

## Lifeline Nanaimo – Helping Seniors Age in Place and Funding Improved Healthcare for All a Message from Barney Ellis-Perry, CEO

As a subscriber to this newsletter, you hear updates on our fundraising events, campaigns, and where your donor dollars go, but did you know Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation also runs two additional businesses that drive funds to improve healthcare where you live? Code Brew Café and Lifeline Nanaimo are 100% owned and operated by our Foundation. That's right, that coffee and muffin you got from our Code Brew team last time you were at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH), or that medical alarm service keeping you safe at home, they also greatly help support our mission of improving healthcare on Central and North Vancouver Island.

Next month is senior's month and through the services offered by Lifeline Nanaimo we are able to help more seniors age in place with peace of mind and independence. Whether that is a regular walking group event, or the comfort to be at home alone, Lifeline's personal health devices not only make this possible, but by choosing Lifeline you also choose to support healthcare in our community. We just launched a new website that has some great videos showing how Lifeline works - you can see those here: [nanaimolifeline.ca](https://nanaimolifeline.ca).

We are the Island's number one emergency response system and our product line is constantly evolving to keep up with technology and ensure our customers can live as independently as they wish. To see what Lifeline Nanaimo service best fits for you or a family member or loved one contact Chelsea at [Chelsea.Cameo@islandhealth.ca](mailto:Chelsea.Cameo@islandhealth.ca), tell her Barney sent you and you will receive 50% of new services.

Warmly,  
Barney Ellis-Perry



## Donors Fund Innovation in Breast Cancer Surgery Message from Hospital Leadership

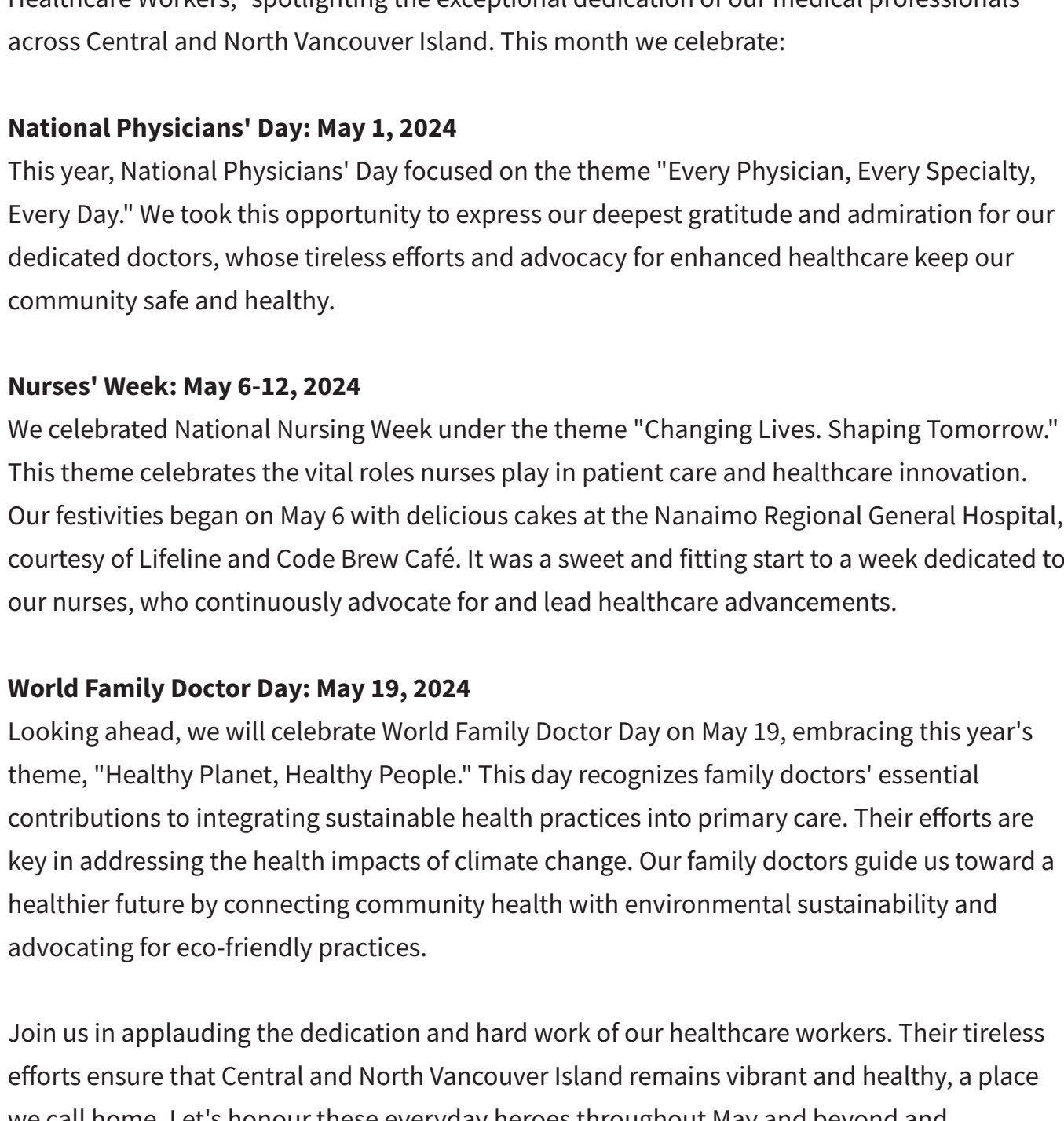
In 2023, the Operating Room at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital purchased two Sentimag Localization Systems thanks to the generosity of donors to the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation's 2022 Giving Tuesday campaign. One year later, the Sentimag System continues to improve the patient experience for many receiving lumpectomy surgeries for breast cancer.

