

# 2025 IMPACT Update

A message from our Board Chair & Executive Director

There's something truly special about the Cowichan Valley—when we come together, we achieve remarkable things. This past year, your compassion and commitment have shown just how deeply this community cares.

Thanks to you, we are well on our way towards our goal of significant support for equipping the new Cowichan District Hospital with the tools it needs to serve future generations. Your support is more than a donation – it's a legacy of care, hope, and resilience.

Thank you for believing in this vision and helping bring it to life. The future of healthcare in Cowichan is brighter because of you.

- David

We're so grateful to our kind and generous community for the support you've shown over the past year.

Our Foundation took on the challenge of raising \$20 million to purchase equipment for Cowichan's new hospital – and thanks to you, we're almost 75% of the way there.

With your continued support and our match campaign with Jim Pattison, we're working hard to reach the finish line.

Together, we're creating a healthier future for everyone in the Cowichan Valley. We couldn't do it without you.

- Naomi

“When we come together, we achieve remarkable things.”



**David Robertson** (left), Board Chair, CDHF

**Naomi Low** (right), Executive Director, CDHF



# Our Generous Community

Donations come to the Foundation from many different sources, and at different levels. Whatever the size, a gift to Cowichan District Hospital Foundation (CDHF) is meaningful and greatly appreciated. In the past year we have seen a surge of enthusiasm in our community, with many donors motivated to give as they see the new hospital taking shape on Bell McKinnon Road. We extend our sincere gratitude to every single person, business and organization who has contributed to Cowichan District Hospital Foundation – thank you.



# Funds Raised: a Snapshot



## Legacy gifts/bequests

A gift left in a Will or Estate is a powerful way for someone to support a cause they care about and to ensure a lasting impact. We are extremely grateful whenever we learn that someone has decided to make healthcare in Cowichan a part of their legacy.

## Major Gifts

With the excitement of a brand-new facility, many donors have been inspired to make a major gift to CDHF that will be recognized within the building. Major gifts this year range from \$50,000 to \$5 million! This includes the incredible pledge from Jimmy Pattison that will ensure that all gifts – up to \$5 million – will be matched. Donors who have contributed to the new hospital have done so for different reasons – some wish to honour a specific family member, some are choosing to make a lasting commitment to a specific area of the hospital that's meaningful to them – all these major gifts will benefit the Cowichan Valley community for generations to come.

*(See Impact Story – A Legacy of Care)*

## CDHF Events

Since the Foundation was established over 40 years ago, two fundraising events have been the touchpoints of our year – an opportunity to gather, celebrate and unite the community around a shared goal. In September we held our 30th annual Stormin' Norm Jackson Pro-Am Golf Tournament at the Cowichan Golf Course. It was the usual mix of fun, competition and sportsmanship. We were grateful to raise \$76,000 thanks to generous sponsors, participants and donors to our auction.

*(images 1 & 2 opposite page)*

In March we held our Champagne Dinner & Auction at the beautiful Brentwood College School. It was a spectacular evening in support of our equipment campaign. Over 300 guests joined us for dinner and an entertaining live auction. We were extremely grateful to the large number of businesses and individuals who donated items for our live and silent auctions. Thanks to the opportunity to “Double Your Impact” that the Jim Pattison match funds offered, our guests were more generous than ever! We raised \$340,000 net – thank you.

*(images 3, 4 & 5 opposite page)*



## Community Fundraising

Fundraising within our community is a significant source of support. Throughout the year businesses, service clubs and community groups choose to direct funds to CDHF to benefit the whole of the Cowichan Valley. We are always grateful for these thoughtful gifts, and the opportunity to share our mission with a wider audience.

### 50/50 Raffle

Thank you to everyone who played our 50/50 lottery over the past year. There were five lucky winners through the year, who each took home between \$6,000 and \$9,000 and Cowichan District Hospital Foundation benefitted from over \$50,000 raised through the lottery, which contributed to equipment purchases for Cowichan District Hospital. We are launching a new lottery in July called Split the Pot – it's a unique joint fundraiser with other BC charities ensuring bigger prizes and more funds raised for CDHF. We'll be sharing details on our website, through social media and with subscribers to our newsletter.

