



We hope this email finds you well, enjoying the crisp fall weather, and staying healthy as we move through cold and flu season.

As always, we are excited to share our latest updates with you. At the Foundation, we remain deeply grateful for the incredible care our community shows in ongoing support for local healthcare. Every contribution is having a meaningful and lasting impact.

Be sure to keep an eye on your mailbox in early November! You'll be receiving a special letter with information on how you can support Seniors' Health in our region and double your impact through a matching gift opportunity. Plus, we'll be including details about a special giveaway you won't want to miss!

Thank you again for your ongoing dedication to improving healthcare in our community. Together, we're making a difference.

Gratefully,

The Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation Team

*P.S. We are happy to showcase one of the submissions from last year's **Seeing Is Believing** photo contest which ran alongside our successful Medical Imaging campaign. This stunning shot by Cathy Anderson is perfect to introduce our October e-news!*

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## New Board President

We are pleased to announce that Susan Auchterlonie has been appointed as the new President of the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation Board of Directors, following the completion of Bill Anglin's term.

Susan is a long-time resident of the Comox Valley with deep roots in our community. Born in Cumberland and a graduate of G.P. Vanier Secondary School, she brings a wealth of experience in fundraising and communications. Most recently, Susan served as the Executive Director of the Comox Valley Community Foundation until June 2023.

Staff are excited to work alongside Susan and the rest of the Board to continue achieving our shared goals and creating a lasting impact in the Comox Valley and surrounding region.

We would also like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to our outgoing president, Bill Anglin. Bill has been a cornerstone of the Foundation, serving on the board for nearly a decade. His dedication, countless volunteer hours, and invaluable insight have profoundly shaped local healthcare and our community. We are deeply grateful for his incredible contributions.

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward together in service to our community.

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## Surgical Equipment in Action

This past summer, we reached out to our community to fundraise for specific surgical equipment and cleaning devices as a vital step in ensuring the surgical team at the Comox Valley Hospital has the most up-to-date tools to meet the increasing needs the hospital is seeing across their five operating rooms.

Thanks to your incredible generosity, we are thrilled to announce that **over \$200,000 has been raised for Surgical Services!**



**Your support has already made a direct impact**, with new equipment—such as an ultrasound for the operating room, a Neoprobe, and special cleaning and sterilization equipment—now on site and in use, enhancing patient care every day.

Our team invites you to hear a special message of thanks from the frontline through the button below. In the video, you'll see Casey Fritz, Clinical Nurse Leader for the Operating Room, and Sheila Petersen, Clinical Nurse Coordinator for Surgical Services, who share their gratitude and provide an update on how the new equipment is already making a difference.

We echo the appreciation they express and celebrate with them the remarkable impact you are having on local healthcare.

Thank you to our donor community and to our dedicated medical teams for being true healthcare champions!

**VIDEO MESSAGE FROM SURGICAL SERVICES**

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## The Benefits of Gifting Securities

Did you know that by giving a gift of securities directly to the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation, you can avoid capital gains tax and receive a charitable tax receipt for the full amount of your donation? More and more of our donors are choosing to give securities—such as



stocks, bonds, or mutual funds—instead of cash to maximize their giving.

Here is how a direct donation of securities works:

- You transfer securities directly to the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation.
- We promptly sell the securities after the transfer.
- You avoid capital gains tax, and your donation directly supports local healthcare.
- You receive a charitable tax receipt for the full market value of the securities on the day of the transfer.

We recommend speaking with your professional advisor to ensure a gift of securities is the right choice for your financial situation. We would be happy to provide you and your advisor with our form to facilitate your gift of securities.

When you choose to make a gift of securities to the Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation, you can feel confident knowing that you are supporting healthcare, close to home, and optimizing the tax benefits of giving.

If you have any questions or would like to explore this option further, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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## Natalie's Backyard Ultra

On July 27th, Natalie Pulsford participated in the Comox Valley Road

## Help Us Name the Bear

Hospitals can be a daunting place for children, but a small gesture can make



Runners' Backyard Ultra to raise funds in support of seniors' health and wellness.

Natalie works at Providence Living at The Views. She has immense love for her job, her co-workers, the residents, and the beautiful new space and care model that goes with it. Daily, she sees how hard everyone works to provide the best level of care and companionship for residents.

This was Natalie's fourth year running the Backyard Ultra as a fundraiser. She ran a whopping **114 kilometres** (17 laps) and was the last woman standing!

Her goal was to raise \$1,000 to go toward the area of greatest need related to seniors' health and wellness in the Comox Valley. **Natalie surpassed her goal and raised \$1,100!**

Thank you, Natalie, for bringing added purpose to your running challenge! You are such an inspiration!

**Did you know that fundraising in community like Natalie has done is something we all can do?** While we may not be able to run hundreds of kilometres, we all have passions that can be transformed into support for patients. The Foundation would love to chat about your ideas and help ensure your efforts have a big impact.

an enormous difference. To help ease their anxiety, hospital staff and volunteers distribute stuffed animals, offering comfort and a sense of security to our young patients. Last year, over 8,900 children under the age of 13 visited the hospital. Thanks to the generosity of our community, the Foundation is proud to collect new stuffed animals for this compelling cause.

We are incredibly grateful to the community members and businesses who regularly donate and make this beloved program possible.

Pictured above is **Dr. Lindi Thibodeau**, an anesthesiologist at Comox Valley Hospital, alongside some of the stuffed animals recently donated by the **Comox Valley Glacier Kings**. The big furry friend you see is our new program mascot, and **we need your help to give it a name!** Simply reply to this email with your suggestion.

We'd also love to hear from you if you're interested in hosting a stuffed animal drive for the hospital or if you have new stuffed animals to donate. For hygiene reasons, all donations must be brand new. If you'd like more information or to coordinate a donation, **please call us at (250) 331-5957.**

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**MAKE A DONATION**



**COMOX VALLEY HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION**

**Great Care. Close to Home.**

**250-331-5957**



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