Traditional techniques for lumpectomy localization procedures required patients to have a long and uncomfortable wire placed into the breast lesion or tumor on the day of surgery.

With the Sentimag System, the wire is replaced with a small 5mm Magseed which can be placed by a Radiologist well in advance. In the Operating Room, a Surgeon uses a probe to detect the Magseed and precisely excises the tissue around it. Not only is the Sentimag System better for patient comfort, but there is also an added benefit of streamlined scheduling between the Operating Room and the Medical Imaging Department.

NRGH is the first hospital in British Columbia to adopt the Sentimag technology, reflecting the Foundation's support of innovative care for patients with breast cancer. Due to our success, other centres, such as West Coast General, are working towards bringing in the Sentimag System to help improve cancer care for women across the Island. We are grateful for the opportunity to be leaders in this initiative.

Photo: Dr. Dan Jenkin with the probe from the Sentimag



## How Would You Like to be Remembered Through Your Legacy?

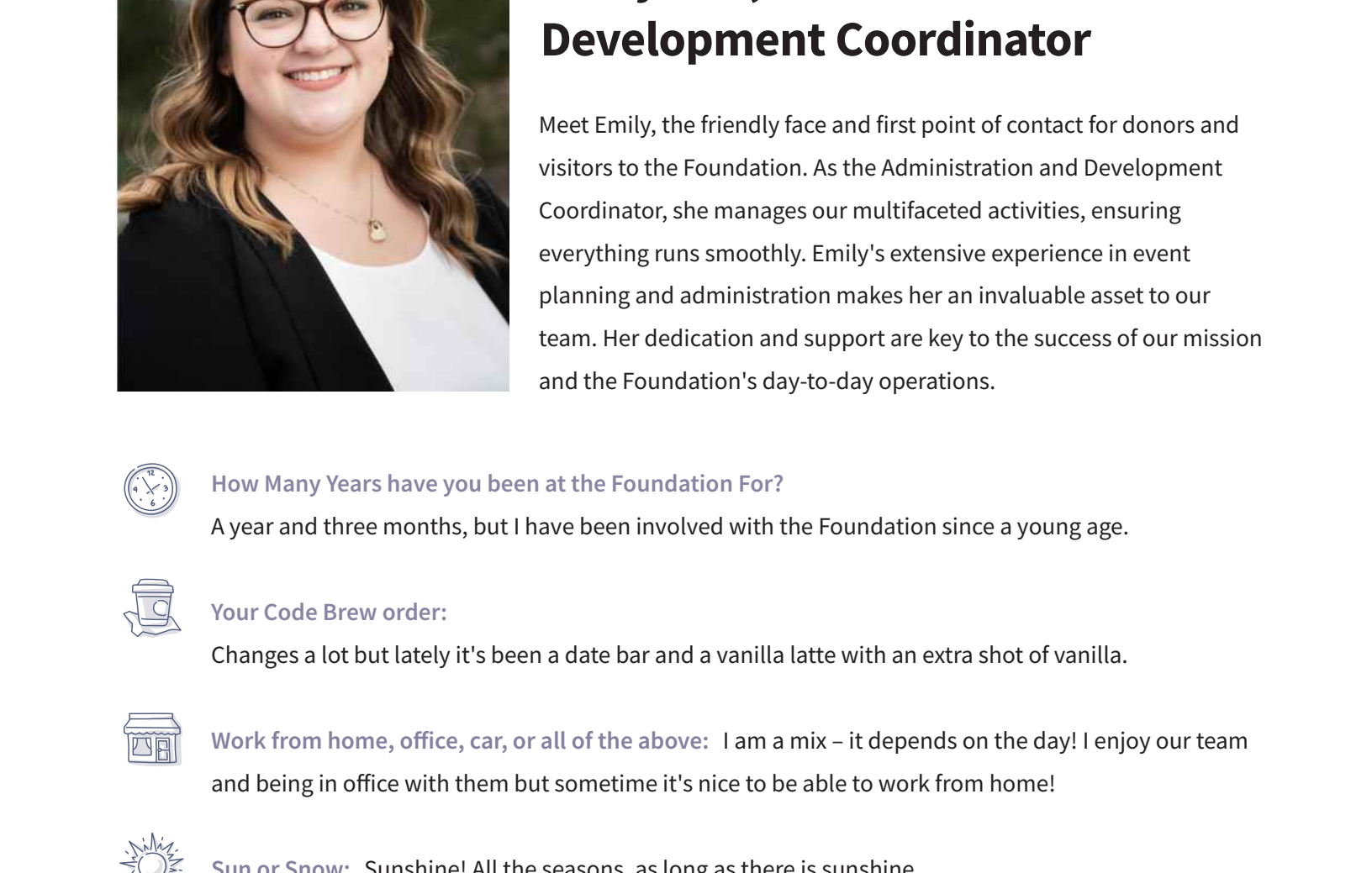
May is Leave a Legacy month, a national, community-based campaign that encourages people to leave a gift through their will or another planned giving vehicle to a charity or cause that is meaningful to them. Leaving a charitable gift as part of your estate plan to help your family, friends and neighbours served by NRGH and the other healthcare facilities we support provides the satisfaction of knowing you have made a lasting impact on the health of future generations on Central and North Vancouver Island.

Contact your financial advisor or lawyer to start preparing your will, or to add a simple amendment to your existing will. Professional advice will also help you maximize the tax advantages of your gift.

Our legal name: Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation  
Our Charitable Business Number: 11905 0672 Rr0001

For more information, contact [Cheryl Oncul](mailto:Cheryl.Oncul@nanaimohospitalfoundation.com), Senior Manager, Annual & Planned Giving or visit [nanaimohospitalfoundation.com/legacy-gifts/](https://nanaimohospitalfoundation.com/legacy-gifts/)

LEAVE A LEGACY



## Celebrating Our Healthcare Workers

This May, we are delighted to introduce a new column in our newsletter, "Celebrating our Healthcare Workers," spotlighting the exceptional dedication of our medical professionals across Central and North Vancouver Island. This month we celebrate:

### National Physicians' Day: May 1, 2024

We celebrated National Physicians' Day focused on the theme "Every Physician, Every Specialty, Every Day." We took this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude and admiration for our dedicated doctors, whose tireless efforts and advocacy for enhanced healthcare keep our community safe and healthy.

