

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Roche Canada announces \$750,000 donation for new laboratory for translational transplant research at London Health Sciences Centre

The gift will establish the Roche Laboratory for Advanced Transplant Research within the new Matthew Mailing Centre for Translational Transplant Studies

London, Ontario, January 11, 2006 – Roche Canada, one of the world's leading research-based health care companies, announced a \$750,000 donation to London Health Sciences Foundation in support of transplant studies at London Health Sciences Centre. The gift will establish the new Roche Laboratory for Advanced Transplant Research at the newly named Matthew Mailing Centre for Translational Transplant Studies, a joint venture of London Health Sciences Centre and Lawson Health Research Institute, which is poised to become an international leader in transplant investigation. The announcement marks the second major financial contribution to London Health Sciences Centre's Multi-Organ Transplant Program in just over two months.

"Roche's commitment represents a significant investment demonstrating our sincere corporate interest in fostering research and development in the Canadian transplantation community," said Ronnie Miller, President and CEO, Roche Canada. "We look forward to continuing to build on this partnership and to the exciting developments for the transplantation community that will undoubtedly come from it."

"The Roche Laboratory for Advanced Transplant Research will focus on accelerating the translation of transplant research to directly improve patient care," said Dr. William Wall, Director of the Multi-Organ Transplant Program at London Health Sciences Centre. "The laboratory will lead the way in advanced transplant techniques and technologies with the goal of extending and improving the lives of people with end-stage organ failure."

The Roche Laboratory at the Matthew Mailing Centre for Translational Transplant Studies will be located on the fourth level in the newly constructed Legacy Research building at University Hospital. The Mailing Centre is a state-of-the-art, nearly 10,000 square foot facility that includes design features to foster collaboration and discovery, while being adaptable to the changing needs of individual researchers. The centre, which was recently named in honour of Matthew Mailing from St. Thomas, who passed away shortly after a heart transplant in 2003 at the age of 34 after a long struggle with heart disease, will integrate several essential research facilities of which the Roche Laboratory for Advanced Transplant Research is a key component.

The facility will also provide researchers with access to advanced molecular imaging, microsurgical techniques and pre-clinical transplant models, as well as the capacity to train clinician-scientists and scientists in transplantation research. The proximity of the Roche Laboratory to the adjacent microsurgery laboratory will accelerate the clinical implementation of novel transplant research discoveries to improve the health of transplant recipients at London Health Sciences Centre and across Canada.

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“We express our sincere gratitude to Roche Canada for its leadership and generosity to the transplant program at London Health Sciences Centre,” said Cliff Nordal, President and CEO of London Health Sciences Centre. “Their commitment to transplant studies will allow scientists and researchers to work beyond boundaries, ushering in a new era of medical miracles. “

More than 4,100 transplantations have been performed at London Health Sciences Centre, which has long been recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in this field. Not only does the hospital perform advanced surgery, but it also develops new transplant techniques and procedures. London Health Sciences Centre has been the site of many innovations in transplantation, including the world’s youngest multi-organ recipient (1997) and Canada’s first adult-to-adult living donor liver transplant (2000).

About Roche

Hoffmann-La Roche Limited is a health care company committed to the discovery and development of new and innovative medicines to help treat human illnesses. The company is active in a broad range of therapeutic categories including oncology, virology, cardiology, transplantation, diagnostics and obesity.

About London Health Sciences Centre

London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) is one of Canada's largest acute-care teaching hospitals and is dedicated to excellence in patient care, teaching and research. LHSC has pioneered many national and international medical breakthroughs. Located in London, Ontario, LHSC encompasses three sites, South Street Hospital, University Hospital and Victoria Hospital; two family medical centres; and the London Regional Cancer Program. LHSC is the home of the Children's Hospital of Western Ontario and CSTAR (Canadian Surgical Technologies & Advanced Robotics). LHSC is affiliated with The University of Western Ontario. Physicians and staff at LHSC number close to 8,000, and together they provide care for more than 600,000 patients each year.

About Lawson Health Research Institute

The Lawson Health Research Institute in London, Ontario, is the research arm of London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care, London. Lawson is one of the largest hospital-based research institutes in Canada and is dedicated to helping people live healthier lives by advancing the knowledge of how to prevent, diagnose and treat disease.

About London Health Sciences Foundation

London Health Sciences Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization established in 1996 that links donors, health care consumers, the community and health care experts — including physicians, allied professionals, researchers, staff and educators — in pursuit of medical excellence at London Health Sciences Centre.

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