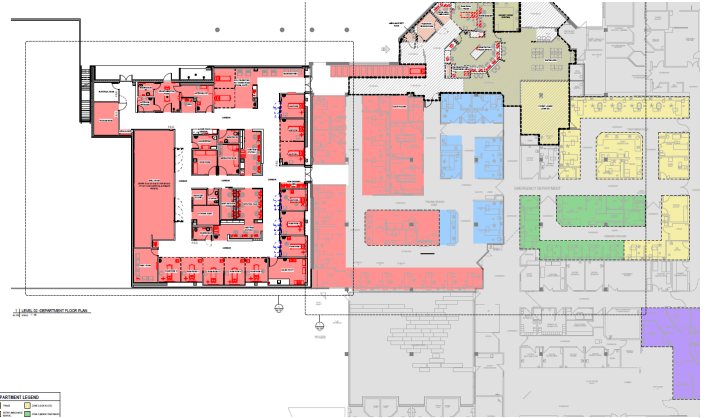


## Abbotsford Regional Hospital ER Expansion Announced



“People in Abbotsford have been managing with an emergency department that is over capacity and continually congested,” said Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. “The new area will help alleviate the overcrowding that has been happening at the hospital from the day it opened in 2008. The expanded emergency department will provide patients with timely emergency care in a modern space with state-of-the-art technology, and health-care workers will finally get the space they need to help patients.”

With more space, redesigned work and patient flow, the expanded emergency department will provide quality emergency care in spaces better designed to meet the growing needs of the population. The space will include new trauma bays and 12 new patient exam rooms. There will also be renovations to the triage area, dedicated stretcher bays and relocation of the ambulance bays to be next to the new emergency department. To provide patients and their families more comfort while receiving services, the expansion also includes additional lounge areas and bathrooms. “As the Abbotsford community continues to grow and change, so does the demand for emergency care. Bringing this project to life is an important milestone in expanding our emergency services,” said Dr. Victoria Lee, president and CEO of Fraser Health. “This expansion builds on the creation of a dedicated area for mental health and substance use patients that provides a specialized level of care in a safe and welcoming environment.”

The new emergency department is designed to better identify and co-ordinate care for patients from the moment they arrive with a re-designed registration and triage area with a focus on increased privacy. The expanded space will also have additional space for staff to work and a designated registration desk for Emergency Health Services, such as ambulances. By making these changes, people will access the care they need safely and efficiently.

Total cost of the project is \$16.25 million, with \$15 million funded by the provincial government, and **\$1.25 million by the Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation.**

“We are excited to have construction start on the expansion of the emergency department in Abbotsford,” said Elizabeth Harris, executive director of the Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation.

“Through the generosity of our donors, we are able to provide support for critically important medical equipment to ensure patients can receive quality health care here in the Fraser Valley.” Kinetic Construction Ltd. was selected as the builder for the project. The company will start construction in fall 2019 with a projected completion date of summer 2021. During the renovations, the emergency department will remain open to provide patients and families with the very best care.

The expanded emergency department at Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre is part of the Province’s commitment to build capacity to support a growing community and aims to improve timely access to quality, patient-centred care across the region, as part of an extensive network of health services and facilities.

**To help fund this project, please visit [www.fvhcf.ca](http://www.fvhcf.ca)**

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### Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation

Abbotsford Regional Hospital | Mission Memorial Hospital | Chilliwack General Hospital | Fraser Canyon Hospital

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## Board of Directors for 2019 - 2020 Announced



*Michael Adkins  
2019 - 2020  
Fraser Valley Health Care  
Foundation Board Chair*

Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation unveiled its Board of Directors for 2019-2020. Four new directors' roles were elected: Michael Adkins - Chair, Todd Kessler – Vice Chair, Logan Song - Finance, and Shelly Avram – Secretary.

FVHCF's new board members not only bring a multidisciplinary perspective, but an in-depth understanding of the local area. FVHCF welcomes its new directors with great pride and looks forward to continuing to deliver on its mandate to improve the quality of health care for our local communities. On behalf of its staff and donors, the FVHCF thanks its outgoing board members for their outstanding work and contributions to both the organization and health care in the Fraser Valley.

