

Children's Hospital to get \$500m update

GLOBAL BC CAMPAIGN:
Fundraising goal of \$200m to augment \$300m from Victoria

B.C. Children's Hospital is to get a \$500-million makeover.

Some \$300 million is to come from provincial taxpayers and the remaining \$200 million is expected to be raised by donations.

The hospital's foundation and Global BC kicked off the \$200-million fundraiser yesterday on the Burnaby station's evening newscast.

Media reports said the work, scheduled to be completed by 2014, will feature a new emergency department, a pediatric intensive-care unit, advanced diagnostic and imaging areas and a cancer ward.

Be A Superhero: The Campaign for B.C. Children is the largest hospital-related fundraising campaign ever in Western Canada and the largest single fundraising initiative in support of children in B.C., Global BC said in a press release.

"Global BC has been a longtime supporter of B.C. Children's Hospital and sick children around the province with our annual charity telethons," Global's vice-president and general manager, Brett Manlove, said in the release.

"With the help of generous viewers, Global BC has raised more than \$260 million throughout the years with our telethons and many other child-focused charities.

"Global BC is deeply committed to support this new campaign and help make the future brighter for our children and the generations to come."



Work on B.C. Children's Hospital in Vancouver is to be completed by 2014. JON MURRAY FILE PHOTO — THE PROVINCE

Global BC will give the fundraising campaign weekly news coverage and will air special reports from the news team all week.

Stories will air every Monday until the fundraising goal is reached.

"Our entire Global BC team is dedicated to this cause and we are extremely proud to be an integral

part of this campaign," said Ian Haysom, news director of Global BC.

"Everyone at the station, from our anchors to technical staff, will be involved at every level.

The campaign aims to build a new acute-care centre, while relocating childhood development and rehabilitation services from Sunny Hill

Health Centre in east Vancouver to the Oak Street home of B.C. Children's.

"The needs of children requiring medical care in B.C. have outgrown the existing hospital's facilities," said Sue Carruthers, president and chief executive of B.C. Children's Hospital.

The hospital, which first opened its doors in 1982, treated 72,000 children last year.

To make a donation, visit <http://www.bcchf.ca/campaign-forbcchildren> or call 1-877-977-HERO (4376) or 604-333-5417.

— Staff Reporter, with a file from Canwest News Service

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For Global BC (www.globaltvbc.com)