

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## TWO DONORS LEAVE \$3.8 MILLION IN THEIR WILLS

**Victoria** – Rob Gareau, Board Chair for Victoria Hospice, announced today that Victoria Hospice has received two of the largest gifts in its 36-year history totaling more than \$3.8 million dollars – the equivalent of a stretch of loonies all the way from Victoria to Nanaimo.

The first donation came in May 2016 – **\$1.4 million** from the estate of **Judy Kedwell**. Less than two months later the second gift arrived – **\$2.4 million** from the estate of **Lloyd A. Barrett**.

*“Today Victoria Hospice celebrates two gifts from ordinary Victorians who have each made an extraordinary contribution to end-of-life care for our community,”* noted Mischelle vanThiel, Victoria Hospice CEO.

### About Lloyd A. Barrett

Lloyd was a reporter for the Victoria Times Colonist. Lloyd and his wife, Mary, were private, frugal people who lived simple lives. They enjoyed boating and gardening. Next to the Toronto Blue Jays, Lloyd’s favourite interest was investing in the stock market.

Tragically, Lloyd and Mary lost their only son in an accident. Mary died in 2011 and asked that donations be given to her charity of choice, Victoria Hospice. Lloyd died in 2014 at the age of 91.

Lloyd’s belief in the importance of palliative care increased as he began to lose more and more family and friends to age and illness. His \$2.4 million legacy is a gift to the entire community because it will help Victoria Hospice expand access to palliative care.

### About Judy Kedwell

Judy Kedwell has been described as ‘kinetic energy personified.’ She was a successful financial planning professional, an outstanding golfer, an avid traveller and a lover of animals.

When Judy was in hospital for surgery, a nurse asked if she would like to have her hair washed. Judy was overcome by the nurse’s kindness and asked her where she got her training. “At Victoria Hospice, under the direction of some amazing nurses,” she replied. Her compassionate gesture and Judy’s later care from Victoria Hospice staff prompted Judy to leave a legacy to Victoria Hospice in her Will.

Judy died in 2015 at the age of 70 following a seven-year battle with cancer. She asked that her legacy be used to provide more accessible pain and symptom management for Victoria Hospice patients. The community will benefit from Judy’s generosity.

**Victoria Hospice’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for those facing advancing illness, death and bereavement through skilled and compassionate care, education, research and advocacy.**

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