

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTH CENTRE OPENS

(Thunder Bay, ON, November 9, 2007) St. Joseph's Care Group is pleased to announce the opening of St. Joseph's Health Centre. The new facility was specifically designed and renovated to meet the needs of clients requiring outpatient mental health services.

The following outpatient programs relocated from Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital to 710 Victoria Avenue East:

- Community Mental Health Services
- Community Support Program
- Consumer Support Services
- Lakeview Clinic
- Northwestern Ontario Concurrent Disorders Program
- Outreach to Recovery

Bob Chambers, Chair, Board of Directors, St. Joseph's Care Group, says, "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am extremely pleased to announce the opening of St. Joseph's Health Centre. This new location is ideal to meet the needs of our clients and we look forward to building partnerships with the businesses in the neighbourhood."

St. Joseph's Health Centre is located adjacent to Victoriaville Centre and close to a grocery store, banking, pharmacy, and public transportation, allowing our clients to integrate into an independent and healthy pattern of living.

As directed by the Health Services Restructuring Commission, St. Joseph's Care Group continues to work toward the closure of Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital in 2011.

Tracy Buckler, President and CEO, St. Joseph's Care Group, stated, "Our move to St. Joseph's Health Centre fully supports the principles of mental health reform and the shift of clinical services from a hospital environment to the community. Providing services outside of an institutional setting helps to reduce the stigma faced by people with mental illness."

The Official Opening will take place later this month.

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For more information contact:

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**St. Joseph's Hospital • St. Joseph's Heritage • Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital • Hogarth Riverview Manor • Balmoral Centre
St. Joseph's Health Centre • Behavioural Sciences Centre • Diabetes Health Thunder Bay • Sister Margaret Smith Centre**

St. Joseph's Care Group is accredited with the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation and provides services in complex care, rehabilitation, mental health and addictions, long-term care and supportive housing. As well, community programs are provided at Frank Murphy Community Centre. SJCG has approximately 1700 employees, over 400 volunteers and an annual operating budget of \$115M and is the fifth largest employer in Thunder Bay. To learn more about SJCG, visit the web site at www.sjcg.net.