

VGHI+



We  Cancer

Thanks to you, we are **Greater Than Cancer**
Impact Report 2026

VGHI+
UBC hospital
foundation

VGH+You

Two years ago, philanthropists like you rallied behind our **Greater Than Cancer** campaign to galvanize cancer diagnostic, surgical care and innovation at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH).

Today, we celebrate the power of your impact, which helped raise **\$39 Million+** so that patients across BC get the best chance of living long, healthy lives alongside their loved ones, despite their cancer diagnosis. This is the power of plus, where philanthropists, physicians, researchers and the hospital come together to rewrite the cancer journey for patients and get them on a smoother path to recovery sooner.

This is VGH+ You in action to build a future that is Greater Than Cancer.

We are delighted to share some of the milestones of this journey with you and celebrate what you made possible thanks to your generosity.



+Angela Chapman
President & CEO
VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation

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Enhanced Diagnostics

When it comes to cancer, a fast, accurate and precise diagnosis is imperative to ensure patients get the right treatment at the right time to save their lives. In BC, such sensitive diagnoses are provided by the Anatomical Pathology Lab at VGH, which is the largest and busiest lab of its kind in Western Canada. Your generosity through the campaign has propelled the automation of the lab to enhance its diagnostic capacity for the benefit of patients across our province.



+Dr. Michael Nimmo and team
Head, Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine, Vancouver Acute

With your support, the latest automated equipment and technologies are being installed in the lab to expedite the diagnostic process so that patients get the right treatment faster. Two brand-new automated instruments work in tandem, including running overnight, to process more tissue specimens than ever before and make these specimens available for diagnosis in record time. VGH is one of the first hospitals in Canada to acquire these machines and integrate them in the workplace.

“Thank you for putting VGH on the map and helping push clinical standards ever higher with your generosity, for the benefit of every patient in this province.”

Dr. Michael Nimmo
Head, Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine, Vancouver Acute

+The Auto Facing Device

Effortlessly trims 192 blocks of tissue each hour and quickly and precisely prepares them for loading onto the Autocutter.

+The Autocutter

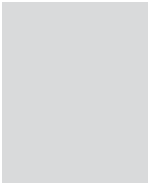
Uses lightning-fast “one-touch” cutting to slice, align and prepare tissue samples with uniform precision. Its automated, programmable features and capabilities are so new that the Diagnostic Accreditation Program of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC built a new standard to usher in its full accreditation in March 2026.



Donor funded Autocutter

The new automated workflow is a gamechanger for patients and the system. In its first year of operation, it will assume 50% of all non-complex tasks by the end of 2026 and free up technologists' time to dedicate their skills to more complex tasks. This in turn fuels the attraction, recruitment and retention of precious expertise at VGH in a competitive job market.

