



YEAR AT A GLANCE 2019/20



FROM THE PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIR

We are living in a time of constant change—but for many children in our province, one reality remains the same: their lives, and childhoods, continue to be interrupted by devastating illnesses.

In addition to these overwhelming health challenges, the pandemic has also brought with it, new ones. We are already seeing the emotional and mental well-being of children suffer as a result of social isolation, but we know that if we act now on issues like these, we can change the entire trajectory of their lives.

At this time when your support is more important than ever, we are filled with gratitude for how you've stepped forward in your own unique ways this past year to help take on the obstacles we face. Throughout these pages, you will discover how this generosity has opened up possibilities that range from a revolutionary cancer treatment that's bringing new hope, to technologies that shine a light on the hidden causes of genetic disorders. Most of all, you will see how your support truly does transform lives.

Thank you for helping create the best future possible for our province's kids and their families.

Teri Nicholas

Teri Nicholas MSW
President & CEO

Lisa Hudson

Lisa Hudson
Chair, Board of Directors

LEADING THE WAY

Here are just a few of the ways that your generous support helped make remarkable progress possible in 2019/20.



CHILD HEALTH BC—LEAD BENEFACTOR SAVE-ON-FOODS—SUPPORTS 13 TRAVELLING CLINICS, FUNDED IN PART BY DONORS, WHICH ENABLES KIDS TO RECEIVE EXPERT CARE CLOSER TO HOME



HOLLYBURN PROPERTIES FUNDED CANADA'S FIRST 3D ENDOSCOPIC TECHNOLOGY FOR HIGH-PRECISION HEAD & NECK SURGERIES



1,000+ CHILDREN & FAMILIES RECEIVED MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT THROUGH COMPASS, WHICH CONNECTS COMMUNITY CARE PROVIDERS TO BC CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH EXPERTS



SUPPORT THROUGH RBC RACE FOR THE KIDS ADVANCED CRITICAL MENTAL HEALTH AND CHILDHOOD CANCER INITIATIVES AT BC CHILDREN'S



MUSIC, ART AND THERAPEUTIC CLOWN THERAPISTS PROVIDED OVER 48,000 POSITIVE DISTRACTIONS TO KIDS AT THE HOSPITAL



MORE THAN 3,400 KIDS WERE SEEN AT THE FAMILY IMMUNIZATION CLINIC, WHOSE LEAD BENEFACTOR IS SAVE-ON-FOODS, TO HELP IMPROVE VACCINATION RATES



THROUGH SUPPORT FROM DONORS LIKE ERIC, JENNIFER, CYNTHIA AND JOHN MARTIN VIA THE MARTIN FAMILY FOUNDATION, MORE KIDS IN BC WILL GET THE EXPERT DIABETES CARE THEY NEED



MORE THAN 200 CLINICAL TRIALS WERE FUNDED TO OPEN THE DOORS TO NEW TREATMENTS & THERAPIES



INSPIRED BY THE VISION TO PROVIDE WORLD-CLASS DIABETES CARE TO EVERY BC CHILD WHO NEEDS IT, GUESTS AT A NIGHT OF MIRACLES GALA GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED THIS CAUSE



WITH THE HELP OF AMACON FOUNDATION, BC CHILDREN'S IS ADVANCING PIONEERING RESEARCH FOR EOSINOPHILIC ESOPHAGITIS, A RARE CONDITION WITHOUT A CURE



RESEARCHERS LEVERAGED EVERY \$1 IN DONOR SUPPORT INTO \$5 IN EXTERNAL RESEARCH GRANTS TO CHASE BIG IDEAS THAT CAN CHANGE KIDS' LIVES



TACKLING CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES

Children are resilient and capable of just about anything. But the fact is, the illnesses that ravage their health are too.

While remarkable progress has been made in overcoming childhood illnesses, there are still too many kids and families who learn that debilitating symptoms are life-long, who live with a constant fear of the unknown, and who will shoulder the burden of illness alone, in silence.

But for every single illness, there are countless more extraordinary people—like you—who believe that, together, this reality is within our power to change. Your commitment and generosity this past year fueled our quest to do just that in so many ways for all kids across BC.

