### Royal Columbian Hospital FOUNDATION

# **Your HealthMatters**

## A reason to care. A reason to give.

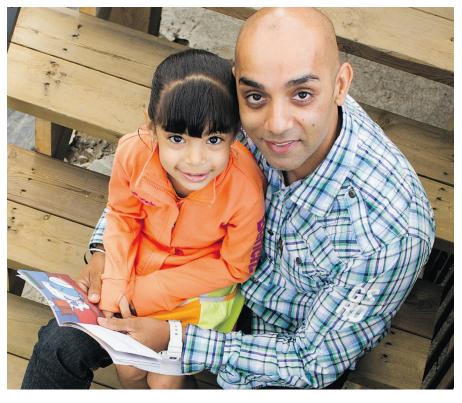
#### WHEN IT COMES TO MATTERS OF THE HEART...

RCH Cardiac Centre is rated amongst the top three cardiac programs in Canada in terms of the intensity of care our patients require. It treats more than three times the number of severe heart attack patients than any other hospital in BC and is the only hospital in BC that can perform open-heart surgery on a pregnant woman, and provide specialized care for her baby.

"This shouldn't have happened. I'm young, I eat healthy, I run 40K a week...there's no history of it in my family. But from the moment you're born until you pass, at some point you're going to need the caring hands of medical professionals, and, if you're fortunate enough to be cared for by the quality staff at RCH, you're blessed." Open-heart surgery patient Johnny Gahir, 37, of Surrey, who was treated for a persistent and life-threatening heart condition at RCH.

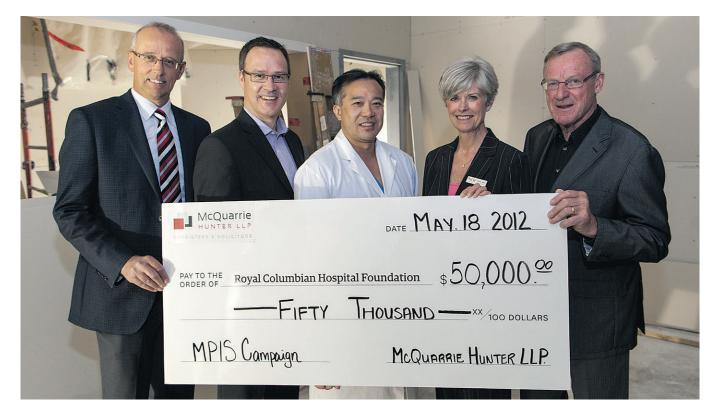


"Royal Columbian Hospital performs over 850 open-heart procedures a year with a planned growth to over 1500 cases over the next 10 years, making it the biggest program in BC. RCH is playing a pivotal role as the centre for leading edge cardiac surgery services in the province." Dr. Shahzad Karim, Division Lead for Cardiac Surgery.





"The strength and size of the cardiac program is what brought me to RCH. We embody rapid surgical recovery, which enables our openheart surgery patients to return to a higher quality of life, sooner." Jeff Kain, Registered Nurse, Cardiac Surgery Intensive Care Unit (CSICU).



"At McQuarrie Hunter we believe in contributing to the well-being of our communities. Many of our clients, contacts, lawyers and staff live well within reach of RCH. We feel our donations are very well-placed with RCH and specifically help to bring exceptional life-saving cardiac care to patients." Wade Winkler (second from left), McQuarrie Hunter LLP, RCHF donor since 2008, shown here with partners Tako van Popta (left) and David Worthington (far right), who recently passed away.

Your Health Matters is published twice annually by RCH Foundation. If you have any questions or story ideas you would like to share with us, please contact our office at 604.520.4438 or e-mail info@rchfoundation.com. Articles by Shannon Henderson and Julie Coghlan unless otherwise noted. Design by Paula Heal. Photography by Jerald Walliser unless otherwise noted.



"If I did not have our baby at RCH, I would not have survived. I was in the right place at the right time and had some of the best physicians I could have asked for at my bedside." Amie MacNeil, 27, of Abbotsford, who, following the birth of her son, went into cardiac arrest while suffering from severe postpartum bleeding when her uterus would not contract.





"Our government is bringing cardiac care closer to home for patients and their families living in the Fraser Health region and across the Lower Mainland. Modern technology and innovative advancements in care will improve access for seniors and other patients requiring specialized health services at Royal Columbian Hospital, a provincial centre for cardiac and neurosciences care." The Honourable Dr. Margaret MacDiarmid, MLA, Minister of Health, on the occasion of the Multipurpose Interventional Suite opening, October 2012.

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RCH Foundation is raising funds this year for critically needed equipment throughout RCH. Your donation to our hospital directly impacts the quality of care we can provide. To help RCH continue to deliver the best in cardiac care, visit **rchcares.com** or call 604.520.4438.

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Suite signals the start of a new era in collaboration between specialties in Fraser Health; Medical Imaging, Neurology and Cardiology. Since its opening many lives have been improved and saved. The MPIS has shown us that together we are stronger and better." Dr. Jorge Bonet, Head of Cardiology.



"With the recent opening of the Multipurpose Interventional Suite, we can now provide all of the cardiac services that our patients need, closer to home. We no longer have to transfer them to another hospital that in the past, often resulted in unnecessary treatment delays, which frustrated and posed health risks to patients." Dr. Margaret Blackwell, Cardiologist.

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