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NTR CELEBRATES 20 YEARS WITH GIFT TO RVH

The future Child and Youth Mental Health program at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) recently got a boost as the owners of National Training Rinks (NTR), NHL Hall of Famer, Mike Gartner, retired NHL player Wes Jarvis and David McCullough made a \$20,000 donation in honour of NTR's 20th anniversary.

"NTR is very proud to be celebrating 20 years in business. Thanks to the ongoing support of this community we thought it was very fitting to show our support back with this donation to child and youth mental health," says Mike Gartner "We have helped so many kids with our Learn to Skate and Elite Hockey Development training programs and it's nice to think our gift will also help kids who are in need of mental health services."

North Simcoe Muskoka is the only region in the province without dedicated hospital beds for youth experiencing mental health issues resulting in children being sent out of the region for care. RVH's \$25 million Hearts and Minds campaign has already contributed \$5 million to the construction of the child and youth mental health unit and this gift from NTR will further support that.

"Youth suffering acute mental health issues, such as suicidal behaviour, psychosis and severe depression, need quick access to specialized inpatient services for stabilization and treatment," says Janice Skot, RVH president and CEO. "These hospital-based services are currently not available in this region and when the unit opens it will significantly ease the burden for young people and their families throughout North Simcoe Muskoka."

Construction is well underway on the eight-bed unit, which is slated to open in late-2017, providing care for up to 300 young people. A comprehensive day program will provide an additional 3,000 outpatient visits annually.

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CUTLINE/PHOTO ATTACHED: From left, Wes and Darlene Jarvis; Colleen and Mike Gartner; Eric Dean CEO RVH Foundation; Nancy and Dave McCullough celebrate NTR's 20th anniversary with a \$20,000 gift to RVH.

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