

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
For immediate release

## **A major donation for the opening of a Short Stay Unit \$500,000 donated by the Saputo Monticciolo family to the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation**

Pointe-Claire, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 – The West Island Health and Social Services Centre (HSSC) are pleased to announce that a major donation will make it possible to open a Short Stay Unit (SSU) at the Hospital of the HSSC. The \$500,000 donation was made by the Saputo Monticciolo family, in loving memory of Maria Saputo Monticciolo.

The SSU is a unit with 12 beds. It will welcome patients from the Emergency Department with specific health problems that do not necessitate a lot of investigations and consultations by specialists (for example: lumbar sprain, abdominal pain, asthma, chronic pulmonary disease, etc.) which only require a short and foreseeable hospital stay, that is to say, for a maximum of 72 hours. The Unit can receive its first patients at the beginning of January and will then be contributing to reducing overcrowding and the average length of stay in Emergency.

The president of the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation, Silvana Orrino stated: "On behalf of the LGH Foundation, I am sincerely grateful to the Saputo Monticciolo family for their generosity. Their desire to give back and carry on the loving memory of Maria Saputo Monticciolo's legacy of kindness will directly benefit the West Island community through this brand-new unit and its positive impact on the hospital."

The Executive Director of the West Island HSSC, Suzanne Turmel said: "Thanks to the Short Stay Unit, we will really be able to offer services that are better adapted to patients who only need a short stay in the hospital. Not only will these patients no longer have to stay in Emergency, because there is a lack of beds readily available to accommodate them, but they will also benefit from an environment that is pleasant, safe and set up according to the standards of excellence with regard to preventing infections."

### **About the Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation**

The Lakeshore General Hospital (LGH) Foundation strives towards healthcare excellence in the West Island and its surrounding communities by relying entirely on donor and non-profit support. Established in 1964, the Foundation has been supporting the Lakeshore General Hospital since its inception by acquiring cutting-edge equipment, funding major upgrades to hospital facilities, and supporting patient-care programs that government funding alone cannot provide for.

**About the West Island HSSC**

The West Island HSSC serves a population of about 220,000 people. It comprises of the CLSC de Pierrefonds, the CLSC du Lac-Saint-Louis, the Centre d'hébergement Denis-Benjamin-Viger and the Lakeshore General Hospital. Its territory includes the boroughs of Pierrefonds-Roxboro and L'Île-Bizard–Sainte-Geneviève, as well as the municipalities of Baie-D'Urfé, Beaconsfield, Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Kirkland, Pointe-Claire, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue and Senneville.

- 30 -

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