

PRESS RELEASE**Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation once again pledges net proceeds from 50/50 raffle to support hospital staff via Operation Frontline Impact***January 25, 2022*

EDMONTON, AB—Today, the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation and Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation (EOCF) are proud to announce additional support for Alberta’s frontline workers. The EOCF has—for the second time—decided to donate the net proceeds from the EOCF 50/50 raffle toward Operation Frontline Impact. The designated progressive raffle spans two Oilers games occurring between January 25 and 27, 2022.

Operation Frontline Impact is made up of 39 hospital foundations across Alberta and was created to address the emergent needs of hospital staff. The funds raised will help provide our province’s frontline healthcare workers with increased access to mental health and wellness resources, counselling services, basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing, as well as furniture, equipment and other essential items necessary for preserving mental and physical health.

Last May, the EOCF donated proceeds from a similar 50/50 raffle occurring in the first round of the 2021 Stanley Cup Playoffs. The amount raised totaled \$2.2 million, which was shared amongst Operation Frontline Impact’s 39 hospital foundations. The upcoming progressive 50/50 raffle opens at 9 AM MT on January 25 and closes on January 27 at 11 PM, during which the Oilers will play the Vancouver Canucks and the Nashville Predators.

“The Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation (EOCF) is proud to join forces with 39 hospital foundations across Alberta to support the true heroes of this pandemic—healthcare professionals,” said Corey Smith, Board Chair, Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation. “We are excited to announce that the net proceeds from the EOCF progressive 50/50 raffle from January 25 to 27 will go to Operation Frontline Impact to address the emergent needs of frontline healthcare staff. We encourage all Albertans to get your 50/50 tickets and help support the people who have sacrificed so much to support us throughout this pandemic.”

“We are beyond grateful for the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, their ongoing partnership, and of course this meaningful commitment to continue supporting Operation Frontline Impact,” said Sharlene Rutherford, President and CEO of the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation, the foundation that has spearheaded bringing Operation Frontline Impact together. “It is this sort of decision that sends a clear signal to Albertans that we will be unrelenting in our effort to help sustain the exhausted staff who have been working extra hours to cover their colleagues and continue providing life-saving care for Albertans through this, the fifth wave of the pandemic.”

The support comes at a much-needed time, as ICUs across the province hover around three-quarters occupancy—and would be over capacity if not for additional surge beds and necessary measures taken to expand intake. According to recent statistics, more Albertans are in hospital with COVID-19 than at any other point of the pandemic, and we extend our continued gratitude to Alberta Health Services for the extraordinary efforts taken to carry us through this crisis as safely and effectively as possible.

Please join us in supporting Operation Frontline Impact by purchasing your 50/50 tickets. For tickets and info, visit EdmontonOilers.com/5050. Sales will be open between 9 AM MT on January 25 and 11 PM MT on January 27.

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About the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation

Established in 1984, the Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation is committed to supporting improved healthcare outcomes for the hundreds of thousands of people who seek treatment at the Royal Alexandra Hospital every year. The Foundation funds advanced education, cutting-edge research, next-generation technologies and facility enhancements. It also supports specialized centres of healthcare excellence located at the Royal Alexandra Hospital campus, including the Lois Hole Hospital for Women, the CK Hui Heart Centre, the Orthopedic Surgery Centre and the Eye Institute of Alberta.

Stay up to date with RAHF news at royalalex.org. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram [@RAHFoundation](https://www.instagram.com/RAHFoundation)

About the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation

The Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation (EOCF) is a proud supporter of Oil Country and has been contributing to our community's success since 2001. With a focus on programs aimed at those most vulnerable in our community, especially in Edmonton's downtown, and youth hockey programming with a goal to increase participation of under-represented groups in our community, the Oilers Foundation is dedicated to building strong, vibrant and safe communities by demonstrating philanthropic leadership and continues its deep legacy of giving back.

Thanks to the generosity of our valued hockey fans, Oilers players and alumni, the EOCF Board of Directors, Oilers Entertainment Group (OEG) employees and the Katz Family, the Foundation has contributed over \$66 million to charitable organizations and minor hockey programs across Oil Country since 2001.

For more information, visit OilersFoundation.ca