

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Richmond community unites stronger than ever to champion local health care at Richmond Hospital Foundation Starlight Gala

Event raises \$688,000 (net) as community urged to seek
Provincial funding commitment for new Acute Care Tower

Richmond, B.C. – Donors, sponsors and community leaders at the annual Richmond Hospital Foundation Starlight Gala demonstrated their unwavering leadership to help raise funds and champion high quality local health care in Richmond.

Richmond Hospital Foundation Board Chair Kyle Shury spoke passionately that evening to the urgent need for a new Acute Care Tower in Richmond, thanking the more than 30 families and organizations, who have committed nearly \$27 million so far, and calling on all in the room to do what they can to help ensure the Province commits funding for the building now. “The majority of these commitments are contingent on a Provincial funding commitment and a construction start date in 2020,” he said. “We need to act now. Our community is united. This is our time. Please do your part.”

As part of the fundraising at the event, held Saturday, October 14, donors for the “Leadership Challenge” portion of the evening responded generously and enthusiastically to help purchase a brand new state-of-the-art nuclear medicine scanner to improve medical imaging for cardiac and cancer-related illnesses at Richmond Hospital, as well as help purchase four new state-of-the-art defibrillators to help patients who go into cardiopulmonary arrest and require emergency resuscitation in order to survive.

“The community of Richmond has come together to voice its strong support of Richmond Hospital. This is a community that cherishes high quality local health care and backs its convictions with leadership, action and generosity,” said Natalie Meixner, President and CEO, Richmond Hospital Foundation. “We have reached a tipping point as the demands of unprecedented population growth including a booming seniors’ population outpace our hospital facilities and equipment. We

thank our donors, sponsors, volunteers and community champions for their collective leadership and generous financial contributions to ensure our hospital can meet the needs of Richmond now and in the future.”

The Starlight Gala’s sold-out crowd that included 400 guests and more than 200 doctors, nurses and other health care professionals who enjoyed an unparalleled performance by The Tenors, the multi-platinum, Juno award-winning vocal group, leaving guests deeply moved and spellbound as they showcased their charm and diverse vocal styles while speaking of their own experiences of receiving compassionate care at Richmond Hospital in years past, reminding everyone how important health care is to us all.

Over 30 years, Richmond Hospital Foundation has raised nearly \$75 million to help purchase vital medical equipment, improve patient care services and upgrade facilities at Richmond Hospital.

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