

October 6, 2015

Historic donation to RVH funds advanced operating room

The Joyce Foundation, one of Canada's most well-known and philanthropic charitable foundations, has made a \$2.6 million gift to Barrie's Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH). While the RVH Auxiliary remains the health centre's largest donor, this extraordinary gift is the largest donation by a single living individual in RVH's history and has been used to fund one of the most technologically advanced operating suites available today.

The Joyce Foundation is a private, family foundation created by Canadian business leader Ronald Joyce, best known as the legendary Canadian entrepreneur who, in 1964, invested in the first Tim Hortons donut shop in Hamilton, Ontario and then grew the business into one of the most successful food chains in the world.

"We are extremely grateful and inspired by Mr. Joyce's generosity and vision for the future of healthcare in Simcoe Muskoka," says Janice Skot, RVH President and CEO. "RVH has introduced numerous world-class innovations and many patients throughout our region will benefit from this highly-specialized operating suite which will be invaluable to vascular surgery for our region."

The state-of-the-art operating suite features leading edge technology that combines real time in-room imaging capabilities. The new hybrid operating room means doctors have the flexibility to move from minimally invasive procedures to more complicated surgeries without having to move patients to another department. The surgery is faster, safer and means less risk, lower radiation dose and faster recovery time for patients.

"This remarkable gift has provided RVH with the most advanced surgical suite of its kind and we are so excited to have it available to our patients. Ron Joyce has been an incredible philanthropist, improving lives across Canada and we are so grateful for his faith in our work and his desire to support our regional vision here at RVH," says Dr. Sandy McDonald, vascular surgeon and chief of RVH's surgery program.

"RVH has provided excellent health care to myself and other members of my family over the years. It is an honour to give back in a way that will help improve patient care in the region for many years to come," says Ron Joyce.

The advanced suite is important to RVH as it develops an advanced cardiac program by early-2017. That program will provide advanced cardiac procedures not currently offered in North Simcoe Muskoka, such as angiograms and angioplasty.

Cutline: Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) celebrated the official opening of a new Endovascular Hybrid Surgical Suite, made possible by a generous \$2.6 million donation from The Joyce Foundation. The state-of-the-art operating suite features leading-edge technology to repair lung and abdominal artery irregularities, such as aneurisms. Pictured (from left) - Grant Joyce, The Joyce Foundation; Kirsten Parker, chair, RVH Board of Directors; Janice Skot, president and CEO, RVH; Ron Joyce, The Joyce Foundation; Dr. Sandy McDonald, vascular surgeon; and David McCullough, chair, RVH Foundation Board of Directors.

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About Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre:

RVH is a regional health centre in Barrie, Ontario, located 80 kilometres north of Toronto. As the largest hospital in the region of Simcoe Muskoka, RVH's team of over 350 physicians, 2,500 employees and 1,000 volunteers provides exceptional care and specialty services to almost half a million residents, including cancer care, stroke services, orthopaedics, intensive care, mental health and interventional radiology. In 2012, RVH opened a \$450 million expansion that doubled the size of the health centre, featuring advanced technology and specialized services not offered elsewhere in the region. For more information visit www.rvh.on.ca

About the Joyce Foundation:

The Joyce Foundation (formerly The Ron Joyce Foundation) is a private, family foundation created by Canadian entrepreneur Ronald V. Joyce. His philanthropy reflects a deep-rooted sense of responsibility to give back to his community. Born in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia in 1930, Mr. Joyce has won numerous awards and honors for his entrepreneurial successes, commitment to strong corporate citizenship and unwavering philanthropic work, including the Order of Canada, induction into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame; Entrepreneur of the Year for Ontario and Canada; the Gary Wright Humanitarian Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the betterment of community life as founder of the Tim Hortons Children's Foundation; and the Red Cross Humanitarian of the Year Award. His achievements have also earned him several honorary doctoral degrees from universities across Canada.

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