

## **City Proclaims February as Heart Month in Parksville**

**Parksville, BC** — The City of Parksville has proclaimed February as "Heart Month" in Parksville. Each year during February, the Heart and Stroke Foundation celebrates Heart Month by holding its person-to-person campaign, a concept adopted in British Columbia in the mid 1950s.

Since 1952, the Heart and Stroke Foundation funded research has been the engine driving relentless progress in heart disease and stroke prevention and care. Over the past six decades, almost \$1.4 billion has been invested into life-saving research which has revolutionized the prevention and treatment of heart disease and stroke. The impact of these advances has been extraordinary – a 75 percent reduction in the rate of death from heart disease and stroke. Despite that remarkable progress, the Foundation's work is more urgent than ever because heart disease and stroke still takes on life every seven minutes in Canada.

Each February, thousands of volunteers dedicate their time to canvass their neighbourhoods in the support of the Foundation's life-saving work. The funds collected support world class scientific research and education to prevent and reduce death and disability from heart disease and stroke.

February is recognized as Heart Month in Canada and at the request of Heart and Stroke Vancouver Island/Powell River/Gulf Islands, Mayor Marc Lefebvre has proclaimed February 2015 as Heart Month in Parksville. More information at <http://www.heartandstroke.bc.ca>

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**For more information:**

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