Red Deer Regional health foundation

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Electronic Fetal Monitoring project receives grant funding from Sandra Schmirler Foundation

RED DEER: Red Deer Regional Health Foundation (RDRHF) is pleased to announce a substantial funding commitment of $10,000 for the Electronic Fetal Monitoring (EFM) project at Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre from the Sandra Schmirler Foundation.

“We want all babies born too soon, too small or too sick to have the chance to grow up and be champions,” says Ian Cunningham, Chair of the Sandra Schmirler Foundation board. “The reason we exist is to honour Sandra's legacy and to remember her by raising funds to donate to NICUs and hospitals. This grant to Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre is the best part of what we do! It's very rewarding for us to be able to support the purchase of this crucial piece of equipment for their NICU.”

Fetal heart rates are monitored during pregnancy, labour and birth to assess the baby’s wellbeing. Currently, fetal heart rate tracings are captured through bedside monitors that print paper records and can only be viewed while at the machine. This grant will move us one step closer to obtaining the technology for electronic fetal monitoring, which will allow for digital records, preset alarms, and a reduced risk of user error through the elimination of the paper-based system.

The grant was to coincide with a Pinty’s Grand Slam of Curling event presented by Sportsnet. The Humpty's Champion Cup event was scheduled to take place in Olds this April but due to COVID-19 has been moved to the curling bubble in Calgary. Even though the event, which provided a fundraising opportunity for the Sandra Schmirler Foundation, was relocated, the Foundation honoured its commitment to the host cities of Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling events. This grant brings the total amount provided to hospitals in Alberta by the Sandra Schmirler Foundation to over $600,000.

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