FVHCF also congratulates its Board of Directors' Executive Committee on their new or reprised roles. The complete Board of Directors comprises the following:

Michael Adkins, Chair  
Todd Kessler, Vice-Chair  
Logan Song, Finance  
Shelly Avram, Secretary  
Dr. George Vrabec, FHA Medical Representative  
Cristen Gleeson, Chilliwack Representative  
Cal Crawford, Mission Representative  
Bonnie McEwan, Auxiliary Representative  
Brenda Falk, Member at Large  
Doug Lester, Member at Large  
Khalid Mannan, Member at Large  
Dave Sidhu, Member at Large

"I am pleased to be working with a strong board of comprised of industry professionals and community leaders that are dedicated to the health care in the region." Said Liz Harris, Executive Director-FVHCF. "Under Michael's leadership this board will continue to advance our profile and work to support our vision.

To learn more about the Foundation, Board of Directors and our goals for 2019 - 2020, please visit [www.fvhcf.ca](http://www.fvhcf.ca)

## Grand Gala Announced

The Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation hosted a Gala Launch Party on Friday September 27th, 2019 to announce their Presenting Sponsor, Snowcrest Foods Ltd, for their inaugural Fraser Valley Grand Gala.

Snowcrest Foods has 60 years of experience growing, processing and distributing fruits and vegetables and are proud to provide the highest-quality products available from British Columbia, Canada. They are committed to giving back to their communities to help them grow and prosper, and they believe that no act is too big or too small as long as you believe in what you do.

"We are beyond excited that Snowcrest has come on board as our Presenting Sponsor" exclaimed Liz Harris,

Executive Director - FVHCF, "We are looking forward to the upcoming gala"

The Gala, which features a Gatsby theme, will be hosted at the Copper Room at Harrison Hot Springs Resort on November 15th, 2019. The funds raised at this event will go towards supporting the ER Expansion at the Abbotsford Regional Hospital, the Primary Care Expansion at Chilliwack General Hospital, Lab Equipment for Mission Memorial Hospital, and Trauma Beds for Fraser Canyon Hospital.

The Fraser Valley Grand Gala is just over half sold with the remaining tickets selling fast. This is an event you do not want to miss!

Purchase your tickets at [www.fvhcf.ca/gala](http://www.fvhcf.ca/gala)



## Pediatrics Gets Vital



On August 28th, we had the honour of being the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Abbotsford Sumas breakfast. We were also presented with a cheque for \$4,422.07 to purchase one vital signs monitor for the pediatric unit at Abbotsford Regional Hospital. This was our need of the month for August.

# New CT scanner for CGH

In attendance were donors, local elected officials from all levels of government, Fraser Health Board members, FVHCF Board members and dedicated hospital staff.

“There are a lot of moving parts which come together to provide health care in the community” shared Manpreet Grewal, Fraser Health Board Member. “At Fraser Health we so appreciate the partnership with the Foundation. We appreciate the dedication of the teams who are working on the front lines, and we appreciate the community that makes this possible.”

Cal Crawford, Board Member for the Fraser valley Health Care called the Chilliwack community magnificent. “Magnificent is the only way we at the Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation can explain the reaction that Chilliwack and surrounding Communities had when we launched our CT scanner campaign. Each and every person we met with greeted us with warmth and had an open heart for our cause at hand.” This was echoed by Dr. Madill “Chilliwack is a unique community in that we bond together to give the very best care for each other.”

It was explained by Bernice Oxley, Operations Director – Lower Mainland Medial Imaging, that this was the very first GE Frontier CT scanner to be installed in Canada, and that it represents cutting edge CT scanner technology. “This new CT is running 24/7” extolled Oxley.

The crowd was met with thanks and gratitude from the speakers including Liz Harris, Executive Director – FVHCF, “I want to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting and helping us raise the funds so we can have this piece of equipment and support Chilliwack General Hospital.”



## TB Vets Gives Back

Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation and Mission Memorial Hospital are gratefully acknowledging TB Vets Charitable Foundation for their donation toward life-saving medical equipment.

On September 17th, we attended the TB Vets 2019 Front Line Heroes Grants Award dinner. Thanks to the generosity of TB Vets, we received \$40,000 to help purchase a new T1 Ventilator for Mission Memorial Hospital. This will provide life saving support for those patients in the ER who cannot breathe on their own.

