



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

THE MONTREAL HEART INSTITUTE RECEIVES \$3.5 MILLION FROM THE QUÉBEC GOVERNMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF HI-TECH MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Montreal, November 7, 2005 – At a press conference held this morning at the Montreal Heart Institute (MHI), Mr. Henri-François Gauthrin, MLA for Verdun and Minister for Online Government, announced on behalf of his colleague Philippe Couillard, Minister of Health and Social Services, that it was contributing \$3,460,000 to the MHI.

As Mr. Gauthrin said, “The Montreal Heart Institute offers ultra-specialized care of the highest quality in cardiovascular medicine to the Montreal and Québec population. Affiliated with the Université de Montréal, the establishment is home to a major research centre and modern specialized diagnostic and therapeutic equipments. In more specific terms, this new government investment will be used to purchase new equipment for a cardiac catheterization laboratory and an interventional electrophysiology suite”.

Steadily Improving the Quality of Care

The Institute’s Executive Director, Mr. Robert Busilacchi, expressed his pleasure at Minister Gauthrin’s visit and stated that the realization of these projects, which come within the framework of the Québec government’s hi-tech investment program, will enable the MHI to solidify its position as a leader in the field of cardiology. After warmly thanking Minister Gauthrin, Dr. Guy Legros, interim Director of Professional Services at the Institute, chose to underline the quality and expertise of the Institute’s personnel and physicians, as well as the importance of these new acquisitions, which will allow the Montreal Heart Institute to steadily improve the quality of care it gives to its clientele.

Leading-Edge Advanced-Technology Equipment

The new cardiac catheterization and electrophysiology suites will be furnished with leading-edge advanced-technology in cardiac imaging. This equipment is distinguished by its completely digital solar collector technology, which produces the highest quality images allowing for complex clinical interventions.

In terms of catheter catheterization, the equipment paves the way to new techniques in rotation imaging, three-dimensional reconstruction and stent enhancement, making it possible to reduce the length of procedures and optimize treatments. In terms of electrophysiology, the equipment will improve imaging techniques necessary for the treatment of arrhythmias by catheter ablation.

About the Montreal Heart Institute

Founded in 1954, the Montreal Heart Institute is an ultra-specialized hospital centre dedicated to care, research, teaching and prevention, as well as the assessment of new technologies in cardiology; it is affiliated with the Université de Montréal and enjoys an international reputation.

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