

April 25, 2019

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Record-Breaking ‘Day of Giving’ for Cardiac Care

KELOWNA, BC – Thursday, April 25 was the KGH Foundation’s third annual Day of Giving, and the community showed up in record-breaking fashion. In total, an unbelievable \$1,042,761 was raised, giving the KGH Foundation’s \$7 million campaign for cardiac care a massive and overwhelming boost.

“Quite frankly, I’m still in shock,” said an emotional Doug Rankmore, CEO of the KGH Foundation. “It’s clear the need is real, and felt by so many across the valley.”



KGHF FOUNDATION  
**DAY OF GIVING**

THURSDAY, APRIL 25 • 6AM – 6PM • SunFM, EZRock & AM1150

The “need” references the final component of the Interior Health Cardiac Science Program, which serves over 1 million residents in BC’s interior. Advanced Heart Rhythm Services, the study of the heart’s electrical system, are not currently offered at KGH, meaning patients with cardiac arrhythmias must travel to heart centres in Vancouver or Victoria, often waiting weeks for treatment. But soon, thanks in large part to the Day of Giving, patients will have access to this lifesaving cardiac specialty, right here at KGH.

And so the donations rolled in - by phone, text message, online/credit card transactions, and even in person at the hospital, or in some cases, out the car window to Sprott Shaw’s Change Bandits stationed along Pandosy St.

The Day was a success on many fronts, far surpassing financial expectations, which made for some interesting last-minute accounting. The well-publicized matching donors, Darrell and Margaret Porubanec, learned halfway through the day that their match cap of \$250,000 had been reached, and that the Day of Giving total was about to exceed half a million dollars.

“Speechless!” exclaimed Margaret of how she reacted when she heard the news. “I guess our community likes a challenge!”

“In all seriousness, we couldn’t be more proud to live in Kelowna and be surrounded by so many giving individuals. This is a cause that’s very close to our hearts. Our son required and will continue to require heart rhythm services, and soon it will be available here. How amazing to witness such true acts of community philanthropy today.”

Indeed, residents of the central Okanagan responded in a big way. And thanks to a second donor, who chose to remain anonymous, all donations above the Porubanec match threshold were also doubled.

The KGH Foundation wishes to whole-heartedly thank Bell Media stations AM1150, EZRock and SunFM who lent on-air support from 6am to 6pm. And to everyone who gave in support of world-class cardiac care at KGH, we are one giant step closer to bringing it here. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

*The KGH Foundation is an independent, volunteer-driven, charitable organization committed to enhancing the delivery of healthcare to the patients of Kelowna General Hospital and its associated facilities.*

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