Before your campaign giving



50/hour

Manual, repetitive tasks

After your campaign giving



Up to 410/hour

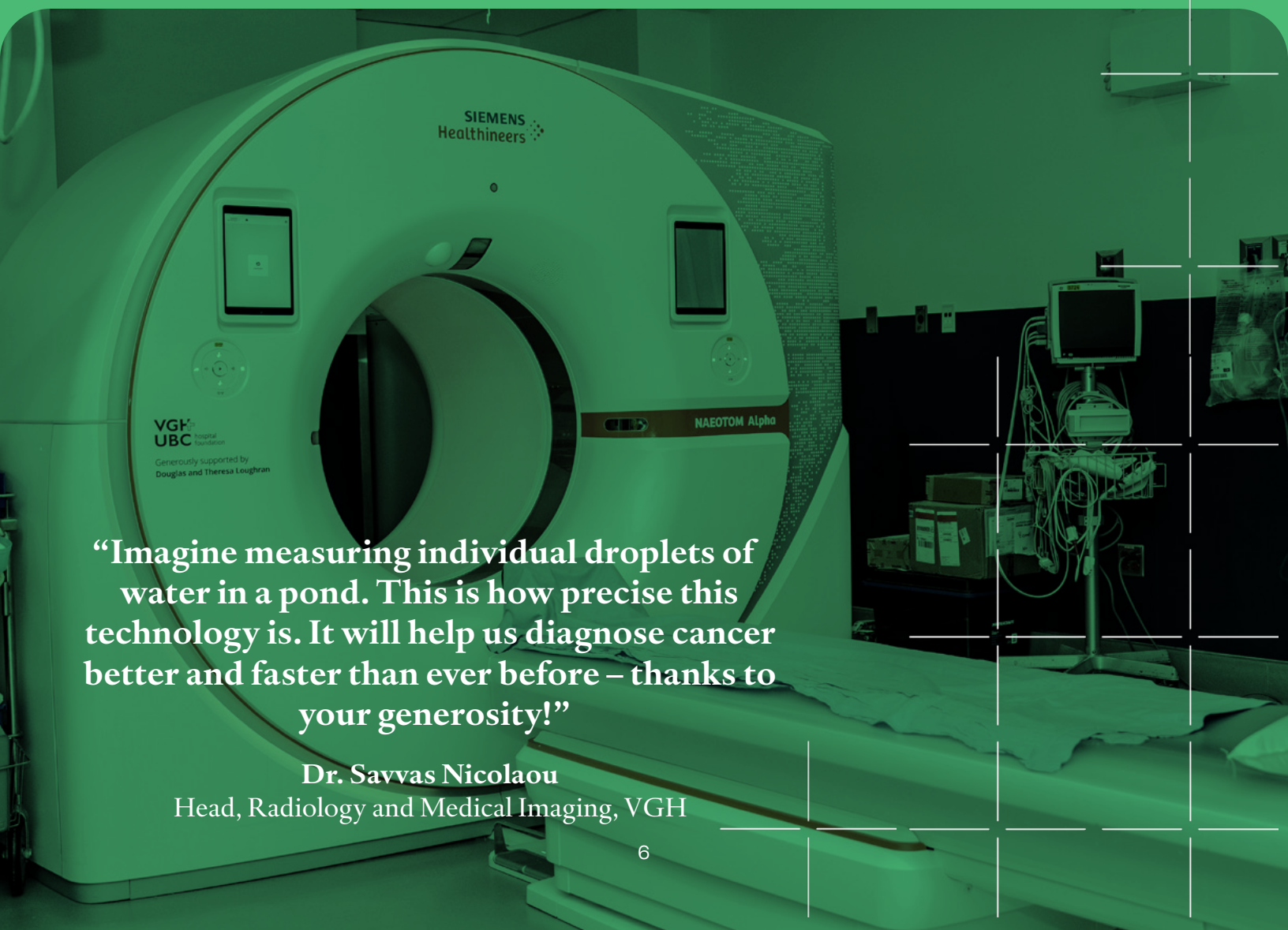
1.5 FTE to complex, high-value tasks



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Best for BC

Your generosity brought a **novel photon-counting CT scanner** to VGH in August 2025, already supporting more than 15,000 patients. VGH is now one of the first hospitals in Canada to deploy this revolutionary technology for earlier and more precise diagnoses and thus improve patient outcomes. The scanner rapidly produces images with an unmatched level of detail, revealing early signs of cancer and other diseases and traumatic injuries. Housed in the Emergency Department at VGH, where up to 50% of the most common cancers are diagnosed, it is expected to be one of the busiest CT scanners in Western Canada.



“Imagine measuring individual droplets of water in a pond. This is how precise this technology is. It will help us diagnose cancer better and faster than ever before – thanks to your generosity!”

