



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Creation of the Montreal Institute for Palliative Care: comforting news for patients at end of life

Sharing advancements in palliative care will benefit patients and families across Canada says Quebec Health Minister

MONTREAL, May 11, 2018 – Canada’s largest freestanding palliative care residence launched the Montreal Institute for Palliative Care (MIPC), a highly collaborative endeavor that is committed to extending the benefits of palliative care to as many Canadians as possible. The announcement was made during National Hospice Palliative Care Week by Ms. Teresa Dellar, Executive Director and Co-Founder of the West Island Palliative Care Residence.

In collaboration with its partners, the MIPC will be dedicated to advancing palliative care access and capabilities in Canada. Its mission is to extend the benefits of best-in-class palliative care to as many patients and families as possible through education, knowledge transfer and research. Right now, more than 70 % of Canadians do not have access to comprehensive, quality palliative care.

The MIPC is a new branch of the West Island Palliative Care Residence, a centre of excellence in end-of-life care. During its 16-year history, the Residence has helped define superior palliative care – allowing patients to live well right up to the end of their lives, and to experience death with dignity, as free from pain and distress as possible, surrounded by their loved ones.

QUOTES:

“The Institute will play an important role in our health care continuum, one that cares for all patients until the very end. Under the leadership of the West Island Palliative Care Residence, the Institute will help advance palliative care locally and in many communities across the province. I applaud Teresa Dellar and her entire team for spearheading this initiative.”

Gaétan Barrette, Minister of Health and Social Services

“Since the founding of the West Island Palliative Care Residence 16 years ago, our staff and volunteers have cared for over 3,800 patients and 15,000 family members. We need to share our expertise and continue to learn. The creation of the Montreal Institute for Palliative Care is a natural evolution of our mission: to promote the benefits of superior palliative care to an ever-growing number of Canadians. I would like to express our deepest gratitude to our lead donors who fully supported our vision for the future (in alphabetical order): Fondation Famille Bertrand; Fondation J.-Louis Lévesque, Hilary Pearson and Michael Sabia; Jarislowsky, Fraser Partners Foundation; Molson Foundation; National Bank of Canada; Pfizer Canada Inc.; and an anonymous donor.”

Teresa Dellar, Executive Director and Co-Founder, West Island Palliative Care Residence



“This is a new chapter in the history of the West Island Palliative Care Residence, and it is the beginning of a new era for palliative care. As Chair of the Advisory Committee of the new Montreal Institute for Palliative Care and a director of the Residence’s Operations Board, I am thrilled to be a part of this exciting initiative aimed at enabling and advancing palliative care through education and research. The MIPC stands to enhance how palliative care is understood and provided, and its creation reflects the pioneering spirit of palliative care professionals in Quebec.”

***Bernard J. Lapointe, MD**, Director, Operations Board of the West Island Palliative Care Residence; Eric M. Flanders Chair in Palliative Medicine, McGill University; and Chair of the Montreal Institute for Palliative Care Advisory Committee*

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Montreal Institute for Palliative Care (MIPC) is dedicated to advancing palliative care through education and research in Canada.

The MIPC is a branch of the West Island Palliative Care Residence, a centre of excellence in end-of-life care.

The MIPC is made possible through lead donations from (in alphabetical order): Fondation Famille Bertrand; Fondation J.-Louis Lévesque, Hilary Pearson and Michael Sabia; Jarislowsky, Fraser Partners Foundation; Molson Foundation; National Bank of Canada; Pfizer Canada Inc.; and an anonymous donor.

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About the West Island Palliative Care Residence

The West Island Palliative Care Residence is an independent, non-profit organization that provides services free of charge to patients and their families. The Residence receives one-third of its annual operational budget from the Quebec government and relies on community support and fundraising activities to raise the balance of more than 3.5 million dollars each year. With its 23 beds, the Residence is the largest freestanding palliative care facility in Canada and is recognized as a leader in its field. For more information, go to www.residencesoinspalliatifs.com/en.

SOURCE: West Island Palliative Care Residence

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