

For Immediate Release | June 18, 2009

## New Lions Gate Maternity Clinic opens today

- To better integrate and enhance prenatal, postnatal and newborn care on the North Shore, Lions Gate Hospital is opening a new maternity clinic today, made possible by a \$200,000 donation from the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation.
- The Lions Gate Maternity Clinic has been providing prenatal, postnatal and newborn care for North Shore families from its East 13<sup>th</sup> St. location since 1998.
- Clinic physicians typically deliver between 500 and 600 babies per year at LGH, or about one-third of the total births at the hospital.
- LGH offered to provide the Lions Gate Maternity Clinic with space within the hospital, in close proximity to its perinatal and pediatric departments.
- Providing the Lions Gate Maternity Clinic with space at LGH will ensure a sustainable maternity practice on the North Shore that will serve families and the LGH medical community. It will also allow for continued UBC-affiliated medical student teaching.
- Renovations were required to develop clinical exam and office space, a reception area and expanded patient waiting area. The costs were covered by a \$200,000 donation from the Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation.
- The new clinic location will:
  - Provide a progressive model of maternity care, where physicians work together collaboratively to ensure patients have access to a family practice obstetrician.
  - Allow Lions Gate Maternity Clinic physicians to provide surgical assistance to LGH obstetricians for both elective and emergency caesarean deliveries for non-LGMC patients on a 24/7 on-call basis.
  - Allow Lions Gate Maternity Centre physicians to provide day and evening obstetrical coverage for family physicians who may have commitments requiring them to leave the North Shore, and so not be able to get to the hospital at a moment's notice to deliver a baby.
  - Ensure a high level of continuous care to babies and their mothers during the perinatal and postnatal periods.
  - Integration of the clinic into the hospital setting will also allow Lions Gate Maternity Clinic physicians to better provide office and bedside maternity care and teaching sessions for medical students.

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