### Nurses' Week: May 6-12, 2024

We celebrated National Nursing Week under the theme "Changing Lives. Shaping Tomorrow." This theme celebrates the vital roles nurses play in patient care and healthcare innovation. Our festivities began on May 6 with delicious cakes at the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, courtesy of Lifeline and Code Brew Café. It was a sweet and fitting start to a week dedicated to our nurses, who continuously advocate for and lead healthcare advancements.

### World Family Doctor Day: May 19, 2024

Looking ahead, we will celebrate World Family Doctor Day on May 19, embracing this year's theme, "Healthy Planet, Healthy People." This day recognizes family doctors' essential contributions to integrating sustainable health practices into primary care. Their efforts are key in addressing the health impacts of climate change. Our family doctors guide us toward a healthier future by connecting community health with environmental sustainability and advocating for eco-friendly practices.

Join us in applauding the dedication and hard work of our healthcare workers. Their tireless efforts ensure that Central and North Vancouver Island remains vibrant and healthy, a place we call home. Let's honour these everyday heroes throughout May and beyond and remember their profound impact on our lives and community!

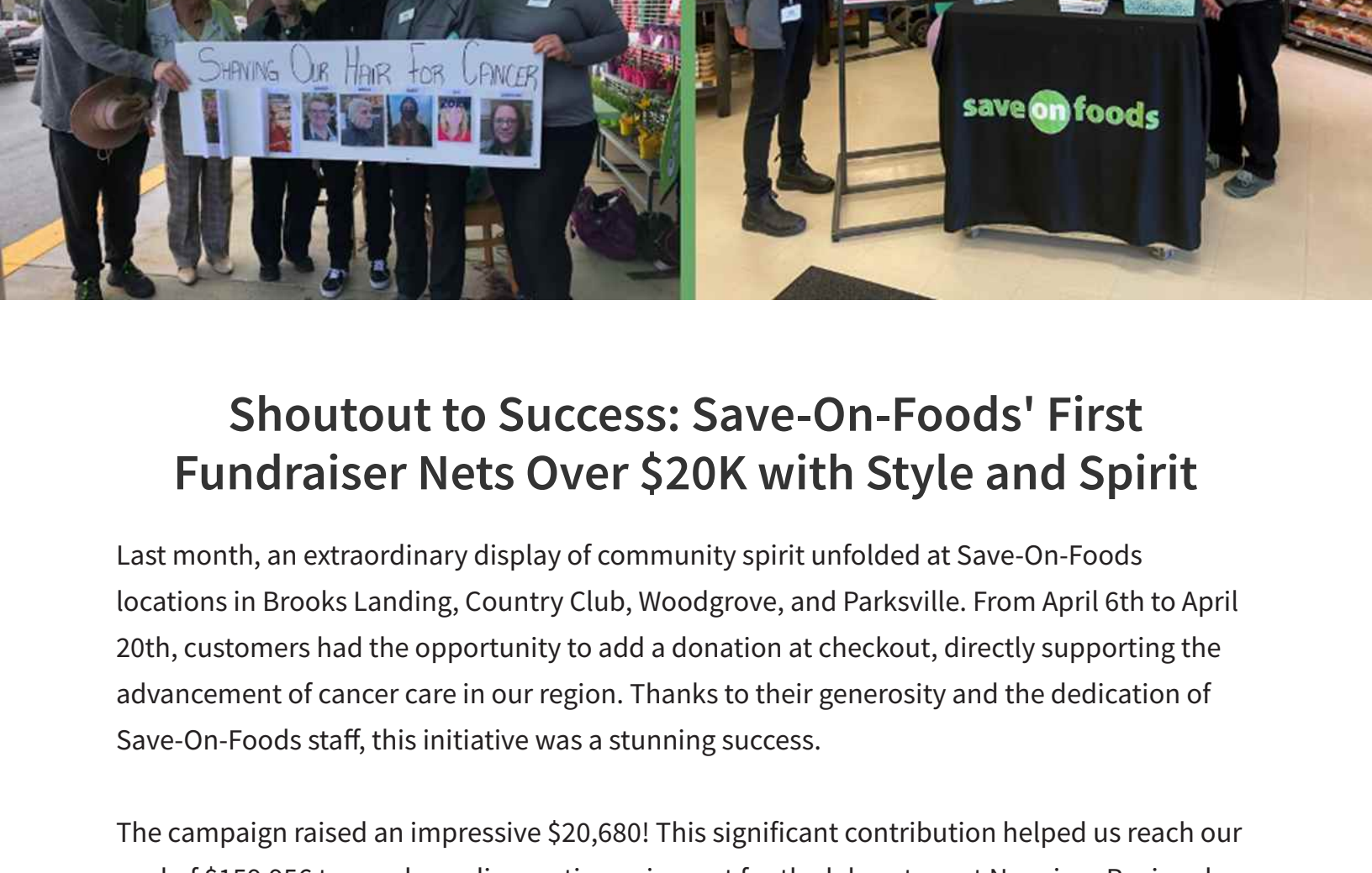


## Meet Your Foundation Team: Emily Tait, Administration & Development Coordinator

Meet Emily, the friendly face and first point of contact for donors and visitors to the Foundation. As the Administration and Development Coordinator, she manages our multifaceted activities, ensuring everything runs smoothly. Emily's extensive experience in event planning and administration makes her an invaluable asset to our team. Her dedication and support are key to the success of our mission and the Foundation's day-to-day operations.

- How Many Years have you been at the Foundation For?**  
A year and three months, but I have been involved with the Foundation since a young age.
