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## Media Advisory

### Early literacy program expanding to the Grey Nuns and Misericordia Hospitals NICU

Covenant Health, Edmonton Public Library expanding Welcome Baby resources

**EDMONTON, AB, Sept. 6, 2019** – Join the Edmonton Public Library (EPL) and Covenant Health hospitals for an update on how their partnership gives neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) families early literacy resources to help with their baby’s early brain development.

This month, EPL’s Welcome Baby program will be expanding to two NICUs at the Grey Nuns and Misericordia Community Hospitals. Welcome Baby provides new parents with essential materials to start a lifelong love of learning, including a book bag, board book, compact disc of songs and rhymes, early literacy information and an invitation to get a free library card. The tools in the Welcome Baby program give families resources they can use to support their child’s early literacy and build meaningful bonds for parents.

Dr. Amber Reichert, Neonatologist and lead physician collaborating with the EPL Welcome Baby program, Sharon MacKenzie, Registered Nurse and program lead, EPL Youth Services Librarian Tamsin Shute and a current Misericordia NICU family will be available for media interviews.

#### Media availability details:

**Date:** Monday, Sept. 9

**Time:** 1 p.m.

**Location:** Misericordia Community Hospital (16940 97 Ave NW)  
Media will be met in the lobby of the main entrance of the Misericordia Community Hospital and escorted to the event.

Covenant Health is one of Canada’s largest Catholic healthcare providers with over 15,000 physicians, employees and volunteers serving in 15 communities across Alberta. A strong partner in the province’s integrated health system, Covenant Health works with Alberta Health Services and community partners to positively influence the health of Albertans through a broad range of healthcare services in hospitals, healthcare centres and seniors’ care communities in urban and rural communities.



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EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) is proud to be 2014 Library of the Year, as well as the first public library in Canada to win Canada's Most Admired™ Corporate Cultures award by Waterstone Human Capital, as of 2018! We've come a long way since 1913 when books were all you could find on our shelves... and we're just getting started! Today, EPL carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton's largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff take you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a universe of information. The second most visited place in Edmonton, every year EPL hosts over 15.4 million in-branch and online visits across our 21 branches and website. We deliver our incredible content to you everywhere – in the library, at home or on your handheld device. Unmatched access and unrivalled value – that is today's EPL. EPL is a registered charity and relies on donations to enhance services. Spread the words. [www.epl.ca/give](http://www.epl.ca/give)

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