



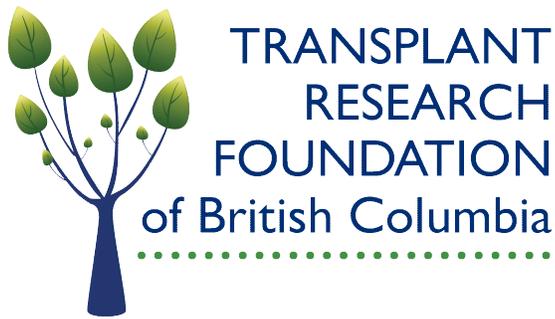
### **New Partnership, New Objectives, New Discoveries!**

We would like to take a moment to recognize each of you for your significant contributions to the Transplant Research Foundation of BC (TRF). With your generosity, we have awarded \$800,000 to more than 25 projects over the past decade. Our Venture Grant scientists have made several exciting discoveries including work on blood biomarkers to determine rejection in transplant patients and novel approaches to controlling immunity. We look forward to facilitating even more groundbreaking transplant research right across BC with your continued support.

Over the past year, we have been focusing our efforts on determining how we can spend more time doing what we care about most – funding transplant research. As a result, the TRF Board of Directors is pleased to announce we are in final discussions with the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation on forging an exciting new partnership. Once this milestone agreement is complete, we are confident this partnership will help grow our community and leverage that awareness into more dollars for novel and innovative research in all areas of transplantation.

For 34 years, the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation has been one of the province's top charitable organizations with a solid track record in accountability to its donors. The Hospital Foundation already funds many areas of transplant medicine through its support of the Transplant Program at Vancouver General Hospital – the only liver transplant centre in BC and a major centre for lung, kidney and pancreas transplants.

We know you have many questions about the transition. We have detailed the most important points below.



### **Why is the Transplant Research Foundation partnering with VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation?**

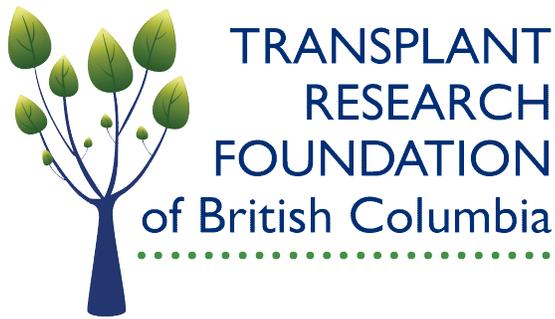
- There have been many challenges over the past few years that have limited the TRF's ability to focus on its mission to support transplant research.
- Our mission closely mirrors the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation's work so we see a natural alignment of interests.
- VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation will be able to support the TRF in managing and administering the Fund at a much lower cost than our current model.

### **How will the partnership function?**

- TRF will gift its capital of \$630,000 to the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation to establish the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund.
- VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation will take over the financial management of the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund.
- VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation will also process and manage donations to the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund.
- After the transition, donations will be made to the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation – Memo: Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund.

### **What happens to the TRF after the transition to the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation?**

- TRF will continue as before but with a much lower cost structure and administrative burden. This will allow the Board to refocus on core our mission and programs.
- The current Board will act as an Advisory Board to the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation on the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund.
- The awarding of Venture Grants will continue under the same peer review process, supervised and directed by the TRF Advisory Board.



### **What does this mean for my donations?**

- The biggest change for donors will be lowered administrative and overhead costs.
- The VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation will manage all donations.
- The Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund will solely be used to support our mission of funding transplant research in BC.
- When you click “Donate” on the [www.trfbc.org](http://www.trfbc.org) website, you will be seamlessly linked to the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund portal maintained by VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation.

### **How will this enhance the work of the TRF?**

- Better focus on procuring funds for Venture Grants.
- Better advocacy for patient care and organ donation awareness.
- Better advocacy for transplant research for future pre and post-transplant recipients.
- Increased number of Venture Grants awarded each year.

### **Does this mean the TRF will only be able to support researchers at VGH and UBC?**

- No. The TRF will continue to fund transplant research projects affiliated with any institution in BC.
- The TRF Advisory Board will maintain full control over the allocation of grants made from the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund.



### **What are the administrative/fundraising costs of the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation?**

- All donations to the Transplant Research Foundation of BC Fund will be subject to an 8% administrative fee that covers the cost of fundraising and administration.
- This fee is VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation's standard charge on all restricted gifts, and based on a cost recovery model.
- VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation's fundraising and administration costs are amongst the lowest of the major charitable organizations in BC.

### **Who will choose the research projects that receive Venture Grant funding?**

- The current model for awarding Venture Grants will continue under the new model.
- Applications undergo peer review and reviewers forward their recommendations to the Board.
- The TRF Advisory Board will make the final decision on which projects to support, based on the peer reviewer's recommendations.

### **What is the timeline for this transition?**

- We are planning for a transition date of June 1, 2015.
- Throughout the process, the TRF will operate as normal.

We will be providing updates on our partnership through our quarterly newsletter. [Click here to sign up to receive.](#) We are always available via telephone or email to discuss any concerns.

Thank you for your continued support.

Lori Lothian,  
Chair, Transplant Research Foundation of BC