- Your Code Brew order:**  
Changes a lot but lately it's been a date bar and a vanilla latte with an extra shot of vanilla.
- Work from home, office, car, or all of the above:** I am a mix – it depends on the day! I enjoy our team and being in office with them but sometime it's nice to be able to work from home!
- Sun or Snow:** Sunshine! All the seasons, as long as there is sunshine.
- Best part of your job:** Seeing how much impact we have in the community and getting to engage with our donors when they come to the office!
- Place you spend your time most (outside of the office):**  
I enjoy spending as much time with my family and friends as possible.
- What is your favourite thing about your team?:**  
Working with people who are passionate about what they do at the Foundation.
- Why is it in YOUR nature to give:**  
I was raised this way. My mother worked at the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation for almost 20 years. I saw every day the difference the foundation makes in our community.

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



## Your Donor Dollars at Work

This month the Foundation had the opportunity to fund some really interesting projects that will make an incredible impact on patient care in our region, thanks to the support of donors like you.

This includes \$12,000 for a one-year trial of new software to streamline the emergency doctor scheduling process, intended to increase available doctor hours in the Emergency Department at NRGH and ultimately reduce wait times. We also committed \$10,000 a year for five years to be a partner in an Island Health driven major dementia research program. And if you visit the hospital, you will see that work has begun on our latest construction project, a \$50,000 renovation to the main entrance foyer which will increase the comfort and efficiency for patients and their families arriving and waiting for care. But have no fear – Code Brew is open and our staff are here to serve up your favourites during construction!

