

Kin Kau Cheng's Story

As Chinese New Year approaches, we all look forward to spending time with family and friends to celebrate traditions with red packets, decorations and, above all, food. However, when emergencies arise, and a loved one falls ill, it's hard to think of anything else, but the improvement of their health. The importance of having access to the best medical care as quickly as possible becomes a priority.



Kin Kau Cheng (center) with daughter, Rea Ho, and son-in-law, Sunny Ho, in front of Kam Do Bakery.

Chinese New Year is a time when we wish everyone good health. **I know personally how much an illness in a family affects everyone, and how the good wishes of the New Year can become even more relevant.**

My name is Kin Kau Cheng. You may know me from Kam Do Bakery here in Richmond, where my daughter, Rea and son-in-law, Sunny Ho, supply the Richmond community and beyond with traditional Chinese baking. I've been a part of Richmond for more than 18 years, and I am thankful for the support that everyone has shown during our time of need.

Today, I'd like to tell you my story of health and ask for your support to help others now and in the future.

Our time of need began many years ago, when I began my battle with cancer. Richmond Hospital and the team of expert doctors and nurses made all of the difference to us, as we were faced with the difficulties of my failing health.

My initial diagnosis of prostate cancer nearly eight years ago, came as a sinking feeling of dread to myself and my family. The prospect of radiation therapy was worrying and stressful for everyone close to me. Initially, I was hopeful about the treatment but unfortunately, the cancer later spread to my colon. Thankfully, I was able to turn to Dr. Sharadh Sampath, Richmond Hospital's head of surgery, who successfully performed a surgery to remove a large portion of my intestine.

For the next few years, everything seemed to be going okay until I started feeling pain in my abdomen. Scared and unsure of what was causing it, I needed to return to Richmond Hospital.

I remember the moment that the doctor told me he had discovered that I had more cancer. All of the same feelings of concern and fear welled up inside me.

The doctors found the cancer had spread again, this time to my liver and then to my lungs. I began rigorous chemotherapy treatment under the excellent care of oncologist Dr. John Yun at Richmond Hospital. The chemo was exhausting and took not only the energy out of me, but was draining for my family as well.

And yet, throughout all of this, it was donors—people just like you—who helped improve care at Richmond Hospital—our hospital—to ensure we could get through this difficult time.

Today, four years later, I am pleased to say I am alive and well, continuing with cancer treatments at Richmond Hospital every two weeks.

I truly feel it's been a miracle to have all these extra years of life because of the expert care I received. This summer I was able to experience the joy of holding my great-granddaughter in my arms for the first time. I am so grateful that all of the doctors and nurses at Richmond Hospital made my well-being their first priority each and every time.

Both Rea and Sunny told me they were afraid I was not going to make it, but the doctors and nurses at Richmond Hospital worked hard to save me. They really did everything they could for my survival with care and compassion. I feel so grateful to the whole community of Richmond, including doctors and nurses, friends and family and the people I know through Kam Do.

There is a responsibility for a community to take care of its members and one way people can do that is through donating to Richmond Hospital Foundation. **This Chinese New Year, your gift will help benefit patients just like me.**

When you donate, you will receive a tax receipt for your gift, you are directly benefiting patients and families in Richmond. **I urge you to give today, as I know personally just how important these gifts are.**

Being able to experience the Year of the Goat will be particularly special this year, and I look forward to celebrating Chinese New Year festivities in good health with my family, friends and the community I love. My son-in-law told me he always looks forward each year to the time I hand out red packets because it symbolizes another year of blessings and good fortune. **Thanks to donors just like you, I can continue the tradition of giving red packets this year and wishing good health to others.**

Richmond Hospital provided me with the compassionate, lifesaving care I needed for nearly eight years now. **One day they could do the same for someone in your family.** Please give generously today to improve the care at our hospital that we all will rely on.

I know how much you care about the family, friends and neighbours who live and work in our wonderful community. Today, you can show it with a special Chinese New Year's gift to Richmond Hospital Foundation.

By giving to the Richmond Hospital, you will be wishing good health and improving local health care this Chinese New Year. Thank you for your generosity.

My sincerest thanks,



Kin Kau Cheng

P.S. Please donate to Richmond Hospital and give the gift of good health. Every dollar you give has a direct and profound impact to improve local health care for patients and families right here in Richmond.