

Rotary pledges \$500,000 to support health care

Proud supporters of William Osler Health System's hospitals for more than six decades, the Rotary Club of Brampton has pledged \$500,000 to help build and equip the new Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness, as well as upgrade equipment and services at Brampton Civic Hospital.

Rotary leaders announced the donation to the Brampton business community during a special State of the City luncheon hosted by the Brampton Board of Trade. Club President Vanora Spreen and President-Elect Steve Robinson presented a cheque symbolizing their \$500,000 pledge in support of redevelopment at Osler.

The pledge is the largest financial commitment in the history of the club, and continues to build on Rotary's commitment to bring advanced medical technology and health programs to the Brampton community.

"Today's announcement is a proud moment for the Rotary Club of Brampton as we lend our support to the vision of a new Peel Memorial, which will enhance health care in this community," Spreen said. "No one plans to go to the hospital, but it is a comfort knowing it is there. We hope our donation will inspire many great leaders of the community to make their own commitment to bring improved health care closer to home."

The donation is the latest example of the Brampton Rotary's long history of support for Osler's hospitals over the last six decades. The club has donated more than \$350,000 over the years to support facility and technology upgrades at Osler, and has been a major supporter and catalyst for many worthy causes, including Gage Park, YMCA, St. Leonard's House, Sheridan College, Easter Seals, Wellspring, ErinoakKids, Bethel House and various youth programs.

"We are honoured that our friends from the Rotary Club of Brampton have chosen Osler Foundation to be the benefactor of their dedication and generosity," said Ken Mayhew, president and CEO of the Osler Foundation. "The club's long history of making significant contributions toward the betterment of our community is well known, and we are grateful for their leadership demonstrated through this remarkable pledge."

"More needs to be done to raise money to fund the millions of dollars of equipment to be installed in the new Peel Memorial and it is our hope that the Rotary's pledge will inspire others in our community to lend their support," he added.