her passion for teamwork are instrumental in driving the Foundation's success.

How Many Years have you been at the Foundation For?
2.5 years

Your Code Brew order: My order matches where I am originally from, Medium Double-Double

Work from home, office, car, or all of the above: Office 100%. I love collaboration and being part of this team. We all get along so well, and in a job with so much pressure, it is nice to have a good laugh with your co-workers during the day.

Sun or Snow: I moved from Ontario to get away from the snow, and I will always choose the Sun.

Best part of your job: I joined the Foundation to contribute to the community. I get to see all the equipment ordered because of this amazing community coming together to bring better healthcare to everyone. It is a fantastic feeling.

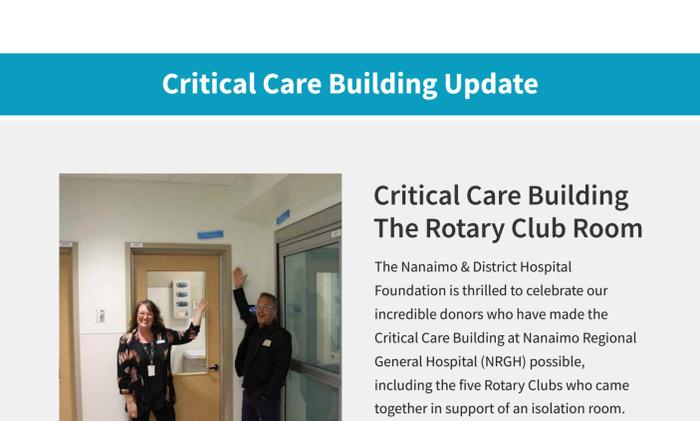
Place you spend your time most (outside of the office): Finding a new mountain to climb.

What is your favourite thing about your team?:
Everyone on our team has their own reason for wanting to work for the Hospital Foundation and is hyper-focused on achieving the best results for their community.

Why is it in YOUR nature to give: My nature is to give, feel passionate about a specific cause, and take action to help. Every single person will lean on our healthcare at some point in their life; this doesn't just impact some of our community. By coming together, we can make a real difference!

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

Your Donor Dollars at Work



Your Donor Dollars at Work: Enhancing Healthcare Through Your Donations

When you make a gift to the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation, you always have the choice to designate your support to an area of care, facility or department that is most meaningful to you. In the past month, your donations have done amazing things for healthcare in the community!

You've helped to attract and retain more family doctors to the region by funding a recruitment loan and equipment bursary to the Division of Family Practice. You've also improved care and comfort for our youngest patients through provision of milk for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, toys for sick kids, accommodation for an expecting mother whose home community is too distant for a safe return home before delivery, and training for nurses on Pediatric Advanced Heart and Stroke process. And benefiting all patients and visitors is a renovation to the front lobby of NRGH, including more comfortable seating and a more welcoming and efficient space to put people at ease at what can often be a difficult time.

Thank you for your generosity and for doing your part to make healthcare in central and north Vancouver Island the best it can be!



FONDATION SANDRA SCHMIRLER FOUNDATION

Celebrating a Generous Contribution to the NICU at the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital

We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Sandra Schmirler Foundation for their recent grant of \$14,051. This generous contribution has enabled us to acquire a Philips Intellivue MX550 Patient Monitor for the NeoNatal ICU at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital.

This life-saving equipment offers real-time monitoring of the vital signs of our tiniest patients and can measure and generate alarms, even while in transport mode. The Philips Intellivue MX550 is essential for ensuring our newborns' highest standard of care, providing critical data that helps our medical team make timely and informed decisions.

Thank you, Sandra Schmirler Foundation, for your unwavering support and for making a significant difference in the lives of our youngest and most vulnerable patients.

Critical Care Building Update



Critical Care Building The Rotary Club Room

The Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation is thrilled to celebrate our incredible donors who have made the Critical Care Building at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH) possible, including the five Rotary Clubs who came together in support of an isolation room.

This significant milestone marks another chapter in the ongoing development of the Critical Care Building, which began construction in February 2021.

A Vital Asset for the Community

The new Intensive Care Unit (ICU), which opened in June 2023, has been operating at full capacity, highlighting the critical need for advanced medical facilities in the region. The second phase of this development, the High Acuity Unit (HAU), is on track for completion by summer 2025. These advancements are crucial for providing high-quality care to the Central and North Island communities, ensuring that patients receive the best possible treatment close to home.

The Importance of the Isolation Room

An isolation room within the ICU plays a critical role in preventing the spread of infections. This room serves as a barrier between the hallway and a patient's room, allowing the medical team to gown up or remove personal protective equipment (PPE) safely. Equipped with a specialized ventilation system, the isolation room ensures that air does not mix with the rest of the ICU, thereby maintaining a sterile environment crucial for patients' and healthcare workers' health and safety.

The Rotary Club's Generous Contribution

The isolation room has been named in recognition of the generous \$50,000 donation from local Rotary clubs. This donation underscores Rotary's commitment to improving healthcare and supporting the community.

[Read full story and more news on our website.](#)

In the Community



Join Us for the Iconic Golf for Life Tournament!

We are thrilled to announce that registration for the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation's Golf for Life Tournament is now open! This event is the perfect way to top off the summer, combining fun on the greens with a chance to support a great cause.

Event Details:

September 20, 2024 at the Nanaimo Golf Club

Golf for Life is more than just a tournament; it's a chance for our community to unite and make a significant difference. The funds raised will directly support crucial healthcare services and equipment, ensuring that we can continue to provide the best care for the community.

How to Register:

Email: Reach out to Tina Moreira at Tina.Moreira@islandhealth.ca for ticket details and registration information.

Online: Visit our [Golf for Life Registration Page](#) for more information and to secure your spot.

Whether you're an avid golfer or just looking for a fun way to support the Foundation, this event is not to be missed. Gather your friends, family, and colleagues, and join us for a memorable day on the golf course.

Thank you, and we look forward to celebrating 31 years of golf, fundraising, and fun with you on September 20th at Nanaimo Golf Club!

Exciting News!

For the first time, the Nanaimo Bathtub Festival has chosen to spotlight a charity of choice, and it's us—the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation! Join us for a day of fun and community spirit. Thanks to the amazing support of the Tom Harris Community Foundation, we'll have bouncy castles and a fantastic concert by The Kerplunks, with all donations going to the NDHF.

We're also excited to share that we will be launching our Make a Splash for Healthcare 50/50 Raffle at the Bathtub Festival, so stop by our tent for your chance to win!

Event Details:

July 25, 26 & 27 at Maffeo Sutton Park

We look forward to seeing you there with your family and friends for a weekend full of joy and support for our community's healthcare.

Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation Summer Renovations

Starting June 27, 2024

nanaimohospitalfoundation.com

Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation Temporary Office Relocation

Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation's main office, located within the Hospital lobby, will be undergoing renovations. Throughout the summer, we will remain fully available during regular office hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, to support you.

For in-person donations or inquiries, please visit us at Meeting Room P1021 beside the Gathering Space, or call us directly at 250-755-7690, email us at ndhf@islandhealth.ca or visit us anytime at nanaimohospitalfoundation.com.

Thank you for your continued support of healthcare in the central island region!

Thanks for reading our newsletter!