Here's the progress that you made possible.

**OVER 80%
OF KIDS WITH
CANCER
SURVIVE, BUT
20% STILL
DON'T—WHICH
MEANS ONE
IN FIVE DON'T
MAKE IT.**

**EXPERTS ARE
DETERMINED TO
CHANGE THAT.**



After being diagnosed with cancer in 1994, Michael Cuccione, along with his parents, set out to create a foundation devoted to advancing research into the devastating disease. Michael sadly passed away at the age of 16, but his determination to make a difference in the lives of other kids who are battling cancer continues to be felt.



This past year, generous support through the *Michael Cuccione Foundation*—a long-standing partner over the past 25 years—enabled BC Children’s to take an important step forward in its quest to improve outcomes for kids with hard-to-treat cancers. Led by BC Children’s

BRINGING NEW HOPE WHEN IT’S NEEDED MOST

physician Dr. Amanda Li and team, the first CAR T-cell therapy trial at the hospital enrolled a child for this innovative form of immunotherapy—making BC Children’s one of only a handful of pediatric hospitals in Canada approved to offer the ground-breaking treatment.

CAR T-cell therapy involves removing the body’s own immune cells, genetically reprogramming them to seek and destroy cancer cells, and then putting them back into the body, where they continue to multiply to fight cancer. While it isn’t without risk, the therapy has the potential to bring long remissions, and even cures, to patients who have no treatment options left.

Despite all the progress made in childhood cancer, there are still too many kids who will endure months of treatments and countless tests, only to learn that their cancer has returned.

ANOTHER CHANCE TO BEAT CANCER

Leading cancer experts at BC Children’s Hospital, Drs. Rebecca Deyell and Rod Rassekh, are working with all 16 pediatric hospitals across the country on a first-of-its-kind initiative in Canada aimed at giving children another chance to

beat their cancer. It’s called PROFYLE (short for PRecision Oncology For Young peopLE) and it looks at the molecular profile of tumours to better understand why they haven’t responded to conventional therapies. Armed with this information, experts can then identify new drugs that specifically target those tumour cells.

Last year, 15 kids at BC Children’s were enrolled in the initiative—and results have shown great potential to open the door to new treatments that are helping children overcome cancer and experience reduced side effects.

“TRADITIONALLY, CANCER TREATMENT HAS BEEN VERY NON-SPECIFIC. PROFYLE IS ENABLING US TO BE SMARTER ABOUT FINDING THE SPECIFIC DRUGS THAT TARGET THE CELL THAT’S DRIVING A CANCER.”

– DR. REBECCA DEYELL

RUNNING WITH HOPE



“ON THE DAY SHE PASSED AWAY, I REMEMBER TELLING ELISE AND HER MOM THAT AS LONG AS I CAN PUT ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER, I WILL CONTINUE TO RUN THESE RACES IN SUPPORT OF KIDS LIKE HER.”

—LISA HOPKINS,
FOUNDER OF
TEAM4HOPE

Lisa Hopkins’ son Jordan was just two years old when he was diagnosed with Stage 4 neuroblastoma—a rare and aggressive form of childhood cancer. When celebrating Jordan’s 10th year of being cancer-free, Lisa knew she wanted to help other families going through similar journeys. She started *Team4Hope* to do exactly that.

Last year, the Victoria-based fundraising team reached another major milestone: 10 years of fundraising for BC Children’s Hospital. Through holding two signature events—Handbags for Hope and Touch a Truck—as well as by competing in marathons across North America, *Team4Hope* has raised an astounding \$500,000 over the past decade. Their tireless efforts have made it possible for researchers to conduct innovative studies to better understand aggressive forms of childhood cancer, as well as to pursue new, life-changing treatments.



A black and white photograph of a woman and a young girl looking out a window. The woman is in the foreground, her face partially visible in profile as she looks out. The girl is behind her, also looking out. The background shows a window with a grid pattern, possibly a train or bus window. The overall mood is contemplative and focused.