## Enhancements to Psychiatric Unit Courtyard at NRGH Completed

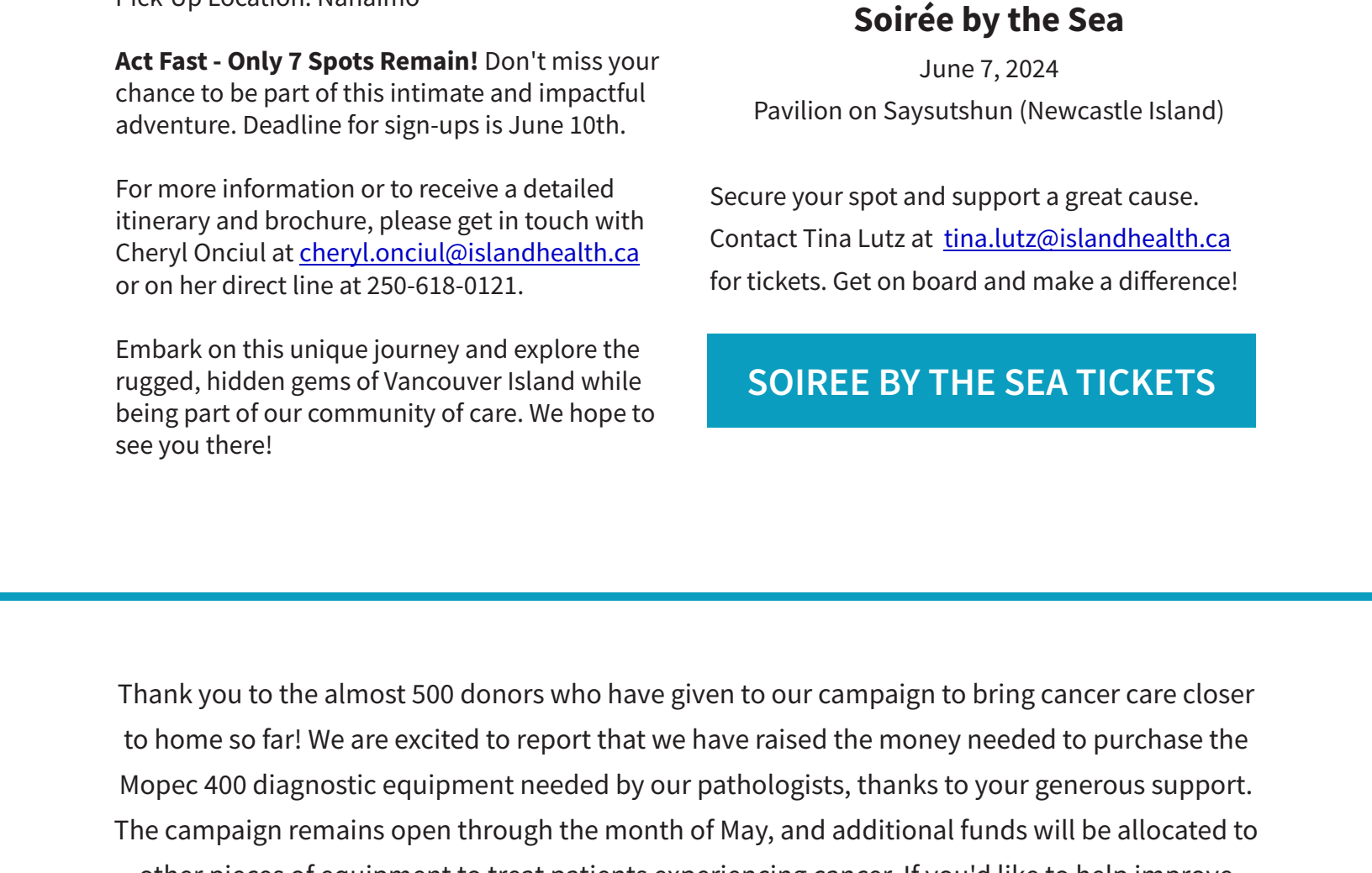
Thanks to a generous \$20,000 donation from Island Savings, a division of First West Credit Union, significant upgrades were completed for the outdoor courtyard at the psychiatric inpatient unit of Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. This revitalization project transformed the area into a therapeutic sanctuary that aids in patient recovery and well-being.

### Key Upgrades Included:

- Expanded Seating: More comfortable sitting areas were added for patients.
- Floral Decorations and Planters: New wall art and vibrant planters filled with beautiful flowers enhance the healing environment.

These improvements are a testament to our community's commitment to mental health care and awareness. We are thrilled about the positive impact these changes will have on patients and their families. Stay tuned for further updates as we continue our joint efforts to enhance healthcare facilities and services.

