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Spare Change and a Generous \$25,000 Donation

Help Fund an Urgently-Needed RF Generator for Pain Reduction for Richmond Hospital

Thanks to a generous donation from the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation Canada, the Richmond Hospital now has a very special machine for the Pain Clinic: the Radio Frequency (RF) Generator for Pain Reduction.

The \$25,000 donation matched funds previously collected through “bamboo banks” by the Tzu Chi Foundation. The cheque was presented at Richmond Hospital earlier today.

Bamboo Banks are donation collection tins. Volunteers with the Tzu Chi Foundation Canada produced and distributed Bamboo Banks to locations throughout Richmond and Lower Mainland. The Tzu Chi Foundation also generously matched every penny raised. That meant that every \$1 donated was \$2 towards the purchase of the RF Generator for Pain Reduction.

RF Generator for Pain Reduction is a fancy name for a machine that does something pretty remarkable: in appropriate cases of severe acute pain, it can “turn pain off” for extended periods, even up to a couple of years. Without this machine, the only way to deactivate a nerve for a long period of time is to sever it permanently, a non-reversible procedure. It makes a tremendous positive impact for the people who need it.

“We would like to thank the Tzu Chi Foundation for their generous support to our current and previous campaigns,” says Lisa Westermark, CEO of The Richmond Hospital Foundation. “Once again, the Tzu Chi Foundation is helping fund the vital medical equipment that our medical staff need to provide the best-possible care to our community.”

During the event, a short DVD was shown illustrating the current situation in Haiti and their reconstruction project there. Eric Hsu, volunteer with the Tzu Chi Foundation Canada, who just returned from Haiti talked about his personal first hand experience.

Peter Kuo, the Vice - CEO for the Tzu Chi Foundation, said that the Tzu Chi Foundation is firmly committed to helping to upgrade the equipment at Richmond Hospital. He said that they will continue supporting the foundation for future campaigns.

Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation is an international organization dedicated to raising funds for social and community services, medical care, education and humanism. Tzu Chi has over 10 million supporters worldwide and over 1 million volunteers. Locally, they support the Richmond Hospital Foundation, the Richmond Food Bank and community programs for families and youth. Tzu Chi members volunteer at local seniors' homes and community events. Since 2006 they have donated over \$147,900 to Richmond Hospital Foundation.

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. Last year, over 85% of newly purchased equipment of Richmond Hospital was funded by the Richmond Hospital Foundation.



(Mr. Peter Kuo, Vice-CEO of the Tzu Chi Foundation Canada (L3) and his fellow members presented a \$25,000 to Lisa Westermarck, CEO of the Richmond Hospital Foundation (L2) to help fund a RF Generator for Pain Reduction)