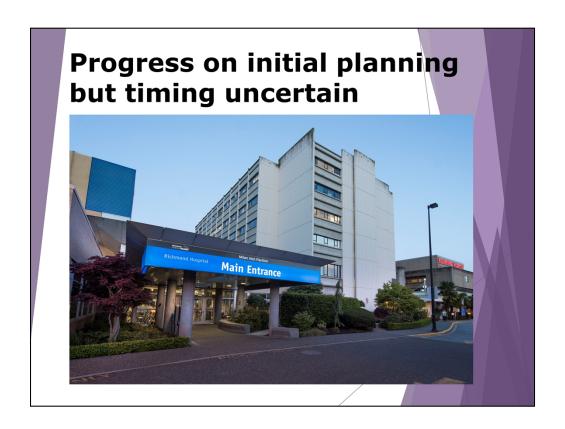


- Thank you for the opportunity to present to you today. I'm Natalie Meixner, President & CEO of Richmond Hospital Foundation and I'm joined today by Kyle Shury, Richmond Hospital Foundation Board Chair and Dr. Ken Poon, Head of Surgery at Richmond Hospital.
- We are joined today by other board members including Harold Goodwyn, RCG Group...as well as (TBC)
- We would like to thank the Mayor and Councilors for your tremendous public support over the past year. The council motion that you passed unanimously last year and your collective voices have helped to raise the profile and demonstrate how important the need for a new Acute Care Tower is for Richmond. I'd also like to acknowledge all of your individual efforts including attending and speaking at events, meeting with us one on one, advocating for this issue in the media, participating in Foundation direct mail campaigns and to you Mayor Brodie, for making RHF a beneficiary of your annual fundraising dinner Mayor's Dinner
- Now more than ever, it's important for ALL of us in the community to speak with a united voice.
- We come to you today to provide an update from a year ago when we first asked for your help and leadership.
- We are asking for the City of Richmond's help in passing a motion calling on the Provincial Government to move now to the business plan stage for a new Acute

Care Tower.



- In June 2016, the Province announced it had approved the first phase of planning for a new Acute Care Tower, the Concept Plan.
- The Vancouver Coastal Health Richmond team began work in June and completed the initial concept plan well ahead of schedule in January. We would like to commend the extra effort of Jennifer MacKenzie, Chief Operating Officer for Vancouver Coastal Health Richmond along with her team.
- The Board of Vancouver Coastal Health approved the plan in January and submitted it to the Ministry of Health.
- Now the Provincial Government needs to formally approve the Concept Plan and make the decision to advance to the Business Plan stage of planning.
- We do not know how long this decision-making process will take but we cannot assume it will simply happen. The people of Richmond with your leadership need to make their voices heard so that Richmond is not left behind when it comes to health care.

Capital infrastructure projects in Richmond requiring tax dollars:		% who rank this as most important project		% who rank this in their top 2 projects	
	GenPop	Donors	GenPop	Donors	
new Patient Care Tower at Richmond Hospital	52%	64%	85%	86%	
arthquake-proofing existing public buildings like fire halls nd school	s 24%	14%	51%	53%	
bridge to replace the Massey tunnel	18%	13%	33%	31%	
lew parks and recreational facilities	3%	3%	12%	8%	
lew cultural centres like art galleries or libraries	2%	2%	12%	10%	
lew sports arenas, stadiums, and sports facilities	1%	4%	5%	9%	

This year, Richmond Hospital Foundation undertook its bi-annual market research and commissioned an independent public opinion poll to better understand what citizens of Richmond felt was the most important publicly funded infrastructure needs for them and their families.

Both Richmond residents generally and our donors were asked to prioritize a number of capital infrastructure projects in Richmond that require public dollar investments.

Both donors and Richmond residents prioritize a new patient care tower as the single most important capital project.

A staggering 85% of the general population rank it in their top 2 choices.



Last month we were honoured to announce Dr. Tony and Mrs. Nancy Yurkovich's lead gift to the Acute Care Tower.

