

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Official Opening of Diabetes Health Thunder Bay's New Location

(Thunder Bay, ON, October 20, 2011) Today, St. Joseph's Care Group (SJCG) celebrated the Official Opening of Diabetes Health Thunder Bay's new location at St. Joseph's Heritage.

Diabetes Health Thunder Bay (DHTB) provides a full complement of education programs for children/youth, adults and pregnant women in Thunder Bay and region. It has also been designated as the regional insulin pump training centre for youth and adults. The new location has a telemedicine room to provide regional consultations, group teaching rooms, an examination room for physicians and chiropractors and offices for staff to meet with clients.

Tracy Buckler, President & CEO, SJCG, says "The growth and expansion of this program over that last 17 years is evidence that SJCG continues to respond to the unique needs of the people we are here to serve. We are very proud to provide this important service for our region."

An estimated 2.7 million Canadians (7.6%) are living with diabetes and must manage their condition on a daily basis. In Ontario, an estimated 8.3% of the population has diabetes; this is expected to grow to 11.9% by 2020. The North West LHIN serves a population of approximately 44,000 people self-identifying as Aboriginal and the prevalence of diabetes among First Nations adults is estimated to be 19.7%.

Dr. Trevor Bon, Medical Director, DHTB, says "We know that proper management of chronic conditions, such as diabetes, improves a client's quality of life and can prevent or delay the onset of diabetes-related complications. This essential service provides people the education, skills and support to successfully manage the disease."

For more information about Diabetes Health Thunder Bay and the services provided, please call 344-3422.

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

*St. Joseph's Care Group is accredited with Accreditation Canada and provides services in  
Complex Care & Physical Rehabilitation, Mental Health & Addictions, and, Long-Term Care.*

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