

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Joseph's Care Group 125 Year Anniversary Book Launched

(Thunder Bay, ON, Friday, September 18, 2009) This fall, St. Joseph's Care Group (SJCG) celebrates the 125th anniversary of providing care to people in the North West region. As part of these celebrations, SJCG launched an historical book entitled *Responding to Unmet Needs: 125 Years of Care in the Community*, written by local author, Peter Raffo on Friday, September 18, 2009.

The book, appropriately named *Responding to Unmet Needs: 125 Years of Care in the Community*, was commissioned by SJCG to honour the rich and diverse history and to chronicle the many changes SJCG has experienced over the past 125 years.

Tracy Buckler, President & CEO, SJCG felt that the historical record of St. Joseph's Care Group needed to be preserved in a way that will be accessible for future generations. Tracy is pleased with the book and said "Peter Raffo has skillfully pieced together the mosaic of unique and individual stories that create the true portrait of St. Joseph's Care Group. The organization will continue to evolve as we further the vision of Mother Monica, "to respond to the unmet needs of the community."

The history of St. Joseph's Care Group, and notably, the role transformation of St. Joseph's General Hospital and the opening of St. Joseph's Heritage, is recorded in this book by Peter Raffo. The story develops in the context of the significant change that was occurring in the provision of health care in the province of Ontario.

Peter Raffo, author, says "The impact of St. Joseph's General Hospital and St. Joseph's Heritage upon this city and region has been considerable. Many people in the community already know this. But what has impressed me just as much has been to realize the significance of the many roles that the Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie played since they first came to Prince Arthur's Landing in 1881".

Responding to Unmet Needs: 125 Years of Care in the Community will be available for purchase for \$10.00 in the gift shops at Hogarth Riverview Manor & St. Joseph's Hospital as well as through Communications at St. Joseph's Heritage.

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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 Accreditation Canada and provides services in complex care, rehabilitation, mental health and addictions, long-term care and supportive housing. Community programs are provided at Frank Murphy Community Centre.

St. Joseph's Care Group has approximately 1700 employees and over 400 volunteers. With an annual operating budget of \$125M, SJCG is the fifth largest employer in Thunder Bay. To learn more about SJCG, visit the web site at www.sjcg.net