



West Island Cancer Wellness Centre receives 1 million dollar donation from Eric T. Webster Foundation and officially launches its' capital campaign, to build a larger, customized Cancer Wellness Centre in Kirkland

Beaconsfield – December 16, 2015 - The West Island Cancer Wellness Centre (WICWC) has received a very generous donation of \$1 million dollars from the **Eric T. Webster Foundation**. Following this donation, the centre is now officially launching their Capital Campaign initiative to build a larger facility. On Thursday December 17th, they will be hosting a final goodbye holiday party to commemorate the past 6 years at the beautiful little farm house in Beaconsfield. Participants currently battling cancer, graduates of the Centre, professionals that volunteer their services, present & former staff, general volunteers and donors have been invited to celebrate. The Centre is accustomed to fundraising to exist given they do not receive any Federal or Provincial government funding, however; this campaign will be their most ambitious fundraising endeavor yet.

"We knew within three years of opening our doors, that we would soon outgrow our beautiful yellow house. It has taken a couple of years of searching but we have finally found the perfect location", says Debbie Magwood, Founder and Executive Director. The lot is located in Kirkland and is in the process of being rezoned. If all goes well, construction will begin in Spring of 2016. Architectural drawings of the new centre, produced by Tony Zinno from Zinno Zappitelli Architects, will be on display for attendees to get a first look.

*"We are extremely excited to announce the unprecedented donation of \$1,000,000 by the **Eric T. Webster Foundation**. They've been very supportive since the beginning. We are also fortunate to have such wonderful support from top donors such as the **Tenaquip Foundation** who donated a very generous \$400,000, the **Amelia and Lino Saputo, Jr. Foundation**, and the **Legacy Donation of Lucie Vinet**. These donations and backing from other local foundations and corporations, have been overwhelming, bringing the total funds donated to date to a little over \$2,600,000. Our total Capital Campaign Goal of \$3,000,000 is now clearly in sight!"* says Magwood. The fundraising team including Debbie Magwood, Erik Charton, Len McDougall, George Tooley, Kirk Llano, Olga Assaly, Tony Zinno, Tara Siev, Elizabeth Tropea and Glen Lynch have been extremely dedicated and driven to succeed. Although what motivates each team member is unique (some having had cancer, some supporting loved ones in their battle and some just wanting to help) they share a common belief. *"The NEED for this wonderful new Centre is HUGE",* says Erik Charton, co-chair of the Capital Campaign. *"Sadly, with the recent statistics released from the Canadian Cancer Society of cancer diagnoses expected to increase by 40% over the next 15 years, this need will only grow stronger."*

The Fundraising team remains very optimistic the community will come together to help the centre reach their goal of raising the remaining \$400,000 needed before the ground breaking ceremony in the spring

If you wish to be part of this exciting new initiative and the legacy of the building, there are many ways to contribute. You can sponsor a room, invest in a stepping stone campaign through the garden of inspiration, or simply donate to the centre. Please help the WICWC reach their goal!

For more information on how you can contribute to the Centre's future, please call 514-695-9355 or visit wicwc.org

PRESS RELEASE

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About the West Island Cancer Wellness Centre

The West Island Cancer Wellness Centre (WICWC) is a registered charity dedicated to improving the health and well-being of people living with cancer by providing FREE programs and services created to address their emotional, physical and spiritual needs. This type of psychosocial intervention in cancer care supports and complements traditional medical practices.

For more information:

Serena Chenoy
Marketing and Communications Coordinator
West Island Cancer Wellness Centre (WICWC)
serena@wicwc.org
514-695-9355 ext. 20
www.wicwc.org