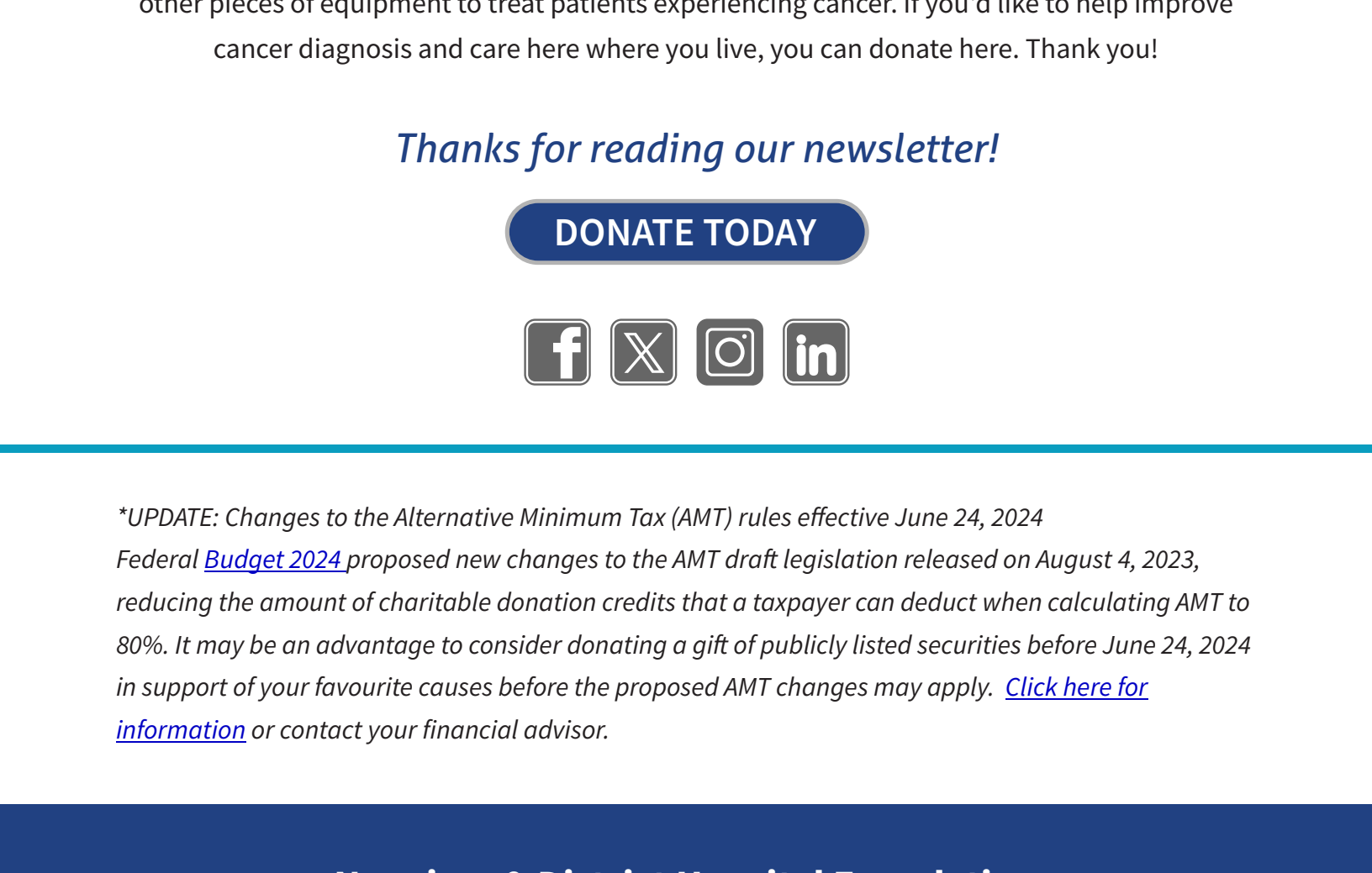
## In the Community



## Shoutout to Success: Save-On-Foods' First Fundraiser Nets Over \$20K with Style and Spirit

Last month, an extraordinary display of community spirit unfolded at Save-On-Foods locations in Brooks Landing, Country Club, Woodgrove, and Parksville. From April 6th to April 20th, customers had the opportunity to add a donation at checkout, directly supporting the advancement of cancer care in our region. Thanks to their generosity and the dedication of Save-On-Foods staff, this initiative was a stunning success.

