

## Stollery Children's Hospital Visit by Shirley Adam

Recently the Odd Fellow Rebekah Visual Research Foundation of Alberta donated \$40,000 to the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton. During a tour for the Visual Research Foundation on April 15, 2016, through the newly renovated state of the art Pediatric Ophthalmology Clinic, Dr. Carlos Eduardo Solarte demonstrated the new equipment that was purchased. Shirley Adam, Chairman of the Foundation, Gail Black and Sheila Dougan were amazed with the equipment and the lovely new examining rooms at the Stollery Ophthalmology Clinic.

New computerized units used for pediatric visual function tests have elevated the standards of vision care. Vision tests are displayed on a screen mounted on the wall. Different pictures and shapes in a variety of sizes can be shown on the screen. The child is given a printed plastic card with the different shapes on it. The child can then point to the guide showing what they see on the screen. The remote control unit gives the doctor a variety of testing methods with the ability of changing the images and sizes on the screen. The unit can also switch to four different video clips, including, the Muppets and Minions, in order to hold the child's fixation while assessing and testing are being done.

The Stollery is a hospital within a hospital at the University of Alberta, providing care for children. Patients come from all over northern Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the far North. The Stollery is a world class teaching hospital with 225 beds including 110 critical care beds. The Stollery is the only Children's Hospital in Western Canada accredited with the highest level of quaternary care. The only other Children's Hospitals in Canada with this rating are Sick Kids in Toronto and the Montreal Children's Hospital.

The newly renovated, customized, Pediatric Ophthalmology Clinic has ten examination rooms that are exactly twenty feet in length and are exactly alike in size and fitted with the same equipment. This standardization makes testing and care of the patients much easier for the doctors and staff of the unit. This unit handles 1,000 patients per month. The new Ophthalmology Clinic has moved the bar to even higher standards in visual care and research for children. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Alberta are proud to be a part of the much needed changes at the Stollery.

Rockyview Eye Clinic  
by Shirley Adam

During the Grand Banquet at annual sessions of the Odd Fellow and Rebekah Lodges, in St Albert, on April 16, 2016 a cheque presentation was made. The Odd Fellow Rebekah Visual Research Foundation of Alberta presented a cheque in the amount of \$25,000 to the Rockyview Eye Clinic in Calgary. This donation will go toward their Slit Lamp Upgrade Program. Accepting the donation from Shirley Adam, Chairman of the Foundation were Eman Safadi, Development Officer, Carewest and Shone Thistle, Rockyview Development Officer.

The Rockyview Eye Clinic sees over 32,000 patients and performs over 110,000 procedures per year. Over the last five years they have seen an increase in patient referrals of 25%. The Rockyview Eye Clinic is the home to the University of Calgary Ophthalmology Residency Program with eight residents currently enrolled in the program. The Eye Clinic also provides teaching to non-ophthalmology students, including medical clerks, family medicine residents and emergency medicine residents in rotation during their training.

Since its inception in 1984 the Odd Fellow Rebekah Visual Research Foundation of Alberta has donated a total of \$686,000 to hospitals and clinics throughout the province for the purchase of vision related equipment. The Foundation also has endowments at the Universities of Calgary and Alberta for visual research. The Odd Fellows and Rebekah Lodges of Alberta continue to donate toward the fight against vision loss.