COMING SOON

## SPLIT THE POT BRITISH COLUMBIA!

SUPPORT YOUR  
FAVOURITE LOCAL CHARITY

**& WIN THOUSANDS**

IN PRIZE MONEY

BUY NOW



SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR DIGITAL NEWSLETTER  
OR VISIT: [cdhfoundation.ca/sign-up-for-our-newsletter](https://cdhfoundation.ca/sign-up-for-our-newsletter)

## Individual Donations

Every donor to the Foundation is important to us. It's thanks to longtime donors that we have been able to support essential equipment needs at CDH and Cairnsmore Place for over 40 years, and we are grateful to the new donors who join them each year. The consistent support of our monthly donors ensures a steady stream of income, allowing us to forward plan with efficiency. Thank you.

## Third-party Fundraisers:

It's amazing to see the innovative and entertaining ways that our community chooses to raise money for CDHF. This year we were the grateful recipient of funds raised at third-party fundraiser events like Pemberton Holmes Lake Cowichan's Community Garage Sale; Tim Hortons' Smile Cookie Campaign (Mill Bay and Duncan restaurants); Chomp for Charity where proceeds from Duncan's Dairy Queen, Subway, Duncan Garage & Café and A&W were collected over a 4-day period; and, Arbutus Ridge "Women Who Wine" Wine Survivor and Music Bingo events (pictured above).



Find information about hosting a third-party fundraiser for Cowichan District Hospital Foundation on our website, or contact [info@cdhfoundation.ca](mailto:info@cdhfoundation.ca)

# How Our Funds are Used

The majority of the funds raised in the past year are contributing to our big \$20M goal for new equipment for Cowichan's new hospital. However, since July 2024, we have continued to support urgent needs at the current Cowichan District Hospital and at Cairnsmore Place with the purchase of:

- Automated Dispensing Cabinets
- Slings and transfer belts
- Children's items
- Wifi access for patients and visitors
- Activities for residents at Cairnsmore Place

We committed to funding the purchase of 43 new beds for Cairnsmore Place as well as having completed a Sunroom renovation project for the residents to enjoy.

*(See Impact Story – Cairnsmore Place Sunroom Renovation)*

## Staff Appreciation

We love to make sure that the amazing staff at Cowichan District Hospital and Cairnsmore Place know how much they are appreciated in our community. We shared boxes of Smile Cookies with CDH and Cairnsmore staff in December, and in February delivered a little love in the shape of a chocolate heart for every staff member. We hear from our donors how much the staff at CDH mean to them, and through these small staff appreciation gestures we hope to share our donors' message to the hardworking CDH team. In July, we will be bringing a refreshing treat (and smiles to faces) for staff with a Gelato Truck visit to CDH!



## Impact Story:

### Cairnsmore Place Sunroom Renovation

Thanks to donors to our Fall 2024 Annual Campaign, and to guests and supporters of the 2025 Champagne Dinner & Auction, we were able to fund much needed renovations at Cairnsmore Place. An underutilized sunroom has been given a substantial facelift including fresh paint and new furniture, creating a bright, appealing space for residents and their visitors.

“Wow, the sunroom is being utilized more than I have ever seen, and I have been here 30 plus years!! The warm and welcoming environment in the sunroom, with the beautiful green chairs and light-coloured tables, invites conversations, relaxation and a sense of belonging. I have observed numerous residents sitting by themselves, or with family, quietly looking out the windows, while they enjoy their visit. I have also seen robust conversations and laughing as family come together to visit in this beautifully renovated space. The sunroom has provided a space within Cairnsmore that residents, family and visitors can enjoy all day and every day! Thank you for this incredibly generous donation that has touched so many.”

*Gail Kerrone, Manager, Cairnsmore Place*



# Our Year at a Glance



**SEPTEMBER 2024**  
Golf tournament – raised \$76,000.



**OCTOBER 2024**

Donor Appreciation and 40th Anniversary celebration at the CDHF office, a chance to share thanks and updates with our generous communi-



**NOVEMBER 2024**  
CDHF held an online art auction



**Donations Doubled**



**FEBRUARY 2025**

The new 100+ Who Care Cowichan nominated CDHF at their inaugural meeting – a \$12,300 donation was made!