**70% OF KIDS
& YOUTH IN BC
AREN'T GETTING
THE EXPERT
MENTAL
HEALTH CARE
THEY NEED.**

**WE'RE
DETERMINED
TO REACH
MORE OF THEM.**

CHANGING THE TRAJECTORY OF KIDS' LIVES

Despite having proven treatments, many kids and youth with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) struggle to receive an accurate diagnosis and timely care—which makes the illness that much harder to treat. Deeply motivated to help more children across the province get the specialized care they need, *the Wesik family* gave generously to BC Children's Provincial OCD Program.



Through this support, researchers were able to advance studies aimed at better understanding the cause of the illness, educate health care providers across the province on treatments, and run the annual, month-long intensive care program called Camp OCD—which has helped make a positive difference in the lives of kids with the illness.

“IF OCD IS DIAGNOSED AND TREATED EARLY, THE POTENTIAL TO SHIFT THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND TEENS IS HUGE.”

— DR. EVELYN STEWART,
DIRECTOR OF THE PROVINCIAL
OCD PROGRAM

STAYING MINDFUL

As a long-time patient of BC Children's Hospital, McKenna, now in her teens, struggled with her chronic pain for years. It was only when she gained coping skills through the hospital's new Centre for Mindfulness, launched last June, that she learned how to manage her pain.

In its first year, the Centre for Mindfulness has already played an important part in helping children, families and health care providers learn and strengthen

their mindfulness practice to cope with difficulties that range from physical pain to mental challenges to daily stress.

The incredible support of donors like you made it possible for BC Children's to be home to one of the first-of-its-kind mindfulness centres at a children's hospital globally. One of its key goals is to promote a mindful community and compassionate care at the hospital and through online channels.

A RELIABLE MENTAL HEALTH TOOL

BC Children's Hospital emergency physician Dr. Quynh Doan knew that up to 70 per cent of youth who visit an emergency department have an underlying mental health condition—but as little as 10 per cent seek care for it.

That startling fact drove her to create a digital tool, called MyHEARTSMAP, to help youth and families self-assess mental health conditions during trips to the emergency department.

Not only can MyHEARTSMAP identify problems early and halt the development of life-long conditions, it also recommends support services. And according to recent research, it's incredibly effective: results show it's 93 per cent accurate in identifying mental health issues.

“Youth don't always see their doctors on a regular basis, so we want to take advantage of every interaction we have to assess and manage their mental health needs,” Dr. Doan said.



**KIDS AT
SUNNY
HILL NEED
ACCESSIBLE
CARE,
CUSTOMIZED
FOR THEIR
UNIQUE NEEDS.
THE NEW
FACILITY
WILL DO
JUST THAT.**

Thanks to the tremendous generosity of donors who shared our vision in providing the best care at Sunny Hill Health Centre, this new facility designed with patients' needs at the forefront will open on the hospital's campus later this summer.

A NEW BEGINNING FOR SUNNY HILL

The extraordinary gifts of so many enabled us to raise \$14 million for the Sunny Hill Health Centre Enhancement Initiative, and made it possible to create a healing environment at Sunny Hill, complete with patient-centered construction enhancements, state-of-the-art equipment and purposeful art that will enable the Sunny Hill health care team to deliver care specifically designed for kids there.

We are deeply grateful to our leadership donors who have helped make this all possible:

- > **Thomas and Ann Blauuw and Family**
- > **Dr. Hilary and Patsy Hui**
- > **Lalji Family**
- > **Djavad Mowafaghian**
- > **Peterson**

The philanthropy of these caring donors was joined by many others in our community, including *the Auxiliary to BC Children's Hospital*, and *the Avery Linton Legacy Foundation*.

In particular, the astounding support of *the Chinese-Canadian community*, including many longstanding donors, community and business leaders, and dedicated volunteers, helped ensure the great success of the initiative. This community, from its visionary leadership gifts and the For Children We Care gala, to fundraising initiatives like Chinese-Canadian Miracle



Weekend and SHINE Mother's Day Tea, was instrumental in raising a significant portion of the funds needed to bring the project to life.

