



BC Children's Hospital, an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority, provides expert care for the province's most seriously ill or injured children, including newborns and adolescents. BC Children's is an academic health centre affiliated with the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and the Child & Family Research Institute. For more information, please visit www.bcchildrens.ca.

The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) plans, manages and evaluates selected specialty and province-wide health care services across BC, working with the five geographic health authorities to deliver province-wide solutions that improve the health of British Columbians. For more information, please visit www.phsa.ca.

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MEDIA RELEASE

December 5, 2008
For immediate release

Statement issued on behalf of the parents of motor vehicle accident victims

Vancouver, B.C. – On behalf of the family of Andrew, Matthew, and Karl, admitted to BC Children's Hospital on November 29 after a motor vehicle accident, BC Children's would like to issue the following statement from the boys' father:

"On behalf of my wife, children and family, I'd like to express my deepest appreciation for all the good wishes and prayers for us from so many people. Nothing I could say or do could adequately express my admiration and gratitude to the first responders at the scene of the accident, the doctors and nurses at both Royal Columbian and BC Children's hospitals for every effort made to care for my wife, sons, and relatives. The respect and tenderness shown to Andrew and Matthew even after their deaths moved me deeply and was a great comfort to my wife and me.

Thank you, too, to the priests who anointed and blessed our sons. Our faith has strengthened and consoled my wife and me for the loss of our dear boys, Andrew and Matthew, and has helped us to be strong for our surviving boys, Lorenzo and Karl, who continues to recover with the loving care of the nurses in the ICU in Children's Hospital. Karl's condition is serious, but his improvement is encouraging and fills us with hope for his future.

My wife and I would also like to thank Ocean View Burial Park for their compassion and generosity.

Please continue to pray for my mother-in-law and her sister in critical condition in Royal Columbia Hospital.

Andrew and Matthew are gone, but just from our sight. One day, with God's grace, I hope to be with them again. Thank you and God bless."

Karl remains in serious condition in BC Children's Hospital: his vital signs may be unstable and not within normal limits; he is acutely ill and indicators remain questionable.

The family also wishes to thank BC Transplant for their support, and says it has been a great comfort and joy to know that as organ donors Andrew and Matthew have helped others live and made a difference to a number of families.

The family is asking the media to please respect their privacy over the weekend, so they can concentrate on coping with this tragic situation. They will not be granting any interviews.

A trust fund has been set up for the family with HSBC in the name of the family's church, St. Francis of Assisi. Donations may be made at any Lower Mainland HSBC branch. Cheques should be made out to St. Francis of Assisi church, account number 270-324062-080.

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Note to editors: Photos of Andrew and Matthew are available by contacting Public Affairs & Communications, BC Children's Hospital at paqc@cw.bc.ca or 604-875-2301.

Questions regarding the ongoing investigation should be directed to the RCMP:
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