



# Starlite

EKFH

***Dear Friend of the East Kootenay Foundation for Health,***

Take a moment to reflect...has there ever been a time that you or a loved one has had to wait on lab results for a medical condition? Days can seem like weeks and weeks can seem like months. Were you aware that our medical laboratories supply 70% of the information that guides patient screening, diagnosis, treatment and eventual outcomes? You may not immediately think of diagnostic lab work when you think of saving patients' lives.

**The Medical Laboratories in our hospitals and health care centres really are the heartbeat of our healthcare system. Currently there is over \$1Million in laboratory equipment needs in the East Kootenay. Our 2018 Starlite Campaign is focused on funding the 7 laboratories in the East Kootenay Region. This includes the East Kootenay Regional Hospital, Creston Valley Hospital, Elk Valley Hospital, Invermere and District Hospital, Golden and District Hospital, and the Sparwood and Elkford Health Care Centres.**

Dr. Lowden, Dr. Corkill, Dr. Nolan, and Dr. Robertson are Pathologists at the East Kootenay Regional Hospital. They believe that acquiring new and updated diagnostic equipment will drastically improve patient care throughout our East Kootenay Region.

**"The life expectancy of most lab equipment is 4-7 years, but much of ours is pushing 15-20 years," said Lowden. "Huge advances in laboratory medicine have been made in this time, with vast improvements to diagnostic instruments. Equipping our labs with state-of-the-art technology will significantly impact the healthcare of thousands of East Kootenay residents. Rapid processing and increased automation will allow for better efficiency and faster results, so your loved one can get the care they need when they need it. Expanded test menus will mean finding the right answers for complex conditions such as autoimmune disorders, and smaller sample sizes will mean less blood is needed from vulnerable populations such as children and seniors. Leading-edge tools will allow us to maintain the highest diagnostic standards, so you can sleep soundly when your doctor says, "The tests came back normal, everything looks fine."**

On behalf of East Kootenay Foundation for Health, I invite you to power our labs with Starlite! We need your support to make major improvements in our medical laboratories. To help, we invite you to make a holiday gift to the EKFH, purchase a star and light the way to help the East Kootenay region become a leader in health care. Spread the word, donate and become a champion for health care. Together we can change lives!

**With sincere appreciation,**



Brenna Baker  
Executive Director

P.s. Please remember that a donation is tax-deductible. A postage paid return envelope is included for your convenience, or donate online at **[www.ekfh.ca](http://www.ekfh.ca)**.