

December 7, 2018

Backgrounder

Victoria General Hospital (VGH) Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

VGH is the referral centre for maternity and pediatrics on Vancouver Island and is at the forefront of newborn and child care. It hosts one of BC's four high-level neonatal intensive care (NICU).

Of the more than 3,000 of babies born annually at VGH, approximately 530 will spend time in the NICU – or about one in six. These include premature infants and those experiencing complications from cardiac, respiratory, ophthalmological, or auditory issues. With the help of neonatal equipment, care teams perform life-saving work every day.

Victoria Hospital Foundation (VHF) and the NICU

Donors through the Victoria Hospitals Foundation have been tremendous supporters of the NICU since it opened at VGH. Over the last 5 years, donors have funded 65% of the equipment needs in the NICU totalling \$590,000 from over 2,150 gifts.

Some of the recent equipment purchases funded by donors include:

- A Bilirubin Meter
- CPAP Non-Invasive Infant Ventilators
- Infant Warmers
- Incubators
- Blanket Warmer
- Neonatal Costs
- NICU Family Room
- Transport Incubators

The need for equipment for the NICU is ongoing. Donors can choose to support the NICU by making a donation towards vital equipment for this important unit in our hospitals or towards supports for the infants and their families.