

Pacific HeartBeat

INFORMATION SHEET

A message to persons dealing with Open Heart Surgery

Dear Friends,

As members of the Pacific Open Heart Association (POHA) we would like to explain the association's mission and goal.

We have all undergone open heart surgery and we can offer positive moral support and encouragement during the sometimes bewildering period before and after your surgery.

Experience shows that both the patient and family benefit from seeing and chatting with an "open heartier."

One of our members will be pleased to answer your questions and direct you to services to help you.

Please remember that our team members are volunteers. They are not qualified to give medical advice. If you have any specific medical concerns, you should direct them to the hospital staff.

History of the Pacific Open Heart Association

The Pacific Open Heart Association, a registered charity, was founded in 1986 and incorporated in 1988 under the B.C. Societies Act. Our members come from British Columbia and the Yukon.

Our membership has persons from all walks of life who share a common bond—a "renewed life" after open heart surgery.

The Pacific Open Heart Association encourages you to become a member for only ten dollars by returning the form with your payment.

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to support the Pacific Open Heart Association in assisting cardiac departments in British Columbia hospitals. Tax receipts will be mailed to donors.

POHA VISITOR NAME:

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____



**PACIFIC
OPEN HEART
ASSOCIATION**

<https://www.pacificopenheart.org>

We offer a hospital visitation program comprised of team members who visit patients during their hospitalization. It began at the open heart surgery hospitals—St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver General Hospital and Royal Columbian Hospital and was expanded to "feeder" hospitals in the lower mainland of British Columbia for patients awaiting transfer for open heart surgery.

Our visitation teams meet with about fifty patients per week. The cardiac surgeons, cardiologists and nursing staff at the hospitals we visit, endorse our visitation program and report beneficial results for patients and their families.

Aims of the Pacific Open Heart Association

- To assist in the encouragement and preparation of patients about to have open heart surgery and to encourage and support patients and their families after surgery.
- To bring together people who have had open heart surgery through our *Pacific HeartBeat* newsletter, Facebook, website, AGM and annual golf tournament.
- To seek funds from various sources, including donations, to promote patient education by way of take-home information.
- To help the hospitals to provide needed materials which improve patient care and/or comfort.

YES! I WISH TO JOIN THE PACIFIC OPEN HEART ASSOCIATION

I ENCLOSE \$10 ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP \$20 TWO-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

DONATION AMOUNT (OPTIONAL) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL CODE _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

SURGERY HOSPITAL _____

I AM ALSO INTERESTED IN: BEING A VISITOR THE POHA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Please mail cheque to:
Pacific Open Heart Association, PO Box 45001, Ocean Park PO, Surrey, B.C., V4A 9L1.

Payment via e-Transfer can be sent to etransfer@pacificopenheart.org.
In the message area please specify "membership."