

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau**  
**DONATION OF \$5 MILLION IN SUPPORT OF CHILDREN WITH CANCER IN  
THE CITY OF QUÉBEC AND EASTERN QUEBEC**

**Québec, November 14, 2012** — Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau spokesman Pierre Bruneau was in the city of Québec this morning to announce a major donation of \$5 million to the CHU de Québec for purposes of redeveloping its pediatric oncology unit. This major project will serve to consolidate care and services in pediatric oncology and purchase specialized equipment for the pediatric clientele in the Québec region and in Eastern Quebec.



Spirits were running high as Mr. Gaston Bédard, president of the board of directors, and Ms. Gertrude Bourdon, director general of the CHU de Québec, unveiled a presentation cheque for \$5 million, accompanied by M<sup>e</sup> Richard Laramée, president of the Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau board of directors, Mr. Pierre Bruneau, 18-year-old Carolane Bolduc, who is currently hospitalized with lymphoblastic leukemia, and 3-year-old Cheyenne Robion, in remission since 2011 after receiving treatment for leukemia.

“We want to extend a warm thanks to the Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau for this major contribution, which will allow us to move forward with this large-scale development project. In recent years, we have seen a rise in the number of children being treated in pediatric oncology, and a full third of pediatric cancer diagnoses in the province are made at Centre mère-enfant. It is sad to have to treat children for this disease, but with this new oncology unit, we will be able to do it in an environment that is adapted, user-friendly and functional,” said Mr. Gaston Bédard.

In the last year, there were 3,889 visits to pediatric oncology at the CHU de Québec and 2,124 treatments given in ambulatory care. This represents an increase of 139% compared to 2004. In the last year, 72 children received a cancer diagnosis and were hospitalized for treatment, some on numerous occasions.

For Pierre Bruneau, this announcement is the fulfilment of the dream once cherished by his son Charles, who waged a courageous battle with leukemia for nine years: “A die-hard Québec Nordiques fan, Charles would often tell me how much he loved the city of Québec. Today, almost 25 years after he passed away, he would be proud to see his name associated with this major project, which holds great hope for all children with cancer in the Greater Québec region and in Eastern Quebec. On the strength of its new mission, the Fondation is proud to formalize this partnership with the CHU de Québec so that it can actively contribute to the well-being of these children and their families.”

TVA Québec news anchor Pierre Jobin was extremely pleased to take part in this major announcement. As a cyclist in Tour CIBC Charles-Bruneau and one of its spokespersons, he highlighted the importance of supporting this kind of project in Québec, saying that he was delighted to see the Centre mère-enfant benefit from this initiative on the part of the Fondation.

For Dr. Bruno Michon, head of the hematology-pediatric oncology department at the CHU de Québec, the development of the pediatric oncology program will make it possible to offer high-level care in an adapted environment: “The care protocols offered at the Centre mère-enfant are very high-level, and they increase the chances of recovery among pediatric clients. The survival rate for all pediatric cancers has improved remarkably, and it now stands at 75 to 80%. This redevelopment project will allow us to offer a pediatric oncology unit that meets the standards for these clients, who have severely compromised immune systems. Given that treatments sometimes require several weeks of hospitalization, it’s vital that we offer an environment adapted to these children and to the family members who accompany them. These severely tested families will have access to larger waiting rooms and playrooms, closed treatment rooms, more private rooms – in short, an environment that promotes recovery.”

### **Unité d’oncologie pédiatrique Charles-Bruneau du CHU de Québec**

The donation from the Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau will enable the CHU de Québec to proceed with the development of an all-new oncology unit spanning an area of 1,490 m<sup>2</sup>. The unit will be located on the ground floor of the Centre mère-enfant. Construction is slated to begin in the next year and should span a period of 26 months. Here are a few of the improvements that will be made:

- The number of beds in private rooms will increase from 9 to 12;
- The number of places in closed treatment cubicles will increase from 2 to 8, and 2 negative pressure isolation rooms will be added;
- The spaces assigned to research teams will be consolidated, in close proximity to clinical activities.

Cost estimates for the project are in the order of \$10 million, with \$7.6 million for construction and \$1.5 million for specialized equipment and furniture. With this \$5 million donation from the Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau, the CHU de Québec will take steps in the coming weeks to complete the financing package for this project.

### **About the Fondation Centre de cancérologie Charles-Bruneau**

Since 1990, the Fondation has had a mission to give all children with cancer the best chances of recovery by financing research and supporting the development of projects in the area of pediatric oncology. [www.charlesbruneau.qc.ca](http://www.charlesbruneau.qc.ca)

### **About the CHU de Québec**

Made up of the CHUL, L’Hôtel-Dieu de Québec and the Enfant-Jésus, Saint-François d’Assise and Saint-Sacrement hospitals, the CHU de Québec is the largest health establishment in Québec and one of the largest university medical centres in Canada. The CHU de Québec offers general and specialized care, but mostly several super-specialized services geared to the Est-du-Québec population, a pool of close to 2 million people. Closely affiliated with Université Laval and strongly focused on the future, the CHU de Québec also has a mission to teach, conduct research in numerous areas of excellence, and evaluate technologies and treatments methods in health. This mission is supported by close to 14,000 employees, 1,700 physicians, dentists and pharmacists, and 550 researchers. [www.chudequebec.ca](http://www.chudequebec.ca)

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