

working miracles

excellence · innovation · leadership

For Release - Thursday April 26, 2007 – 11:00 a.m.

QEII Foundation Working Miracles Capital Campaign Surpasses \$42.5 Million Goal

Halifax, NS – Today, the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Foundation (QEII Foundation) celebrated an historic moment—announcing the Working Miracles Capital Campaign total of **\$43.5 million**. Working Miracles is the largest capital campaign for health in Atlantic Canada, and this campaign will have far-reaching benefits for all Atlantic Canadians.

Fred Fountain, Chair of the Working Miracles Capital campaign, told the enthusiastic crowd, “In 2003, the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Foundation embarked on a capital campaign to support the hospitals that comprise the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre. Without much fanfare, the QEII Foundation’s Working Miracles was born – the goal – to raise \$42.5 million to enhance patient care for all Atlantic Canadians. In January 2005, the public phase of Working Miracles was launched. It was a time of celebration which commemorated two years of dedication and hard work. Working Miracles had reached 70% of its goal and had raised in excess of \$30 million. At that time, we knew the Foundation would achieve its goal – today we have surpassed it. This is a proud day for Atlantic Canadians. We shared a vision of creating a brighter and healthier future for Atlantic Canadians. We have all played unique roles in this campaign, and this landmark announcement would not have been possible without the dedication of health care staff, volunteers, donors, and friends. On behalf of Working Miracles, I extend my sincere thanks for your foresight and generosity.”

Through individual testimonials and a video presentation, the audience heard from physicians and patients highlighting the impact of Working Miracles.

The Working Miracles capital campaign has focused its funding on three areas of priority: world class medical research, community-based disease prevention and health promotion programs, and state-of-the-art patient care technology.

The QEII Foundation in partnership with Dalhousie University, The Canadian Cancer Society Nova Scotia Division, the Breast Cancer Foundation Atlantic Chapter, and Heart and Stroke Foundation of Nova Scotia have worked toward common goals. The establishment of endowed chairs in Population Cancer Research, Breast Cancer Research, and Cardiovascular Outcomes Research will have a profound impact on the health centre, the university, and medical science. Endowed chairs are a catalyst for change. These chairs will attract interest from scientists of

distinction from around the world who will work to advance medical research—here in Atlantic Canada.

Community-based programs such as ANCHOR (a cardiovascular health project), the Community Cardiovascular Hearts in Motion Initiative, and the Compass Diabetes Primary Care Initiative are ground-breaking community-based initiatives. These programs have been funded; have changed health care delivery; and will serve as models for the future.

In partnership with the Nova Scotia Department of Health, the QEII Foundation now is able to purchase new equipment showcasing the latest medical technology which includes Positron Emission Tomography (PET). PET is a powerful imaging technique – it is a new way to look at the human body. PET will assist physicians in detecting serious illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, and brain disorders like Alzheimer’s disease.

The QEII Foundation has made a significant investment in Robotic Surgical Systems and Digital Echocardiography, has enhanced the Mobility Centre, providing skills for those individuals who require rehabilitation and will help facilitate the creation of the new Emergency and Trauma Centre.

Working Miracles has forever changed the landscape of health care for the Atlantic Region, and it has demonstrated that the possibilities are endless. The goal of the QEII Foundation is to build on the momentum of Working Miracles, and move forward as it continues to create a healthier future for all Atlantic Canadians.

-30-

For more information contact:
Steve Jennex
Director of Communications
QEII Foundation
902-473-5591