



**INSTITUT DE
CARDIOLOGIE
DE MONTRÉAL**

AFFILIÉ À
Université 
de Montréal

**PRESS RELEASE
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**THE GREEN LIGHT GIVEN TO A MAJOR PROJECT AIMED AT EXPANDING
THE MONTREAL HEART INSTITUTE'S RESEARCH CENTRE**

Montreal, June 26, 2009 – In a press conference held this afternoon, the Minister of Health and Social Services, Dr. Yves Bolduc, confirmed that the Montreal Heart Institute has been given the authorization to expand its Research Centre at a cost of \$33,915,000.

In addition to \$21,828,200 from the Government of Quebec, this project is financed by the MHI Foundation (\$10,021,900) and the Agence de la santé et des services sociaux de Montréal (\$1,833,300). The MHI, for its part, is contributing the sum of \$231,600.

“This announcement shows that the Montreal Heart Institute enjoys the confidence of the Government of Quebec, specifically as regards its leadership role in cardiovascular research. This tangible support from the Government of Quebec and the MHI Foundation will help create optimal conditions for developing new knowledge and achieving important breakthroughs,” said Mr. Jean Royer, Chair of the Montreal Heart Institute’s Board of Directors.

Project Highlights

The MHI Research Centre expansion project stands as a cornerstone in the development of leading-edge research activities at the MHI and as a progressive step forward in terms of its international influence and stature. This construction project, slated for completion in the fall of 2011, involves:

- expanding the South block (*Pavillon Jean-Louis Lévesque*) by 6,599 square metres, distributed over three floors;
- adding three new fundamental research laboratories;
- partially reorganizing the existing first three floors of the Research Centre’s South block;
- constructing a space that in future will be laid out and used for catheterization activities for research purposes.

Project Spinoffs

“The Research Centre expansion will have several significant effects on the MHI, and these will translate into benefits for patients at the MHI, as well as patients in Quebec and Canada,” said Dr. Jean-Claude Tardif, Director of the MHI Research Centre.

It will make for:

- the recruitment of many researchers of international stature and further progress for the excellent researchers already present at the MHI;
- the addition of new research laboratories in genetics, arrhythmias, vascular electrophysiology, regenerative medicine, mathematical modelling and metabolomics;

- the expansion of many fundamental research laboratories in vascular pharmacology, endothelial function, proteomics, cardiac biochemistry, cardiovascular imaging, atherosclerosis, coronary procedures, molecular electrophysiology and cardiovascular rheology;
- the expansion and reorganization of the animal housing facility (particularly for transgenic mice);
- the reorganization and expansion of clinical research infrastructures now partly located in temporary structures.

“The Research Centre expansion will have major benefits in terms of the MHI’s capacity to achieve significant breakthroughs in the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases, while generating intellectual property as well as profitable economic spinoffs for Quebec,” added Mr. Robert Busilacchi, Executive Director of the MHI.

Research at the Heart of a Resounding Success

On June 18, 2009, the Montreal Heart Institute and its partners received \$53 million for projects from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the Government of Quebec. With these major investments in sophisticated medical imaging, genomics, metabolics and high-throughput biology, the Montreal Heart Institute will be thrust into the world’s top ranks of cutting-edge fundamental and clinical research leading to important breakthroughs in the early and more refined diagnosis, prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases. Together with its other infrastructures, such as the Beaulieu-Saucier Pharmacogenomics Centre, the Centre for Excellence in Personalized Medicine, and the MHI Research Centre, the MHI will continue its transformative research leading to a more preventive, predictive and personalized approach to healthcare.

About the Montreal Heart Institute: www.icm-mhi.org

About the Université de Montréal: www.umontreal.ca

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