

## FACT SHEET



**Providence Health Care** is a world-class, faith-based health care organization, encompassing six sites whose programs and services span the complete continuum of care. Two hospitals, St. Paul's and Mount Saint Joseph, perform surgery – 21,000 cases annually. St. Paul's, located in the Vancouver city core, provides high-acuity, tertiary level surgical services in a 12-room OR. Mount Saint Joseph, 5 km away, provides community-level surgical services in 4 ORs and also houses Providence Health Care's Ophthalmology Program in three newly built procedure rooms. These sites function as a single Surgical Program and many surgeons operate at both sites.

Providence is renowned for its research in more than 30 clinical specialties, and is a provincial referral center for specialty surgical services in virtually all surgical specialties. And while large enough to support the most advanced medical technologies, it remains in spirit a patient-focused, community-oriented organization that values leadership, independent thinking and courageous choices.

Providence employs about 5,300 full-time, part-time and casual staff – about 500 are in the Surgical Program. About 1,500 physicians have privileges at one or more sites, including approximately 100 surgeons. Teaching and research are conducted in affiliation with the University of British Columbia.

In order to renew and redevelop health care services for the new century, PHC has developed an enterprising plan called the Legacy Project. This project includes the renewal of St. Paul's Hospital and will establish a state-of-the-art acute, research and teaching facility in the heart of Vancouver.

### The Surgical Program specializes in:

**Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery:** including endoscopic sinonasal surgery and specialized otologic surgery such as cochlear implants

**Cardiovascular / Thoracic Surgery:** full spectrum of cardiac surgery services ranging from platform to tertiary to quaternary

procedures including open heart procedures and heart transplants

**General Surgery:** laparoscopic colorectal surgery, adrenal surgery, and specialized parathyroid and thyroid procedures

**Gynecology:** a wide range of services including support to Providence's Maternity Program, the only tertiary-level obstetrical program in the province

**Ophthalmology:** a tertiary center for corneal transplants and retinal surgery, Providence has one of the largest ophthalmology programs in Canada. More than 5,000 cataract surgeries are performed annually, many under nursing-administered conscious sedation

**Orthopaedics:** includes tertiary subspecialty services offered in foot and ankle surgery, hand and wrist surgery, hip and knee arthroplasty and lower limb osteotomy

**Plastic Surgery:** hand and wrist reconstruction and breast reconstruction are among our tertiary-level specialty services

**Urological Surgery:** including laparoscopic donor nephrectomies for living related donor nephrectomy – we have the largest renal transplant program in the province

**Vascular Surgery:** including Aortic endografting for abdominal aneurysms and carotid stenting

**Our Facilities** include 99 surgical beds (25 at Mount Saint Joseph + 74 at St. Paul's, including 24 orthopedic beds). There is also a 25-bed Cardiac Surgery unit that is managed by the Cardiac Program.

### Nursing Excellence:

In addition to an extensive orientation and mentorship program for new employees, Providence Health Care encourages and supports education for nursing staff. PHC provides a 100%-funded, 6-month full-time Perioperative Nursing Program – one of only 3 programs accredited in Canada. Beginning in 2006, Providence is providing clinical experience for LPNs taking a perioperative nursing course.

Clinical support includes Clinical Nurse Leaders on each unit, as well as Nurse Educators (in the OR, recovery room and inpatient units), Clinical Nurse Specialists, and a Nurse Practitioner in Orthopaedics. Each area is lead by an Operations Leader, all of whom have nursing backgrounds. There is strong intra-Program and inter-Program collaboration, with many nursing support positions covering both the Mount Saint Joseph and St. Paul's Hospital sites.

### Providence Health Care

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