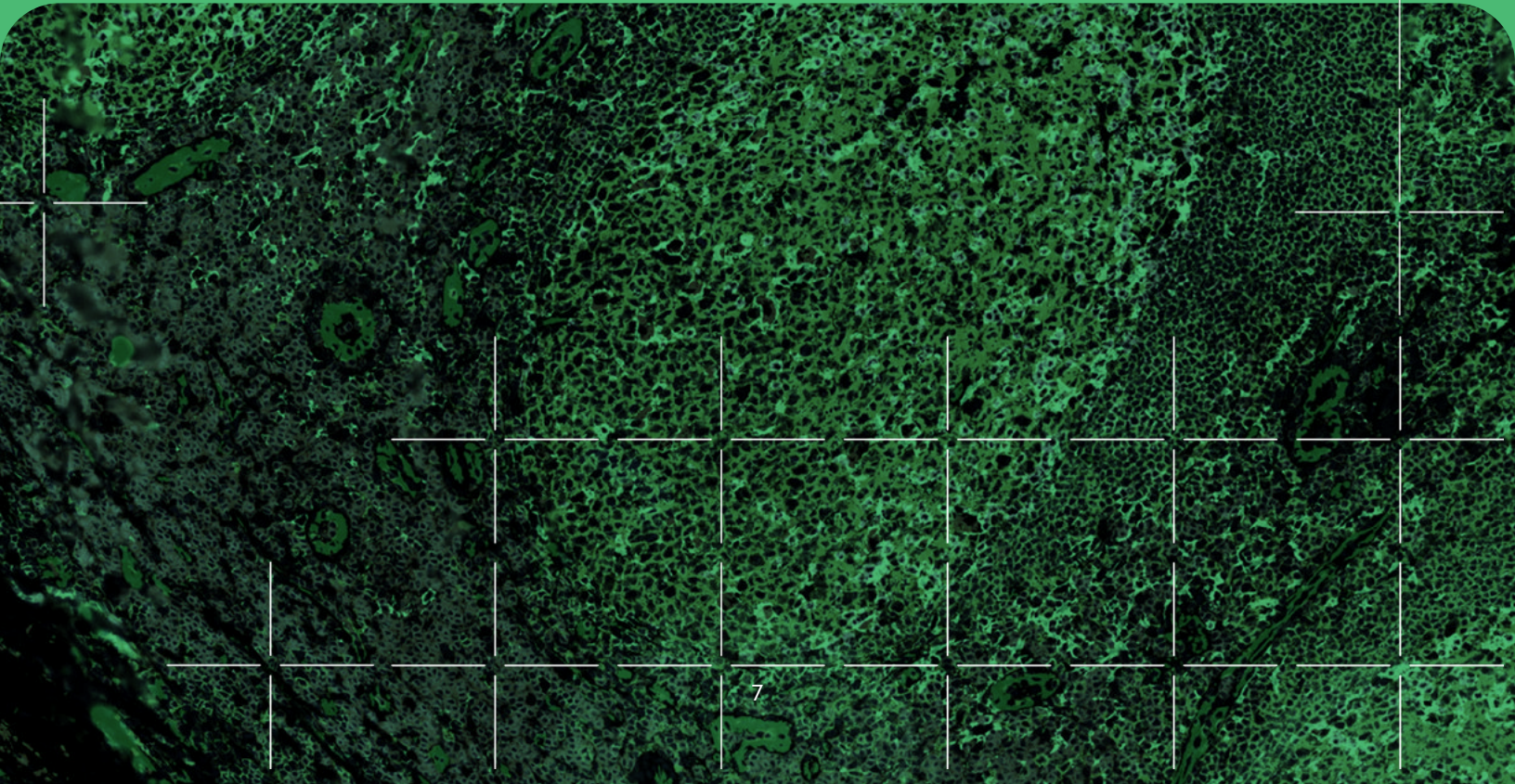
Dr. Savvas Nicolaou
Head, Radiology and Medical Imaging, VGH