The campaign raised an impressive \$20,680! This significant contribution helped us reach our goal of \$159,956 to purchase diagnostic equipment for the laboratory at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. A special shoutout to the incredible team and customers at Save-On-Foods — your commitment to making a difference in cancer care does not go unnoticed. Thank you for your enthusiastic participation and the bold new haircuts that marked the occasion!



## A Generous Gift for Critical Care: Port of Nanaimo Contributes \$10,000 to Support Critical Care at NRGH

The Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation is thrilled to announce a generous donation of \$10,000 from the Port of Nanaimo. This significant contribution will support the development of the High Acuity Unit at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital, significantly enhancing our critical care capabilities.

On May 8th, Michelle Corfield, Board Chair of the Port of Nanaimo, presented the donation to Barney Ellis-Perry, CEO of the Foundation, in a gesture that underscores the strong community ties and commitment to healthcare in our region.

The future High Acuity Unit is essential to our hospital, providing advanced care to critically ill patients. This donation from the Port of Nanaimo will help ensure that our healthcare professionals have the resources to deliver the best possible care.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Port of Nanaimo for their dedication to improving health services and continued support of the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital.

## Upcoming Events



## Explore Northern Vancouver Island with Other Supporters of Healthcare in our Community - A Unique Adventure Awaits!

This September, join Barney Ellis-Perry, CEO of the Foundation, for an extraordinary journey through the heart of Northern Vancouver Island. In collaboration with BC-based Mosaic Earth Tours, we've crafted an exclusive itinerary that promises an adventure like no other, blending natural beauty with meaningful community support.

### Highlights of Your Adventure:

- Glide through the waters of Johnstone Strait on a guided kayak tour.
- Experience whale and grizzly bear watching in the pristine Broughton Archipelago.
- Visit the U'mista Cultural Centre for a deep dive into the rich Indigenous heritage of Alert Bay.
- Trek the trails and enjoy a day at the stunning San Joseph Bay in Cape Scott Provincial Park.

Date: September 12 - 17, 2024  
Pick-Up Location: Nanaimo

**Act Fast - Only 7 Spots Remain!** Don't miss your chance to be part of this intimate and impactful adventure. Deadline for sign-ups is June 10th.

For more information or to receive a detailed itinerary and brochure, please get in touch with Cheryl Oncul at [cheryl.oncul@islandhealth.ca](mailto:cheryl.oncul@islandhealth.ca) or on her direct line at 250-618-0121.

Embark on this unique journey and explore the rugged, hidden gems of Vancouver Island while being part of our community of care. We hope to see you there!



## Catch the Wave: Join Us at the Soirée by the Sea!

Don't miss your chance to be part of the first annual Soirée by the Sea, where you can sail, dine, and dance in the historic setting of Saisytshun Island.

This unique gathering isn't just about fun; it's about raising funds for urgently needed medical equipment at Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. Your attendance will make a direct impact, with proceeds from ticket sales, sponsorships, and donations all contributing to an important cause.

### Soirée by the Sea

June 7, 2024  
Pavilion on Saisytshun (Newcastle Island)

Secure your spot and support a great cause. Contact Tina Lutz at [tina.lutz@islandhealth.ca](mailto:tina.lutz@islandhealth.ca) for tickets. Get on board and make a difference!

### SOIRÉE BY THE SEA TICKETS

Thank you to the almost 500 donors who have given to our campaign to bring cancer care closer to home so far! We are excited to report that we have raised the money needed to purchase the Mopac 400 diagnostic equipment needed by our pathologists, thanks to your generous support. The campaign remains open through the month of May, and additional funds will be allocated to other pieces of equipment to treat patients experiencing cancer. If you'd like to help improve cancer diagnosis and care here where you live, you can donate here. Thank you!

Thanks for reading our newsletter!

DONATE TODAY



\*UPDATE: Changes to the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT) rules effective June 24, 2024  
Federal Budget 2024 proposed new changes to the AMT draft legislation released on August 4, 2023, reducing the amount of charitable donation credits that a taxpayer can deduct when calculating AMT to 80%. It may be an advantage to consider donating a gift of publicly listed securities before June 24, 2024 in support of your favourite causes before the proposed AMT changes may apply. [Click here for information](#) or contact your financial advisor.