"IT'LL BE AN AMAZING BENEFIT TO BE ON THE SAME SITE. WE CAN START FOCUSING ON SPECIFIC REHABILITATION NEEDS OF PATIENTS WHILE THEY'RE STILL IN ACUTE CARE. AND OUR TEAM WILL BE ABLE TO CONNECT WITH ALL PARTS OF THE HOSPITAL'S CAMPUS SO MUCH MORE EASILY."

— LEEANN TAYLOR, PROGRAM MANAGER,
ACUTE REHABILITATION PROGRAM



Every detail of the new space has been designed for the specific needs of Sunny Hill's unique patient populations. For example, Sunny Hill's therapy spaces can be adapted for individual kids' mobility needs—including movable floors in the pool and state-of-the-art technology in the gym.

A BRAND-NEW FACILITY

Recreational and home-like spaces feature designated dining areas, places for relaxation, and a child play area, while the outdoor garden includes varying terrains for mobility training as well as quiet spaces.

Artwork throughout Sunny Hill will help create a healing environment, and every piece has been designed to support the therapeutic needs of each space. For example, animal art on treatment and assessment room doors will help patients identify the rooms without using numbers, which can preoccupy and distract some children.



EXTERIOR OF FUTURE POOL



FUTURE GYM SPACE

When the new Sunny Hill opens on the BC Children's campus, kids and families will receive integrated care in one location, where the brightest medical minds will be able to collaborate in ways never before possible.

With this integration and its patient-focused enhancements, Sunny Hill will enter a new phase of specialized patient care while it carries on its legacy as a close-knit, welcoming community.

"THIS IS GOING TO FEEL MORE LIKE HOME TO PATIENT FAMILIES. HAVING THIS BRAND-NEW FACILITY WITH BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK EVERYWHERE YOU GO, AND UP-TO-DATE EQUIPMENT... IT'S GOING TO CREATE A BEAUTIFUL EXPERIENCE."

— RACHEL HASEBE, PATIENT MOM & REPRESENTATIVE, MEMBER OF SUNNY HILL ART COMMITTEE

**KIDS WITH
CHRONIC
DISEASES
ENDURE
LIFE-LONG
CHALLENGES.**

**THAT'S
WHY WE'RE
PURSUING
DISCOVERIES
LIKE NEVER
BEFORE.**



GOING WITH OUR GUT

Around 10,000 kids in BC live with chronic inflammatory diseases, ranging from arthritis to inflammatory bowel disease. Many endure long-term pain, invasive procedures and treatment with serious side effects.

With the visionary support of *Mining for Miracles*, the BC mining industry's longstanding fundraising campaign for the hospital, there's now hope for these kids. They raised \$3.725 million for Gut4Health, Canada's first research initiative of its kind looking at how gut bacteria can predict, prevent and treat infections and chronic inflammation in kids. The goal? Better treatments, and even cures, for these diseases.

PURSUING FASTER AND LESS PAINFUL THERAPIES

Inspired by the innovative work of Dr. Kourosch Afshar, associate chief of surgery, quality and safety at BC Children's, *Mohammad H. Mohseni Foundation* is helping to advance research that will transform the ways urological conditions among kids are diagnosed and treated. The hospital's urology clinic sees over 6,000 patient visits each year for issues ranging from hernias to those requiring complex reconstructive operations.

One study on non-invasive near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS)—which uses a special light to 'see' body tissue—is testing pain-free monitoring of kidney function after a transplant, and could help to identify problems sooner.

The hope is that this and other research will ultimately lead to better health outcomes for kids with serious urological conditions throughout the entire province.

GETTING TO THE ROOT OF GENETIC DISEASES

"For children with a rare genetic disease, it's a journey of trying to find an answer. Whether it's a blood draw or a scan that has to be done, every one of these is an invasion in the life of that child that creates difficulty on top of difficulty," says Dr. Wyeth Wasserman, vice president of research at BC Children's Hospital.



Dr. Wasserman is describing the experience of thousands of kids who visit the hospital each year with unexplained genetic conditions. Even after months or even years

of exhausting specialist visits and painful tests, many families are still left looking for answers.

With incredible philanthropy from the 33rd Annual Crystal Ball Gala, a remarkable \$3.8 million was raised for next-generation technologies, which can provide long sought-after answers, or possibly even cures, with the help of a single test. Inspired by the possibilities, *the Greczmiel family*, *the Hudson family*, and *the Milan & Maureen Ilich Foundation* each made significant contributions toward the initiative.