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Transformed Spaces

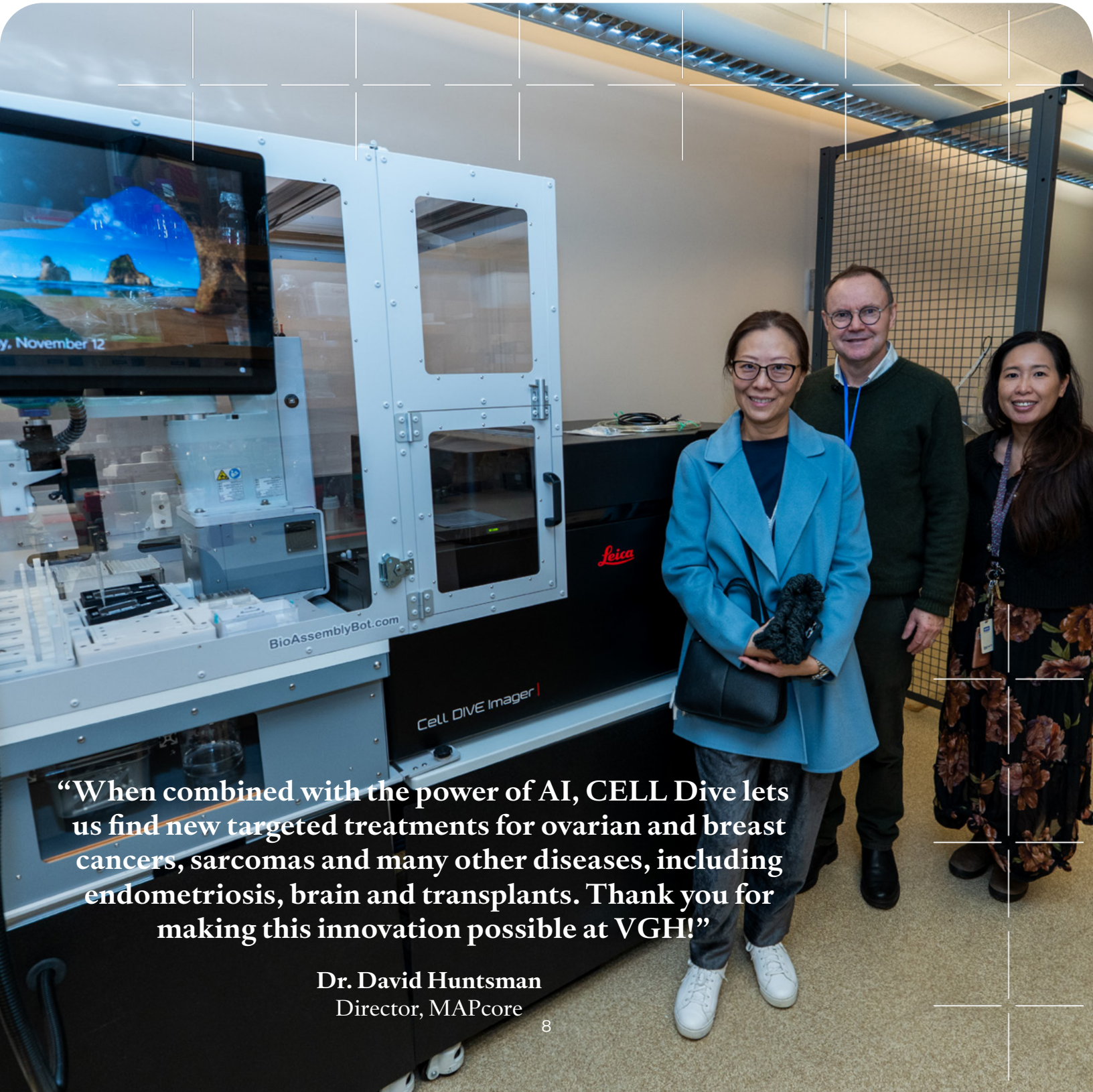
The Molecular and Advanced Pathology Core (MAPcore) lab on VGH campus is drawing on your support to build capacity for 21st century genomics and related biological research. This is how you help the lab translate novel discoveries into early detection, prevention and targeted treatment of cancer and other chronic diseases.

Your philanthropy introduced a **cutting-edge visualization technology to MAPcore** earlier this year. Called CELL Dive, this supercharged light microscope can examine over 40 proteins simultaneously instead of just one protein at a time. It lets researchers stain many different proteins on the same tumour tissue sample, visualize their complex cell-to-cell interactions in real time and target them with different therapies to pinpoint the most effective one to combat cancer.



Under the leadership of Dr. David Huntsman, the team leveraged the knowledge gained from CELL Dive to secure additional \$9M+ in grant funding, thus multiplying the impact of your giving many times over.

This breakthrough technology you funded also sets the stage for attracting, recruiting and retaining top talent to our hometown. It supports training the next generation of scientists for our country. And it ensures we have first-hand access to medical experts for generations to come.



“When combined with the power of AI, CELL Dive lets us find new targeted treatments for ovarian and breast cancers, sarcomas and many other diseases, including endometriosis, brain and transplants. Thank you for making this innovation possible at VGH!”

