
UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS
— KINGSTON —
FOUNDATION

News Release
December 11, 2006

Kingston's university hospitals receive largest ever corporate gift with \$1 million pledge from Empire Life

Empire Life has made a pledge of \$1 million to the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation to support Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston General Hospital and Providence Continuing Care Centre. The gift continues Empire Life's investment in the future of Kingston's hospitals, which the company hopes will inspire others.

Doug Hogeboom, Empire Life President and Chief Executive Officer, presented the Foundation, the fundraising arm of all three of Kingston's university hospitals, with its first installment of the pledge at a special celebration held at Hotel Dieu Hospital this afternoon.

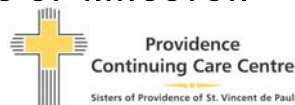
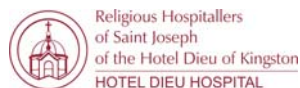
"I'm privileged to accept this very generous gift by Empire Life on behalf of our hospitals and all the people of Kingston and beyond who use them," said Roger Wright, Chair of the Foundation. "This is the largest corporate gift that our hospitals have ever received and it's made all the more special because it's coming from Empire Life – one of our strongest supporters."

The \$1 million pledge will help in the redevelopment of facilities at all three hospitals. The KGH component is expected to begin in 2008 with the expansion of the Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario and construction of a new Inpatient Mental Health Unit. Other KGH components include redevelopment of Central Processing Services (which provides sterilization support to operating rooms), the relocation of the Pediatric Inpatient Unit, expansion of the Intensive Care Unit and medical/surgical inpatient capacity and expansion of the Dialysis Program. Hotel Dieu Hospital will see the redevelopment of its Ambulatory Care Centre. This will include adding 36,000 square feet of new clinical space. The Providence Continuing Care Centre component includes construction of a brand new hospital to replace PCCC's St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital and Mental Health Services site.

"This gift is made on behalf of Empire Life employees, our families, friends and business partners," said Doug Hogeboom, President and CEO of Empire Life. "We believe in the shared vision and approach of Kingston's university hospitals and hope this gift will inspire others to support their redevelopment plans which will mean so much for the future of healthcare in our community. "

Empire Life has been a strong supporter of Kingston's university hospitals for more than 50 years. In recent years, the company provided support for the purchase of a portable high-tech machine used to monitor vital signs in the Children's Outpatient Centre at Hotel Dieu Hospital, helped renovate the chemotherapy suite at the Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario at Kingston General Hospital and purchased new mattresses and electrical beds for Providence Continuing Care Centre's patients and residents.

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“The generosity of Empire Life and its employees toward our hospitals speaks for itself,” said Denise Cumming, Executive Director of the Foundation. “They are one of the most community-minded companies in Kingston, and this gift proves it. Empire Life is a wonderful example for all of us to follow.”

The Empire Life Insurance Company (Empire Life) provides solutions for the changing financial security and wealth management needs of Canadians. Through a nationwide network of professional financial advisors, managing general agents, brokers and group producers, Empire Life offers competitive individual and group life and health insurance, investment products and segregated funds. The Company’s success is based on a commitment to being approachable and responsive to the needs of its clients and business partners, on consistently solid investment performance, and on faith in its employees as future leaders of the Company.

University Hospitals Kingston Foundation is the fundraising arm for Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston General Hospital and Providence Continuing Care Centre. It celebrated its the first anniversary in October. In the last year, some \$4 million from almost 13,000 donors has been raised for patient care, new equipment and research. The Foundation raises money for programs, equipment, education and research that benefit the 500,000 people in Kingston and Southeastern Ontario served by its three teaching hospitals.

To find out more about giving opportunities or to make a donation go online to www.uhkf.ca or call 613-549-5452.

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