With this support for this next frontier of precision medicine for genetic conditions, children with unexplained genetic conditions now have hope for a brighter future.



**KIDS ARE
25% OF OUR
POPULATION.
BUT THEY ARE
100% OF OUR
FUTURE.
WE'RE
SUPPORTING
SPECIALIZED
CARE THAT
PUTS KIDS'
NEEDS FIRST.**

Kids are unique—and it's important that their care prioritizes the fact that every experience they have today can impact them over their lifetime. You played an important role to help kids be kids, even in the hospital.

HEALING THROUGH ART

“Art is a powerful mechanism for kids to express themselves—often in ways they can't with words,” says Nicki Elischer. As a child life specialist and certified art therapist at BC Children's, Nicki knows first-hand how powerful art can be in helping kids convey their feelings, thoughts and needs.

Many kids across the province took part in the hospital's creative arts program this past year, thanks to donors like you who believe in the healing power of art. It's just one of the many diverse ways the hospital's Child and Youth Therapeutic Services team helps kids at the hospital cope during some of their most difficult times.

101,418
GENEROUS DONORS
LIKE YOU SUPPORTED THE HOSPITAL
IN 2019/20 FISCAL YEAR

DONORS HELP ENSURE BC'S KIDS RECEIVE CARE DESIGNED FOR THEM IN ALL DIFFERENT WAYS—LIKE ANNALISA AND MIKE WHITTLE, WHO WERE INSPIRED TO GIVE ANNUALLY AFTER BC CHILDREN'S SAVED THEIR DAUGHTER MAKENA'S LIFE.

One size doesn't fit all in children's health care—especially when it comes to equipment. Last year, remarkable donor support from individuals and organizations across BC funded over 120 pieces of equipment designed specifically for kids. Here are a couple of them.

LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

OPHTHALMOSCOPES

If a child experiencing vision loss doesn't receive timely care, they may have life-long challenges because a young brain needs stimulation to learn and develop. Last year, donors funded vital pieces of equipment that help physicians to diagnose eye conditions—including two new ophthalmoscopes, which use special wireless technology to allow them to see deep inside the eye, and provides more mobility to treat younger patients with extreme care and precision.

ECLS MACHINE

Thanks to a generous gift from *Mark and Ellen Brown* from Kamloops, BC Children's was able to acquire a new, life-saving heart and lung support system for intensive care patients. The Extracorporeal Life Support System (ECLS) is vital in keeping a child's heart and lungs working when they are unable to function on their own.

A LEGACY TO REMEMBER

Jim Bolster was the kind of person whom everyone liked being around. Having spent his entire life in Smithers, BC, he was an amazing fisherman and passionate about hockey. He always cared about kids and made them smile and laugh. And, he was the best Bobcat operator in Northern BC.

However, from an early age, he experienced a number of complex health issues. He was diagnosed with diabetes, suffered a severe foot infection for years, and learned he had congestive heart failure in his 40s.

Jim loved children and didn't want to see them experience similar health issues, so he was determined to leave a

legacy that would help create a better future for them. After suffering a heart attack, Jim knew he had to act quickly to put a plan into place to make that possible. While he waited at the hospital for a medevac plane to bring him to Vancouver for emergency care, Jim asked his close friend Dean Moore to be the executor of his Will—a role that Dean accepted without any hesitation.

Jim passed away at the age of 51, leaving an extraordinary legacy gift of \$1 million to BC Children's Hospital Foundation that has supported the hospital's greatest needs, which is helping experts to provide life-saving care.

“JIM ALWAYS WANTED TO GIVE OTHERS A GOOD CHANCE IN LIFE—AND FELT KIDS DESERVED THAT MORE THAN ANYONE. I KNOW HE WOULD HAVE A BIG SMILE ON HIS FACE KNOWING WHAT HE MADE POSSIBLE.”

—DEAN MOORE

A STRONG FINANCIAL YEAR

With the continued generosity of our donors and success of our fundraising initiatives, BC Children’s Hospital Foundation once again saw strong financial performance during its last fiscal year (April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020).