Dr. David Huntsman
Director, MAPcore

VGH+ Expert Surgical Care

For most cancers, surgery remains the main treatment modality to help save patient lives. And here in our home province, **VGH is the only place with the expertise to perform such complex and complicated life-saving surgeries.** Your philanthropic support of the campaign is boosting surgical expertise at VGH. It is putting high-end equipment into the hands of talented surgeons so they can do what they do best: save, extend and enhance quality of life for patients in their care.



Your giving is enhancing surgical care for brain cancer patients with:

+Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy (LITT laser)

Uses MRI-guided laser heat to precisely destroy brain tumours and help heal brain injuries from radiation (necrosis), as well as treat certain patients with epilepsy. It can reach areas that would have been thought too dangerous or impossible to reach until now. This is how patients recover faster and experience less pain than with traditional open craniotomy. The procedure also reduces their length of stay in the hospital, and overall risk of death. The first brain tumours case has already been completed with excellent success. The team aims to deliver 10-15 cases in the first year, with plans to expand to approximately 20 cases per year once the program matures.

+An advanced surgical microscope

Used during surgery to allow physicians to make more precise cuts and remove tumours with accuracy, while preserving critical brain structures. The equipment will be used daily to complete about 300 cases each year. Its benefits are leveraged with highly complex cases: tumours of the base of the skull (dissecting the tumour off the nerves and arteries of the base of the brain) and vascular neurosurgery cases (bypass surgery and aneurysm surgery).



Donor funded surgical microscope

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Only in BC

VGH is the only place in the province to provide complex spinal care. **Thanks to your giving, it is now one of the first hospitals in Canada to acquire the Mazor spine robot** for patients with cancers of the spine, spinal deformity, trauma and spinal cord injury. With this brand-new technology, surgeons create a 3D virtual blueprint of each patient's anatomy so they can have an unparalleled view of their surgical target area before the procedure even begins. Since going live in April 2025, the robot has helped 28 patients. It is so incredibly precise that outcomes are better, recoveries faster, wait times shorter, and patients suffer less pain and can go home sooner after surgery.

“This technology changed the story for our oncology patients: it helps us protect what matters most to them — their mobility, their safety, their future. Now they have a real chance at more years, more milestones, more life with the people they love. That’s the true power of your giving.”

Dr. Nicolas Dea

Head, Combined Neurosurgical & Orthopaedic Spine Program, VGH

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Improved Access to Care

Through your campaign giving, VGH is the first highly specialized (quaternary care) hospital in Canada to use novel **chemotherapy robots** to automate the process of delivering cancer treatments safely and accurately. The robots can prepare up to 12 medications at a time and are optimized for high volumes of therapeutics, delivering approximately 26,600 chemotherapy IV doses annually in combination with manual compounding.. This means that more patients than ever before have timely access to the treatment they need to save and extend their lives. The need for chemotherapy is expected to increase sharply in the coming years, as more therapies come to market that can reach more people.



The chemotherapy robots are self-cleaning, enhancing safety for both patients and staff by limiting their amount of exposure to hazardous chemicals. Just as crucial, the robots can determine how much is left in a vial, store it safely, and then compound formulations precisely while reducing drug waste. This process supports better environmental health while conserving drugs, some of which are in short supply.

“Thank you to our donors who helped us respond to the urgent need for better chemotherapy drug delivery across the province. You’re saving lives!”

Dr. Nilu Partovi
Director, Pharmacy Services, VGH

KIRO Oncology

inclusiv
compounding portfolio

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Innovation

Thanks to your campaign giving, VGH brings discoveries made in the lab right to the patient bedside. This is how patients across BC are the first to benefit from homegrown innovation that elevates standards of care here and across the world.

VGH is the hub where BC's most complex gynecologic cancer cases are treated, combining surgical expertise, and research innovation. And with your support, its world-class team of physician-scientists are saving more lives with their discoveries.