**DECEMBER 2024**

Launch of Double Your Impact, a donation matching campaign, thanks to Jimmy Pattison. All donations, up to \$5 million, will be doubled, inspiring the community and helping us reach our fundraising goal quicker.



**MARCH 2025**

Champagne Dinner & Auction – raised \$340,000 (net) our highest ever total!

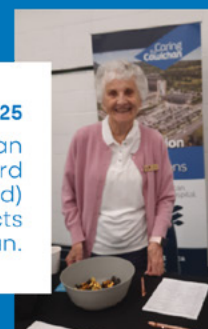


**APRIL 2025**

Cowichan Lake Community Forest Co-Operative and Qala'yit Forestry made donations totalling \$250,000 at a presentation at the BC Forest Discovery Centre.

Community outreach at the Cowichan Aging Well Expo. CDHF staff and Board Director Denise McKinlay (pictured) shared information about CDHF projects with visitors to the expo in Duncan.

**MAY 2025**



# Donor Impact Story:

## A Legacy of Care

Longtime residents of the Cowichan Valley, the Baljets are a community-minded couple with a desire to contribute to the health of future generations.

For Dawn and Pieter Baljet, supporting the Cowichan Valley is part of who they are. As longtime residents who have raised a family and built businesses here, their generous gift of \$500,000 to the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation reflects their deep commitment to the community they love.

“This community has given us so much,” says Pieter. “We built our business here, raised our family here, and have been supported every step of the way—by customers, neighbours, and friends. It’s shaped who we are. This gift is our way of saying thank you and helping ensure that others continue to feel that same support, especially when they need it most.”



“The new hospital will touch every generation...”

Dawn, who was born and raised in the Valley, adds: “We’ve seen this community grow and change over the years, but what’s always stayed the same is how much people care about one another. Our grandkids are growing up here, our parents are

aging here, and we want them all to have access to the best care possible—right here at home. The new hospital will touch every generation, and that’s why this matters so much to us.”

The Baljets’ donation will help fund essential equipment and technology for the new hospital—items not covered by government funding, but vital to ensuring the highest level of care for Cowichan

residents. Their contribution comes at a pivotal moment, with all donations currently matched dollar-for-dollar thanks to the generosity of the Jim Pattison Foundation.

“We hope others will join us,” says Dawn. “Every gift makes a difference—and with matching in place, its impact is even greater.”

In addition to their business and volunteer efforts over the years, the Baljets have supported many local initiatives, including the Cowichan Sportsplex. Their gift to the new hospital is a continuation of that legacy. “This is our community,” says Pieter. “We all have a role to play in making it stronger—for ourselves, our families, and future generations.”

The Cowichan District Hospital Foundation is deeply grateful to Dawn and Pieter for their leadership and vision.

To learn more about how your donation—of any amount—can be matched and make a lasting impact, contact Naomi Low, Executive Director, at [nlow@cdhfoundation.ca](mailto:nlow@cdhfoundation.ca).

# Our Board

Cowichan District Hospital Foundation is a volunteer board of community leaders who offer their experience, commitment and time supporting health care in our community.

David Robertson, Chair

Barry Waters, Vice Chair

Dr. Peter Leckie,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Sherra Collett, Director

Judy Hill, Director

Norm Jackson, Director

Rick Martinson, Director

Denise McKinlay, Director

Lisa Moilanen, Director

Dr. Bill Nielsen, Director

Shelley Weremi, Director

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU -

It would not be possible to achieve so much without the continued support of the many volunteers who help us at events and throughout the year.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING  
A DIFFERENCE.



## Donate Today - it's easy!

Online: [cdhfoundation.ca](http://cdhfoundation.ca) | Call our office: 250.701.0399

Mail: Cheque payable to Cowichan District Hospital Foundation:

7233 Trans-Canada Highway, North Cowichan, BC V9L 6B1