From a fundraising perspective, it was a record-breaking year on many fronts—corporate and community giving generated \$21 million for another year, direct response marketing raised over \$8 million, and over \$14 million was received through legacy gifts. And despite the postponement of the 25th Annual For Children We Care Gala, revenues raised through the Foundation’s events exceeded \$6 million from the past year.

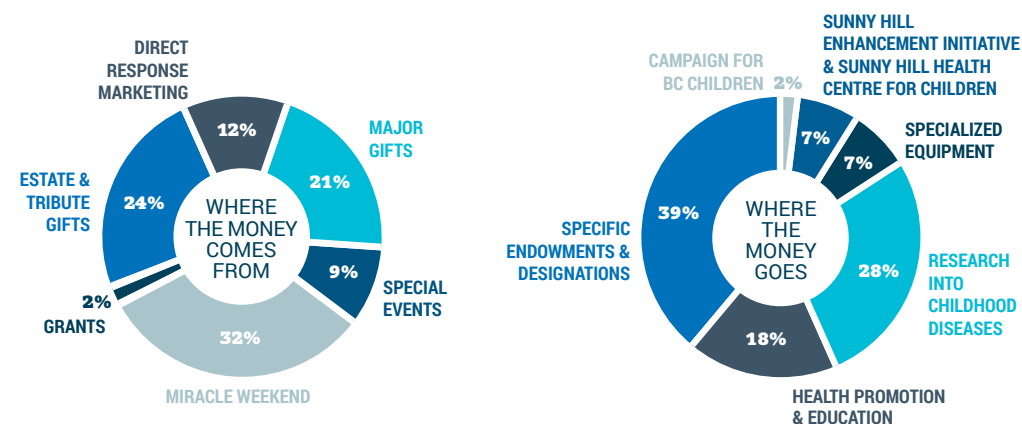
LOTTERIES SOLD OUT EARLY AND GENERATED OVER \$8.7 MILLION

Both the Dream and Choices Lotteries sold out early and generated over \$8.7 million in net revenue from the past fiscal year, which has helped

push forward ground-breaking research and spark new discoveries in children’s health.

Despite the negative impact of market correction on investment income during February and March 2020 due to concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic, BC Children’s Hospital Foundation made significant contributions to BC Children’s, including its Research Institute, child and adolescent mental health programs and Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children.

The above revenue streams enabled \$55 million to be contributed to help advance research, equipment, training, clinical care enhancements and programs that are playing a profound role in helping experts to tackle childhood illnesses. Funds also supported the Sunny Hill Enhancement Initiative, which will help create and enhance a purpose-built rehabilitation and developmental services facility on the BC Children’s Hospital campus.



(in thousands of dollars)

REVENUE	2020	2019
Fundraising revenue	65,496	68,660
Investment & other income	(7,877)	12,689
Net lottery revenue	8,774	8,472
	66,393	89,821
EXPENSES		
Fundraising, administrative & public awareness	20,666	20,083
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE CONTRIBUTIONS	45,727	69,738
Contributions to BC Children's Hospital		
Equipment & capital projects	7,118	16,516
Education, research, patient care & other	47,652	50,090
	54,770	66,606
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES & CONTRIBUTIONS	(9,043)	3,132

The financial highlights on this page are based on BC Children’s Hospital Foundation’s audited financial statements for our fiscal year ending March 31, 2020. The Foundation’s statements are audited by KPMG LLP Chartered Professional Accountants.

BC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020)

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Ms. Jane Young

Without your help, we can't do what we do.

You're helping us make real progress in tackling childhood illnesses in BC—progress that wouldn't be possible without your heartfelt generosity.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO

We are especially grateful during this time of great uncertainty. Through it all, your unwavering support continues to fuel life-changing advancements in child health.

Facing today's challenges—from childhood cancer to mental health, from chronic illnesses to mobility limitations—requires courage and determination. And, because of you, we are making major strides in these and many other areas. But our work is far from over, and because of that, we are so grateful to have you by our side.

Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion and for helping BC's kids fulfill their hopes and dreams.





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