

## MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **Wyeth Canada announces \$180,000 donation for translational transplant research at London Health Sciences Centre**

*The gift will establish the Wyeth Innovation Stations within the new Matthew Mailing Centre for Translational Transplant Studies*

**London, Ontario, March 29, 2006** – London Health Sciences Centre's Multi-Organ Transplant Program received today another major financial contribution, marking it the third significant gift to the program in just over four months. Wyeth Canada, one of the world's leading research-driven pharmaceutical and health care companies, announced a \$180,000 donation to London Health Sciences Foundation in support of transplant studies at London Health Sciences Centre. The gift will establish the new Wyeth Innovation Stations 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.

"We are proud to partner with London Health Sciences Centre in its quest to better the lives of many Canadian transplant patients", said Dr. Neil Maresky, Vice-President, Scientific Affairs, Wyeth Canada. "We believe this initiative will help develop London Health Sciences Centre in becoming a leader in translational transplantation."

"The Wyeth Innovation Stations will link vital transplant research conducted by scientists to doctors and clinicians," said Dr. William Wall, Director of the Multi-Organ Transplant Program at London Health Sciences Centre. "The unique design of the stations will ensure discoveries are translated as quickly as possible into improved treatment for patients."

The Wyeth Innovation Stations are located in the Matthew Mailing Centre for Translational Transplant Studies 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 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.

The stations are configured as offices for clinical researchers and their trainees to be in close proximity to the research facilities, ensuring the synergy between the offices and the laboratories. As well as the capacity to train clinician-scientists and scientists in transplantation research, the Mailing Centre will also provide researchers locally and internationally with access to advanced molecular imaging, microsurgical techniques and pre-clinical transplant models.

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“We are very thankful for Wyeth Canada’s generous contribution to transplantation,” said Cliff Nordal, President and Chief Executive Officer of London Health Sciences Centre. “Their gift will not only positively impact the health of transplant recipients at London Health Sciences Centre, but also throughout the world. “

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 Wyeth**

Wyeth is one of the world’s largest research-driven pharmaceutical and health care products companies. It is a leader in the discovery, development, manufacturing and marketing of pharmaceuticals, vaccines, biotechnology products and non-prescription medicines that improve the quality of life for people worldwide.

Wyeth Canada, an affiliate of Wyeth, employs over 1,700 people across the country with a commercial head office in Markham, Ontario and manufacturing and R&D facilities in Montreal, Quebec. It markets leading products in the areas of women’s health care, neuroscience, musculoskeletal therapy, transplantation and immunology, hemophilia and vaccines.

### **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**

For more than a decade, London Health Sciences Foundation has inspired investment in excellence at London Health Sciences Centre. London Health Sciences Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization established in 1996 through the amalgamation of the University and Victoria Hospital Foundations. The Foundation 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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