# Marianne's Legacy Lives On



Fraser Valley Healthcare Foundation would like to thank the family of Marianne Thiessen, who made a very special donation to honour the life of a beloved nurse who was passionate about helping new moms. Marianne was a nurse for 30 years in Saskatoon and Calgary and then in Maternity at

MSA Hospital in Abbotsford until she retired, and then began volunteering with the Abbotsford Health Unit. She would greet parents and children coming to the Health Unit for immunization clinics, as well as assisting the parents with weighing and measuring their babies. However, Maryanne did more than that. Her gentle, caring manner made families feel welcome, and soothed anxious children. She made a difference every day. She met her husband Bill Thiessen while attending Canadian Mennonite Bible College in Winnipeg. Their lifetime of service together included six years in Nigeria where she lent her healthcare

wisdom to the Mennonite Central Committee. Both Marianne and her twin sister, Lilianne, as well as her younger sister, Connie, became nurses. Arnold, her brother, an entomologist, resides in Vienna, Austria. Marianne passed away in 2014 and it was important to her family to find a way to keep her memory alive. Marianne was known for saying “I love babies” and loved the work she did, so when the Thiessen family expressed an interest in supporting the local NICU, the Fraser Valley Health Foundation suggested he consider sponsoring a freezer for breastmilk in Marianne's name. Up until recently, breastmilk donated in Abbotsford was sent to BC Women's Hospital to be pasteurized, but could not be returned to Abbotsford as ARH did not have the facilities to properly store the milk.

Thanks to the Thiessen family, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at ARH will receive a special freezer capable of storing frozen breast milk so breastmilk donations by Abbotsford mothers will be returned to the Abbotsford Neonatal Intensive Care Unit to benefit Abbotsford babies.



## Upcoming Events

For full details on these events, visit [www.fvhcf.ca](http://www.fvhcf.ca)

### Fraser Valley Grand Gala

Harrison Hot Springs Resort  
November 15, 2019

### Little Hearts Gala

Dhaliwal Banquet Hall - Surrey  
November 2, 2019

### It's a Wonderful Breakfast - Hope

Hope & District Recreation Centre  
November 21, 2019

### It's a Wonderful Breakfast - Chilliwack

Coast Hotel Chilliwack  
November 28, 2019

### It's a Wonderful Breakfast - Abbotsford

Sevensoaks Shopping Centre  
December 5, 2019

### It's a Wonderful Breakfast - Mission

The Stage in Mission  
December 12, 2019

### Trees of Hope

Sevensoaks Shopping Centre  
November to December

### Trees of Caring at ARH

Abbotsford Regional Hospital  
November 26 to January 2

## Health Talks 101



On Saturday, September 28th, 2019 the Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation (FVHCF) hosted their fourth annual Health Talks 101: Day of Medical Enlightenment at the Quality Hotel & Conference with 200 guests in attendance.

The objective of this event is to share with the public new initiatives on relevant health topics.

"It was an absolute delight to have doctors, nurses and other health care professionals share their knowledge and expertise on various medical topics with the public." says Dr. Peter Fry, founder of this event, "Our goal is to provide excellent, educational and colourful talks that are easy to absorb, learn from, and communicate to others in our families."



The presentations include an opportunity to "ask the expert" or to chat with an expert during lunch or coffee break. Some of the topics covered this year included, Cardiac Care, Neurobiology of stress, Advanced Care Planning, Diabetes and many more.

"We look forward to planning next year's Health Talks 101 event and are excited that this continues to be an event the foundation (FVHCF) can make available to the community" Liz Harris, Executive Director FVHCF exclaimed.

Make sure you sign up for our newsletter at [www.fvhcf.ca](http://www.fvhcf.ca) so you are one of the first to know about our 2020 Health Talks 101.

## Run for Hope



Despite the threat of rain or crisp fall air over 20 people participate in the Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation's (FVHCF) inaugural Run for Hope.

"It is a beautiful morning for a run" said avid runner and Executive Director Liz Harris. "Our partner Garrison Running Co has mapped out a scenic run along the river and into Thacker Park today" "This is our first run in Hope" said Harris "and we overjoyed at the quick response and support. We will plan to do this again next year."

Run for Hope raised approximately \$700. The funds will be supporting the purchase of stretcher beds for the Emergency Department. Fraser Canyon Hospital (FCH) is in need of four of these beds, each has a cost of \$12,000 for a total need this year of \$48,000.



Give today: [www.fvhcf.ca/donate](http://www.fvhcf.ca/donate)

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