Precision oncology opens new treatments for more endometrial cancer patients

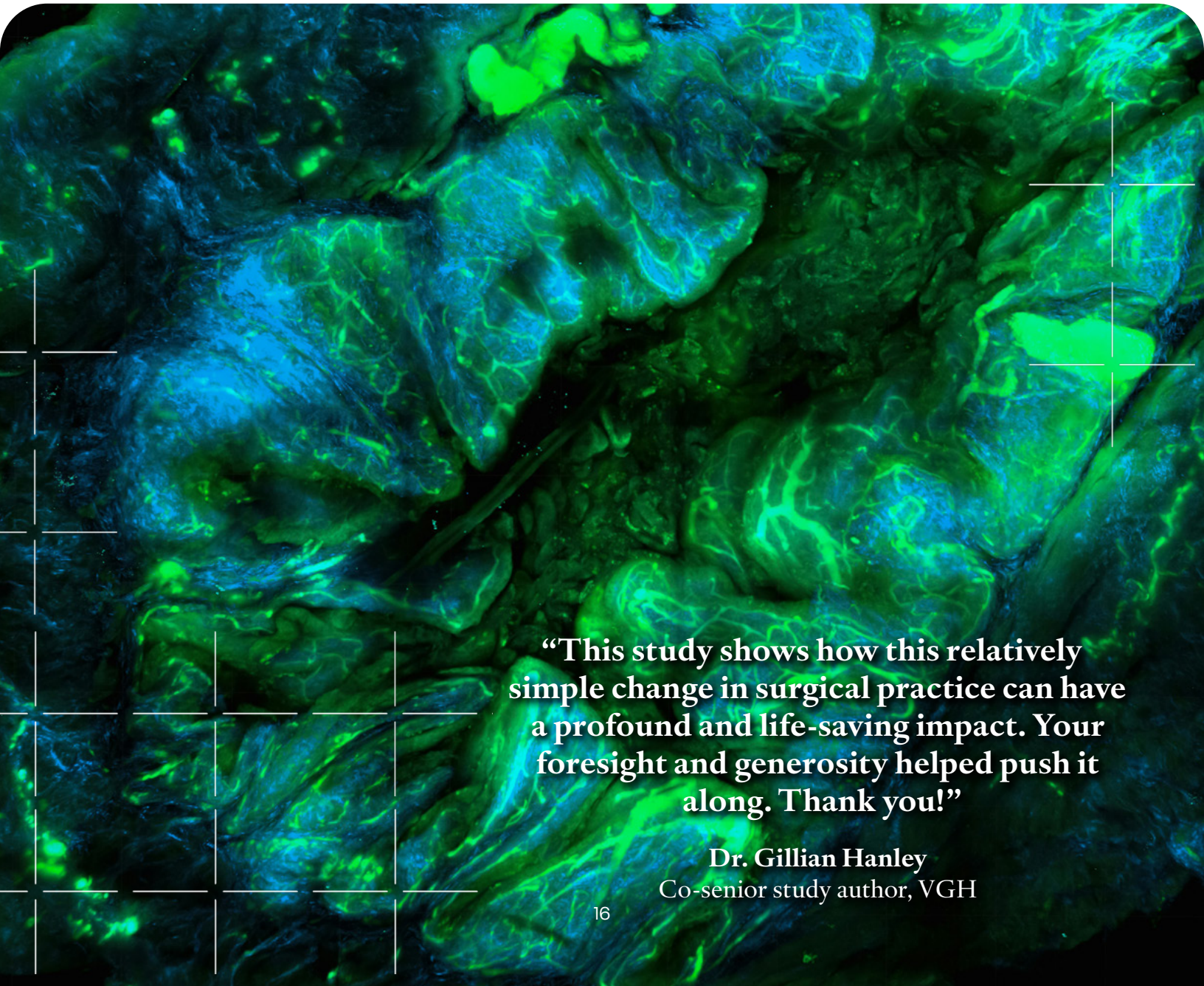
Dr. Jessica McAlpine leveraged previous donor support to develop the next iteration of ProMisE, an AI-enhanced molecular classification toolkit that recently uncovered a novel endometrial cancer subtype. This new version of ProMisE improves the precision of tumour characterization and supports the development of more targeted treatment. In 2026, with campaign support, diagnostic labs across the Lower Mainland will pilot this updated toolkit to strengthen the accuracy of diagnostic results. Together with new tumour biobanking protocols, ProMisE will sharpen ways to detect endometrial cancer and uncover hidden at-risk populations, no matter their ethnicity and where they live.



