



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VICTORIA GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION'S \$9.5 MILLION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMPLETE!

Winnipeg, MB – The Victoria General Hospital Foundation is pleased to announce the completion of their \$9.5 million capital campaign. The Medicine & Miracles campaign was launched in 2003 to support the Vic's massive \$32.5 million redevelopment project. The Foundation committed to raising \$9.5 million toward the construction of the Buhler Cancer Centre, the 12,000 square foot Emergency Centre, the outfitting of two operating theatres into state-of-the-art minimally invasive surgery suites and various other upgrades throughout the hospital.

"We are deeply grateful that so many generous supporters' dedication to our hospital has made this innovative project possible," said Victoria General Hospital Foundation Executive Director Charlene Roche. "Their commitment and motivation in giving back ensures high quality health care is available for our community and it is truly inspiring."

In 2008, the Buhler Cancer Centre opened its doors. The Centre was named in honour of a generous donation by John and Bonnie Buhler. The 13,000 square foot addition offers more privacy and space, improved flow and less noise disruption, allowing staff to provide patients with the best care possible in a comfortable and supportive environment. Built with the future in mind, the state-of-the-art Buhler Cancer Centre features more chemotherapy treatment spaces and exam rooms, two isolation rooms, space for three full-time oncologists, and a specialized procedure room. It also includes a nourishment room and a resource centre for patients and families.

In fall 2011, the Vic announced the third and final phase of the new Emergency Centre was complete. The new centre features a three-bay ambulance garage with a decontamination area, a significantly larger waiting room with a children's play area, a bariatric treatment room, and an isolation room for treating patients with potentially infectious diseases. It divides patients into two streams: those requiring acute emergency care will be treated in one area and those requiring urgent care for minor injuries will be treated in another. The space is designed to meet the urgent health care needs of a growing community by maximizing care for those with serious health issues and minimizing wait times.

"Without the commitment of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Manitoba Health, our own Foundation and Guild, this would not have been possible," Victoria General Hospital President & COO Francis LaBossière said. "It is exciting to see the ongoing development of our hospital reflecting the changing needs of our growing community."

Fall 2011 also saw the opening of newly-outfitted operating theaters into state-of-the-art minimally invasive surgery suites. The surgical suites received their first major facelift since they were designed over 35 years ago. The renovation included the addition of high definition cameras, flat-panel monitors,

and lights attached to mechanical arms mounted on the ceiling. Patients will now experience fewer complications, a reduced risk of infection and a significantly reduced recovery time.

The minimally invasive surgery suite upgrades were the latest in a series of recent accomplishments for the Vic's surgery program.

"This is another huge step forward in Victoria General Hospital's innovative surgery program; from the groundbreaking Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery (TEM) system we acquired last year to the Green Light Laser Therapy we acquired just months ago, the future of surgery at the Vic looks bright," said Victoria General Hospital President & COO Francis LaBossière. "These accomplishments will serve as a springboard for the many projects yet to come, which are already in the planning process. We thank the community for their undying support of the Victoria General Hospital".

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