



CASE FOR SUPPORT

# *Creating a visionary hub for eye care*

Mount Saint Joseph's Eye Clinic renovation

# Transforming Eye Care Across Our Province

The Department of Ophthalmology at Providence Health Care delivers essential, life-changing surgical and clinical eye care to thousands of patients across our province. Today, our services operate from two sites: Mount Saint Joseph Hospital (MSJ) and St. Paul's Hospital (SPH).

MSJ is renowned for performing the highest number of cataract surgeries and corneal transplants in British Columbia. This year, we became the only hospital in North America to perform Osteo-Odonto Keratoprothesis surgery, otherwise known as OOKP or the tooth-in-eye surgery. This is a rare procedure that attracted international attention for its ability to restore sight for patients with a specific type of corneal blindness.

SPH is home to our outpatient clinics including the retinal clinic, neuro-ophthalmology clinic, multidisciplinary skull-based tumor clinic and the province's only uveitis clinic. It's also where our laser treatments and orthoptic services are located.

## The growing need

With all of our success comes operational challenges that hinder our ability to provide timely, efficient, and equitable care. The physical separation between clinical and surgical services slows collaboration and prolongs care for complex cases and limited space restricts urgent and specialized clinics from expanding to meet growing patient needs.

In addition, the lack of a coordinated intake process for cataract surgeries creates delays, increases patient burden, and limits access for marginalized populations.

These challenges directly impact patients waiting for care and highlight an urgent need for an expanded, integrated, and patient-centered space.



Outpatient visits at St. Paul's Hospital are projected to grow by **OVER 6% ANNUALLY** through 2026.



**More than 10,000 eye surgeries** were performed at Mount Saint Joseph Hospital last year alone.



**50% of all corneal transplants in BC** are performed at Mount Saint Joseph Hospital.





"The PHC Ophthalmology Department provides a comprehensive range of high volume surgical and clinical services to patients across the province. The new eye clinic will provide the clinical space required to enhance access to care, provide a hub for rapid assessment of urgent eye disease and ready availability of subspecialty care when required, and increase collaboration among surgeons, clinicians, and researchers on one coordinated site."

*Dr. David Albiani, Head, PHC Department of Ophthalmology*

## The solution

The redevelopment of the lower floor at MSJ will allow for the relocation of the ophthalmology outpatient clinics from SPH to MSJ, allowing seamless flow between surgery and outpatient care. This redevelopment will significantly enhance the quality, efficiency, and accessibility of regional ophthalmology care.

Our outpatient clinical capacity will be expanded to 17 fully equipped clinical spaces at MSJ, including consultation rooms, orthoptics and testing rooms, photo and laser rooms, minor procedure spaces, and dedicated areas for education, storage, reception, and patient waiting.

The renovation will also include state-of-the-art equipment as well as upgrading critical facility infrastructure, such as replacing the patient access elevator to improve accessibility.

**We are seeking \$7.4 million to build a fully integrated and world-class facility at MSJ that is aligned with the quality of care we provide.**

## Through your support we can:

- 1. Enhance patient experience** by reducing wait times and streamlining referrals, consultations, and surgeries through a unified intake system for cataract surgery.
- 2. Deliver coordinated, patient-centered care** by removing access barriers for patients with complex medical and social needs and providing dedicated multidisciplinary team spaces.
- 3. Increase surgical capacity** for minor oculoplastic and corneal procedures to address growing demand and reduce waitlists.
- 4. Strengthen educational opportunities** by establishing a premier teaching facility for fellows, residents, and medical students.
- 5. Improve access to urgent eye care** with a centralized hub for rapid assessment and specialized treatment.
- 6. Advance clinical research** by partnering with the new MSJ clinical trials unit to foster academic growth and innovation.

With your support, we can build the kind of innovative, efficient, and community-focused infrastructure that our public system currently cannot fund. Your gift will ensure that patients across British Columbia—including seniors, underserved communities, and those with complex needs—receive timely, life-changing eye care. It will also create a vital hub for the next generation of eye care leaders to advance research and innovation in ophthalmology.

**Together, we can invest in lasting legacy of hope, health, and vision for our entire province.**



### **St. Paul's Foundation**

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We acknowledge with gratitude that Providence Health Care and St. Paul's Foundation work and provide care on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

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