Their gift combined with commitments from more than 10 other families and organizations, now total \$25 million in funding commitments toward our campaign goal of \$40 million for the new tower. Who knows? Maybe we will be able to raise more than that.

The Foundation and our donors will do our part to raise the necessary funds, but there are many donors who want assurances that the Province will finish the planning and commit to building a new Acute Care Tower

Even with approval today, it will most likely take five years or more to design and construct a new patient tower.



- New hospitals are being built or renewed across BC and have received government approval.
- The Province has announced major capital health infrastructure investments
 - Most recent is the Kamloops Royal Inland Hospital Patient Care Tower which will receive a total of \$417 million. Their Foundation is contributing \$20 million.
 - In Penticton the Patient Care Tower will receive a total of \$312 million
 - In Campbell River & Comox Valley, two new hospitals, an hour apart, will have received more than \$600 million. No donor money is being used.
 - In Vancouver the VGH Operating Rooms will be funded for \$102 million.
 - In New Westminster the Royal Columbian Hospital will receive a total of \$259 million
 - In Burnaby, planning is now underway for a renewal project for Burnaby Hospital costing anywhere from \$517 million to \$622 million.

- Everyone knows that the need in Richmond is equally as strong and we are still waiting for our outdated acute care facilities to be replaced.
- When will it be Richmond's turn and how long do we have to wait?



- Very briefly we would like to recap the three major areas that a new Acute Care Tower would address, namely: seismic instability, obsolete facilities and dramatic growth in our population, particularly our seniors population.
- Built in 1966, the original hospital tower is now more than 50 years old and has a seismic capacity that meets only 17% of current standards. It would sustain major structural damage with possible complete collapse in a moderate to strong earthquake.
- A moderate earthquake on the Richter scale is 5 to 5.9. We experienced two moderate earthquakes in our region recently and one in Dec. 30, 2015. The threat is very real and Richmond is at risk.



- While Richmond Hospital's medical and surgical teams are truly excellent, the infrastructure of the original tower is obsolete and no longer meets today's standards.
- Our Operating Rooms, for example, are built <u>below the flood plain</u> and are at risk in a flood or tsunami. They are also too small to accommodate today's medical technology. The current standard in hospitals is double the size of our operating rooms.
- For infection control, the current standard in hospital is to have 80% single occupancy rooms. At Richmond Hospital we have triple and quad occupancy rooms at Richmond Hospital and only 10% are single occupancy.
- The original tower is well past its lifespan and has been rated as 79% deficient with failing systems including the building envelope, the plumbing system and the HVAC system. The building also has a severe lack of electrical capacity. Anything rated at 30% is considered "poor." In October, all elevators in the North Tower went down for nearly a day and medical equipment, food and medicine needed to be transported by stairs. A permanent repair is still not completed.
- This is not only a matter of infrastructure. As you can imagine, doctors and nurses regularly choose to work in hospitals with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment. As major investments are made elsewhere, Richmond risks losing high caliber doctors and nurses to other jurisdictions.



- Richmond has reached a tipping point and our growth is outpacing our capacity.
- In 1966, when the hospital was first opened, Richmond had 50,000 residents and had 132 beds.
- Today, 50 years later, we have 218,000 residents and we have 233 funded beds.
- By 2030, Richmond is expected to surpass 250,000 people.
- In addition, Richmond has the fastest growing seniors population in the whole of British Columbia.
- From present day to 2030, we will see the number of seniors more than double to 65,000.
- Because the population of Richmond has the longest life expectancy in Canada at 85 years, this is already placing extreme pressure on our hospital's ability to provide acute care services.
- We can see the grey tsunami about to hit Richmond and so Richmond needs to be ready for this.



- We continue to meet with our local MLAs regularly who have kept our needs on the front burner. While they have been champions, we need the full support of the Province, including the Minister of Health and the Premier
- We need the provincial government's commitment now, before an earthquake strikes and before our population outstrips our acute care in-patient capacity.
- Today, we ask you again to pass a resolution, asking the Province to approve the Concept Plan now and immediately fund the Business Plan stage for a new Acute Care Tower at Richmond Hospital.