

PRESS RELEASE
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THE
RICHMOND HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION

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**Richmond Hospital Foundation unveils next major fundraising
campaign: 128-Slice Adaptive CT Scanner - \$500,000**

Richmond, B.C. – At the Richmond Hospital Foundation's Annual Donor Recognition Reception, the organization's next major campaign launch was officially announced: the goal to purchase of a state-of-the-art 128-Slice Adaptive CT Scanner.

Through negotiations, the opportunity to purchase this sophisticated \$1.7 million machine for \$500,000 has been secured. This will be the first CT Scanner of its kind in BC, and in addition to the new MRI, will make Richmond Hospital's *Milan and Maureen Ilich Diagnostic Imaging Centre* a true leader in the province. This new equipment is the same as or equal to the machines in use in the finest hospitals in the world.

The announcement was made Thursday night by Lisa Westermark, Executive Director of The Richmond Hospital Foundation, at a special event to celebrate and thank the Foundation's most generous donors.

What Is A CT Scanner?

A CT Scanner – also known as a “CAT Scan” – uses special X-rays and dedicated computer analysis to create cross-sectional pictures of body parts and disease processes.

Doctors depend on it to help determine the stage of cancers, to evaluate trauma and stroke patients, to assess abdominal problems and to diagnose many other injuries and illnesses. Radiologists use it daily to aid them in performing biopsies.

Why Is It So Important?

From basic chest X-rays to CT-guided biopsies, diagnostic imaging is as common as a blood test for diagnosis, treatment and on-going care.

Last year in Richmond Hospital's *Milan and Maureen Ilich Diagnostic Imaging Centre*, 62,000 exams were conducted, equivalent to one exam for every three Richmond residents.

Why Can't We Wait?

The new 128-Slice CT scanner will be able to perform scans **faster** (half the time), **better** (more detailed images) and **safer** (half the radiation). A full body scan takes only 12 seconds – lifesaving in the event of an emergency.

In addition, the new machine will allow Richmond Hospital to offer **new services** such as cardiac imaging, which allows doctors to look at a patient's heart and determine their risk for heart attack without uncomfortable or invasive procedures such as an angiogram.

Additionally, new high resolution CT images of lungs will help doctors diagnose chest diseases and blood clots in the lung. Doctors will also be able to image tiny vessels in the brain, vital in assisting with cases of stroke.

Doctor of Philanthropy Recipients Announced

This year's donor recognition event was held at Richmond Hospital and guests had the exclusive opportunity for a behind-the-scenes tour of Richmond Hospital's *Milan and Maureen Ilich Diagnostic Centre*. Dr. Ian Dunn, Chief Radiologist and other members from the Diagnostic Imaging Department provided personalized tours.

During the event, the Foundation also announced this year's "Doctor of Philanthropy" recipients. This honorary title comes complete with a lab coat and stethoscope and is awarded to donors who have given over \$50,000 during their lifetime. Awards were given to:

- **Brooke Radiology Associates**
- **Mr. Dalbir Rai**
- **Mr. Johnson Yu**
- **Transoft Solutions Inc. / Mr. Milton Carrasco**
- **Ronald McDonald House Charities**
- **TD Canada Trust**

The Richmond Hospital Foundation is a registered charity that is committed to raising money to fill the gap between government funding and the greater needs of our hospital.

Next Event:

Join the Richmond Hospital Foundation at their 2nd Annual Cork, Canvas & Cuisine event taking place on Friday, June 5, 2009 at Best Western Richmond Inn Hotel & Convention Centre. Enjoy an exquisite evening sipping over 100 outstanding wines, nibbling on tantalizing hors d'oeuvres, perusing and buying outstanding original art and mingling with some of BC's well-known artists. Proceeds benefit a critically needed MRI for Richmond Hospital. Buy your tickets today (\$50): 604-244-5252 or www.richmondhospitalfoundation.com