+Dr. Gillian Hanley
+Dr. Jessica McAlpine
+Dr. Amy Jamieson

Expanding life-saving ovarian cancer prevention strategy

A new study you supported is the first to quantify how much Opportunistic Salpingectomy (OS) reduces the risk of serous ovarian cancer—the most common and deadly subtype of the disease. Looking at health data for more than 85,000 people between 2008 and 2020, researchers found that patients who had OS were 78% less likely to develop serous ovarian cancer. In the rare cases where ovarian cancer occurred after OS, those cancers were more often those subtypes that do not arise in the fallopian tubes. On the heels of this study, BC recently became the first province to expand OS to routine surgeries performed by general and urologic surgeons through a project supported by the Government of BC and Doctors of BC. And more lives can be saved by amplifying study results worldwide.




“This study shows how this relatively simple change in surgical practice can have a profound and life-saving impact. Your foresight and generosity helped push it along. Thank you!”

Dr. Gillian Hanley
Co-senior study author, VGH

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First in the World

A new study led by Dr. Peter Black at VGH is the first to examine the complete and full set of proteins in muscle-invasive bladder cancers (MIBCs) before and after chemotherapy treatment. MIBCs are aggressive tumours that frequently spread to other parts of the body, such as bones, liver or lungs. If targeted with precise treatments, they can be stopped and cancer halted in its tracks.



“We have identified proteins that could help predict which MIBCs resist or respond to treatment, and why some types of MIBC react differently to chemotherapy, potentially leading to new targets for drug development.”

Dr. Peter Black
Director, Vancouver Prostate Centre

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Bold Leaders. Accelerating Breakthroughs

Since opening in June 2025 with your support, the Hematology Research Unit (HRU) at VGH is safely delivering new and promising treatments in a dedicated space. Many are first-of-their-kind therapies that give patients access to innovative options that are not widely available otherwise.

So far, 22 patients across 8 clinical trials benefited from:

- + New cellular therapies such as CAR-T cells
- + Early-stage drug development for acute myeloid leukemia (AML)
- + Bispecific antibodies
- + Targeted investigational drugs

In this dedicated space you helped build, patients move smoothly between dedicated inpatient beds and outpatient infusion spaces, and enjoy the benefits of improved communication among physicians, research coordinators and specially trained nurses. Your giving also helped attract and recruit a new Nurse Coordinator, who provides improved oversight of daily operations, supports staff development, and helps guide the continued growth of the program.



Impact:

- + Start treatments more quickly
- + Improve coordination across care teams
- + Maintain strong safety oversight
- + Provide consistent monitoring during all phases of treatment



+Dr. Yasser Abou Mourad
Head, Division of Hematology,
Department of Medicine, VGH



+Dr. Kevin Song
Medical Director, Hematology
Research Program, VGH



+Dr. Hannah Cherniawsky
Hematologist, Leukemia/BMT
Program of BC, VGH



+Dr. Florian Kuchenbauer
Medical Lead, HRU, VGH

Because of your support, patients have greater access to cutting-edge therapies close to home. The team attracts innovative new studies and continues growing its research program. This includes publications and conference presentations on optimal sequencing of anti-cancer therapies and managing complications in patients – prepared and delivered by Fellows supported by donors to the campaign.

And the HRU is helping lead new trials of cellular immune therapies beyond blood cancers to expand the impact of the unit and its leadership in early-phase research. Already, its success is serving as a model for additional units across campus.

“Your support has helped expand access to new therapies, advance first-in-class drug development, and create a strong foundation for the future of blood cancer research. We are grateful for your partnership and your commitment to improving patient care and advancing medical discovery.”

Dr. Florian Kuchenbauer
Medical Lead, HRU, VGH



Gratitude

Thank you for helping us reach our campaign goal and changing the treatment paradigm here at home, in Canada and beyond.

Your giving helped unite bold leaders, accelerate breakthroughs, transform spaces and improve access to care for all.

Campaign Cabinet



+Dr. Dianne Miller
Co-Chair



+Devi Sangara
Co-Chair



+Alice Chung
Vice-Chair

Campaign Members

- +Charlie Lamb
- +Genevieve Duford
- +Ian Storrs
- +Leslie Cannon

- +Rebecca Pang
- +Sherry Zamrou
- +Tony Geheran



The leading charity investing in
health care innovation in BC.

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