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Women's club supports health care

Pelvic Floor Clinic receives \$30,000 donation

Members of the Canadian Progress Club – Calgary Wild Rose recently donated \$30,000 to the Pelvic Floor Clinic at the Grace Women's Health Centre.

The donation, made through the Calgary Health Trust, filled Dr. Magali Robert with gratitude.

"Every time I hear of someone making a donation to the Pelvic Floor Clinic it always amazes me how far we've come," said Dr. Robert, Divisional Chief for the Division of Urogynecology in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Medical Director for the Pelvic Floor Clinic.

In 2004, the Pelvic Floor Clinic at the Grace Women's Health Centre was renovated and expanded to better serve the more than 300,000 women within southern Alberta and south-eastern British Columbia suffering from pelvic floor disorders.

Women's health is an area close to the hearts of the 18-member club. "As a group of women, it makes sense to support women's health initiatives in our community. We have mothers, sisters and daughters and we want to ensure that they have access to the very best health care possible," explained Calgary Wild Rose president Patti Nolan.

Funds raised this year, through a casino, will go towards the purchase of an EMG / Biofeedback modality for the Pelvic Floor Clinic. This technology will help patients retrain the pelvic floor while enabling the physiotherapist to view the impact of stimulation.

Supporting women's health initiatives in



Paul Rotzinger photo

Calgary Health Region and Health Trust staff receive a cheque from Patti Nolan, President of the Canadian Progress Club – Calgary Wild Rose. From left to right: Laily Pirbhai, Director of Development Calgary Health Trust, Brenda Fischer, Vice President Child & Women's Health Portfolio, Dr. Magali Robert, Divisional Chief for the Division of Urogynecology in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Medical Director for the Pelvic Floor Clinic and Patti Nolan.

Calgary has been the focus of the club's fundraising efforts in recent years. They have helped fund new ultrasound technology, blood pressure monitors for obstetrics and gynecology and outreach programming for marginalized women living in our community.

"A lot of organizations support the popular charities and although they're important, we wanted to support an area of care that wasn't as high profile and therefore could really benefit from our giving."

There are seven Progress Clubs in Calgary with a membership of approximately 250 volunteers. Each chapter has its own distinct personality and chooses the organizations they feel strongly about supporting.

In 2004 alone, Progress Clubs in Calgary donated over \$1 million in support of charitable organizations in our community.

Kelly Brownlee
Calgary Health Trust