

Medicine & Miracles

C A M P A I G N

making miracles happen

MEDIA RELEASE

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SOUTH BEACH CASINO GIVES \$100,000 TO SUPPORT NEW CANCER CENTRE AT THE VICTORIA GENERAL HOSPITAL

Winnipeg, MB – The Victoria General Hospital Foundation today announced a major gift of \$100,000 from South Beach Casino in support of the new Cancer Centre currently under construction at the Victoria General Hospital. The gift represents a significant contribution to the hospital's Medicine & Miracles campaign, which is raising funds for the Vic's redevelopment project.

"The level of community support shown for this project from individual donors, businesses and community organization is so inspiring," said Pat McCallum, Executive Director of the Foundation. "This \$100,000 gift will have a profound influence on the delivery of cancer care at the Vic. We are extremely thankful for the support of South Beach Casino."

In providing the \$100,000 contribution through its Community Spirit Fund, South Beach Casino is continuing its tradition of supporting community projects. Over the last 18 months, the casino has provided close to \$600,000 to educational, cultural, recreational, health-related and other projects of importance to local communities. Funding has been provided to both aboriginal and non-aboriginal groups.

"Giving back to the local community is a priority for the seven First Nation owners of South Beach Casino," said Chief Ian Bushie of Hollow Water First Nation. "Although we are an aboriginal-owned company, our customers come from throughout Manitoba, particularly Winnipeg, and we believe in sharing our success with the communities that support us. By the end of the year, we expect to reach \$900,000 in charitable contributions."



Today. Tomorrow. Together.

“South Beach Casino has already had a significant and positive impact on many Manitoba communities and projects,” said Peter Ahn, principal of Hemisphere Gaming which manages the casino. “As the casino expands to become a complete resort and entertainment centre, our charitable donations to initiatives important to this province will also grow.”

The Vic redevelopment is a \$23 million project that includes the construction of a new Cancer Centre, a state-of-the-art Emergency Centre and two Minimally Invasive Operating Suites as well as a new Gift Shop, offices for the Foundation, and main entrance for the Hospital.

“The Vic’s new Cancer Centre will bring patients out of cramped quarters in the basement into a bright new space that will have more chemotherapy treatment spaces and exam rooms, and increased treatment capacity,” said Ray Racette, VGH President and COO. “By supporting the *Medicine & Miracles* campaign, South Beach Casino will help the Vic continue to provide compassionate cancer care in an environment that encourages healing of the body, mind, and spirit.”

South Beach Casino, located on the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation Reserve, opened in May 2005 and is owned by seven First Nations: Black River, Bloodvein, Brokenhead, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, and Poplar River.

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The goal of the Medicine & Miracles campaign is to raise \$9.5 million in support from private and corporate donors for the Victoria General Hospital redevelopment project. Thanks to the tremendous generosity of donors, the Foundation has raised close to \$5.5 million so far. We have just over \$4 million left to go.

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