

MEDIA

Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. JOSEPH'S CARE GROUP SISTER MARGARET SMITH CENTRE RECEIVES THUNDER BAY'S FIRST LEED® GOLD CERTIFICATION

(Thunder Bay, ON, March 8, 2012), St. Joseph's Care Group is proud to announce that Sister Margaret Smith Centre (SMSC) received LEED® Canada for New Construction Gold certification for its performance as a sustainable building. This is the first Thunder Bay project to receive the Gold Certification, adding to the significance of this achievement.

Thomas Mueller, President and CEO of the Canada Green Building Council is pleased to see more healthcare facilities taking an interest in sustainability. "Providing environmentally responsible and healthy conditions is important for all new buildings, but it is certainly a natural fit for a building like the Sister Margaret Smith Centre," he says. "Studies have shown that green buildings with clean indoor air, natural light and healthy materials benefit clients and health care workers. I congratulate everyone involved in this project on their LEED Gold certification and hope that their success will encourage others to do the same."

The certification was awarded under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system overseen by the Canada Green Building Council. LEED® promotes an overall buildings approach to sustainability in five key areas: sustainable site development, water and energy efficiencies, material selection and indoor environmental quality. The goal of a sustainable building is to reduce the financial costs and increase performance. This means healthier and more productive employees, lower operating costs and reduced impact on the environment. The certification is based on a scoring system where projects receive a credit for obtaining a certain threshold of achievement. SMSC had originally targeted the Silver level; however, as the project progressed it was able to obtain a Gold level standing.

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ST. JOSEPH'S CARE GROUP

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

“Achieving LEED® Gold certification for SMSC is a major milestone for FORM Architecture Engineering and a demonstration of our dedication to sustainable design and construction practices.” stated John Stephenson, partner of the firm and Lead Architect for the project. “We and our partner in this project, Montgomery Sisam Architects, are very proud of the entire design and construction teams who have all worked closely together to make this building a better place for people.”

“St. Joseph’s Care Group is very proud to receive this prestigious award,” says Tracy Buckler, President and CEO, SJCG. “As one of the larger organizations in Northwestern Ontario, we have an obligation to take our environmental responsibility seriously. We must consider “green” design and construction for all of our capital projects in order to best serve our clients and support our staff, both now and in the future.”

Sister Margaret Smith Centre has been operating for two years in the new facility offering residential and non-residential services for addictions treatment for the community and region. The architectural and interior design of the space provides a homelike atmosphere with emphasis on a safe, secure and comfortable living environment. SMSC was designed to support St Joseph’s Care Group’s core values of Care, Compassionate and Commitment.

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Background information is attached.

For more information, contact:

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ST. JOSEPH'S CARE GROUP SISTER MARGARET SMITH CENTRE, LEED® GOLD CERTIFIED



TREATMENT, EDUCATION AND SUPPORT

Sister Margaret Smith Centre is a health facility providing a full range of substance use, mental health and problem gambling programs servicing the Northwest Region and the Province of Ontario. The facility is situated on a 15 acre St. Joseph's Care Group campus in a residential neighbourhood and consists of two components; an inpatient component housing residents in a home-like atmosphere with an emphasis on a safe, secure and comfortable living environment and an outpatient component to treat, educate and support clientele from the community. The residential component consists of one - 10 bed youth (under 18) and two - 15 bed adult resident areas each containing private bedrooms, dining, living, and kitchen facilities. The outpatient component consists of individual counselling offices, group rooms and sacred/spiritual space, as well as administration support areas. Outdoor courtyards enhance the therapeutic natural link to the surrounding green space while providing privacy and security to the clientele.

CLIENT

St. Joseph's Care Group

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

two storey, addictions treatment facility,
51,430 ft

ARCHITECT & STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

FORM Architecture Engineering (prime)
Montgomery Sisam Associates Inc.
(consulting)

MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

SMS Engineering Ltd.

SPECIAL CONSULTANTS

Engineering Northwest Ltd. (Civil)
Werner Schwar Landscape Architect
Enermodal Engineering Ltd.
(Environmental)

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

Finnway General Contractors Inc.

CONSTRUCTION

2009





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