

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Town of Whitby Supports The Best Centre with leadership gift of \$250,000!

The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre was unanimously approved for a \$250,000 pledge toward the Building on the Best Expansion Campaign from the Town of Whitby

(Whitby, ON. – January, 2022) – Whitby Council unanimously voted to approve a pledge of \$250,000 over up to ten years, be given to The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre (Best Centre). The pledge is directed to the Building on the Best Expansion Campaign with a goal of renovating and expanding the Best Centre, located in North Whitby.

The Best Centre announced the Building on the Best Expansion Campaign this past May. With a goal of \$5 million, The Best Centre is working to raise funds to renovate and expand their current heritage site. The building expansion will include construction of a new Welcome and Reception area that will connect the two existing structures, as well as renovation of the main house.

“Expansion is a necessity as we expect patient demand to double in the next five years” said Lorrie Hagen, Executive Director at The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre. “The Town of Whitby has been supportive of our work for years. We are grateful for Council’s ongoing support and this newest pledge demonstrates their belief in the importance of the Best Centre and the well-being of our residents.”

The Building on the Best Expansion Campaign has the support of many community volunteers such as Whitby Regional Councillor Liz Roy, who sat on the campaign Taskforce. “To see the Building on the Best campaign progress and garner support from the Town of Whitby is very special” stated Councillor Roy. “The Best Centre is an integral part of our community and expansion will not only benefit the residents of Whitby, but the entire Region.”

Whitby Mayor Don Mitchell was present at the virtual announcement of the Building on the Best Expansion Campaign earlier this year. “We are proud to be home to The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre” said Mayor Mitchell. “We have been pleased to support their services and much needed expansion through our Community Development Fund in past years and now through a long-term pledge of this size.”

About the Building on the Best Expansion

The Building on the Best Campaign goal of \$5 million will allow for a renovation of the two existing structures and an addition of a supplementary conjoining space. Upon completion, the new centre will have full first floor accessibility, 18 patient counselling spaces, a new large event and education space, 6 meeting rooms, and an additional clinic room with a children’s play area.

About The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre

The Best Centre delivers one-of-a-kind patient centred healthcare exclusive to type 1 diabetes. As Canada’s only stand-alone centre and charitable organization specializing in type 1 diabetes, the staff provides highly responsive and individualized care. The interdisciplinary care team includes registered nurses, dietitians and social workers who provide frontline healthcare and education throughout patients’ lifetime.

Quick Facts

- Type 1 diabetes is an incurable, complex disease. It must be managed 24-hour a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Without insulin, death is certain.
- Type 1 diabetes is a disease in which the pancreas does not produce any insulin. Insulin is an essential hormone that is required to control the level of glucose (sugar) in the blood.
- The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre sees almost 2,000 patients and conducts more than 20,000 healthcare interactions per year to support patients living with type 1 diabetes.
- Roughly 5-10 % of people living with diabetes have type 1 diabetes, insulin-dependent diabetes. Type 1 diabetes generally develops in childhood or adolescence but is also diagnosed in adulthood. People with type 1 need to inject insulin or use an insulin pump to ensure their bodies have the right amount of insulin to survive.

Associated Links

www.charleshbest.com

www.buildingonthebest.ca

For more information or to coordinate media availability, please contact:

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