

For Immediate Release
July 29, 2019

MEDIA RELEASE

CP Women's Open Supports Paediatric Cardiology at Southlake with \$250,000 Gift

Newmarket ON – In April, Canadian Pacific (CP), through its community investment program CP Has Heart, announced it will be supporting paediatric cardiology care at Southlake Regional Health Centre, as well as SickKids, through the upcoming 2019 CP Women's Open. Now it's fast approaching, and Southlake Foundation is gearing up for the big event.

As the chosen charity within York Region, the host community of the tournament, Southlake Foundation is pleased to accept this donation of \$250,000 to support leading edge paediatric cardiac care close to home for some of Southlake's youngest patients and their families.

"In our five years as title sponsor, we've made it a priority to support children's heart health in Canada," says James Clements, CP VP Strategic Planning and Transportation Services. "CP is particularly proud to be supporting Southlake Foundation through the tournament this year. We felt it was important to give back to the community hosting the event through Southlake, a hospital doing incredible work to advance the paediatric cardiology care they offer to children in their communities."

This generous CP gift will support a new echocardiogram with specialized paediatric probes. This advanced equipment uses ultrasound technology to map images of the heart and will enable Southlake's expert clinical teams to diagnose and monitor heart conditions for young patients right here at our hospital.

This equipment will be beneficial for patients like 10-year-old Jack who, in April, was diagnosed with a rare heart condition called long QT syndrome (LQTS). Suddenly feeling unwell, he collapsed into his mother's arms, unconscious. She immediately called 911, but Jack regained consciousness after seven seconds – the longest seven seconds of her life. On route to the hospital, it happened again.

What they later learned was that Jack's heart was beating irregularly, pumping the blood out of his heart faster than it was pumping it back in. The serious condition causes rapid and irregular heartbeats, which can lead to sudden fainting or seizures.

At Southlake, Jack bypassed the Emergency Department and was taken directly to the cardiac unit for testing. "There was always someone in the room with us," says Kelly, Jack's mother. "They talked us through every step and kept us really calm. It all happened very quickly."

Southlake didn't have the technology to perform all the tests that Jack needed to properly diagnose his condition, but the expert team caring for him knew that what had happened to him was potentially very serious. Working closely with their partners at SickKids, they transferred Jack to the downtown hospital for further testing and a definitive diagnosis. "If Southlake hadn't handled it that way, we might have gone home thinking he had just fainted," says Kelly. "But because of their expertise and attentiveness, Jack is getting the help he needs."

Hundreds of kids like Jack come to Southlake every year with symptoms of serious heart conditions. Support from the CP Women's Open will help equip Southlake with more advanced technology, giving our teams the tools they need to provide more paediatric cardiac care than ever before.

"We are honoured to be recognized by CP as an important provider of paediatric cardiac care in York Region," says Susan Mullin, President & CEO of Southlake Foundation. "This kind of support enables us to grow and expand the services we offer, meaning that we can better shift our focus to meet the needs of our communities and be able to provide the care they need closer to home."

Southlake is home to the fourth largest Regional Cardiac Care Program in Ontario and provides more than 10,000 patients every year with advanced critical and urgent cardiac care across York Region, South Simcoe County, and as far north as Muskoka.

The CP Women's Open takes place on August 19-25 at the Magna Golf Club in Aurora. For more information, visit www.cpwomensopen.com.



[Photo caption: Pictured, left to right: Southlake Foundation VP Major Gifts & Campaigns Lesley Ring, Lorie Kane, Brooke Henderson, Southlake Foundation President & CEO Susan Mullin, and Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas get a sneak peek at the coveted CP Women's Open trophy.]

About Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation

Since the inception of Southlake Foundation in 1980, more than \$150 million dollars has been raised in support of Southlake Regional Health Centre. Working with members of the communities, hundreds of



volunteers, the Southlake Family and our incredible donors, Southlake Foundation will continue to support life-saving medical equipment, infrastructure upgrades and expansions, patient programs and staff education, all for the goal of providing leading edge care for patients and families, close to home. For more information visit: www.southlakefoundation.ca

About Southlake Regional Health Centre

Southlake Regional Health Centre is a full-service hospital with a regional, clinically advanced focus. As a regionally designated site, Southlake is responsible for developing and providing advanced levels of care to the more than 1.5 million people who reside in York Region, Simcoe County, and as far north as Muskoka. Advanced, specialty services include: arthritis care, cancer care, cardiac care, cataract surgery, child and adolescent eating disorders, mental health services for children, paediatrics and perinatal care, and thoracic surgery. Southlake is proud to have a team of over 3,000 employees, 633 physicians, and more than 900 volunteers. Combined with our commitment to provide the best possible care to patients, our goal is to make Southlake synonymous with healthcare excellence.

-30-

Emily Wood

Specialist, Marketing and Communications
Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation

e: EWood@southlakeregional.org

t: (905) 836-7333 ext. 5104

toll free: 1-877-457-2036