



Press Release

For immediate release

THE MONTREAL HEART INSTITUTE PAYS TRIBUTE TO DR. PIERRE GRONDIN

Montreal, January 18, 2006 – It is with sadness that the Montreal Heart Institute (MHI) learned of the death of Dr. Pierre Grondin on January 17, 2006. The first cardiac surgeon to perform a successful heart transplant in Canada, in May 1968, Dr. Pierre Grondin practiced at the Montreal Heart Institute from 1963 to 1979.

After obtaining his doctor of medicine degree from the Université Laval in 1951, Dr. Pierre Grondin went on to obtain a specialist's certificate in cardiac surgery and a fellowship from the American College of Surgeons in San Francisco in 1960. He began his career as a surgeon at the Hôpital Ste-Marie de Trois-Rivières. In 1971, he joined the faculty of medicine of the Université de Montréal as clinical professor.

Dr. Grondin was one of the pioneers in cardiovascular and thoracic surgery in his milieu. He organized, in collaboration with other surgeons, the surgery department at the Montreal Heart Institute; indeed he was its department head from 1963 to 1975. During this time, he was appointed honorary professor of the Faculty of Medicine of Santo Domingo. He was also responsible for agreements between the Université de Montréal and its counterparts in Liège and Madrid. In the course of his career, he has also been the recipient of several awards, among them the Prix Lenègre from the Fondation Nativelle in France and the Order of Canada Medal.

To date, over 300 cardiac transplants have been performed at the MHI, thanks to the pioneering work of Dr. Pierre Grondin. Through his leadership, the MHI has built a surgical team that is now renowned worldwide for its expertise in complex cardiovascular pathologies and its commitment to research and teaching.

About the Montreal Heart Institute

Founded in 1954, the Montreal Heart Institute continues to aim for the highest standards of excellence in the cardiovascular field through its leadership in prevention, ultra-specialized care, training for professionals, clinical and fundamental research, and the assessment of new technologies. It is affiliated with the Université de Montréal, and its clinical results are among the best in the world. For more information on the Institute, please visit our website at www.icm-mhi.org.

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