



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Foundation Grateful Government Approves Purchase of DNA Sequencing Equipment with \$900,000 from Donations

Saint John, NB – The Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation and Horizon Health Network are thrilled with the news from Premier Brian Gallant, allowing for the purchase of the DNA sequencing equipment, as part of the hospital’s Personalized Medicine Program. The Foundation’s public campaign, The Give – Personalized Medicine – raised over \$900,000 to purchase of 13 pieces of personalized medicine and DNA sequencing equipment.

“This decision means better patient care and significant cost savings to taxpayers,” said Jason Downey, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation. “We commend government for taking the time to listen to our clinicians and our donors. And the Foundation thanks these individuals for speaking up, and providing evidence to support this decision.”

After consultation with the Foundation and representatives from Horizon, Premier Gallant visited the hospital this morning to announce the approval to purchase the equipment.

“We’re overwhelmed with the support of our donors,” said Jeff McAloon, President and CEO of the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation. “They stood firmly next to us throughout this process. We feel confident that government will ensure that our donors’ generous donations will continue to be directed to approved causes in the future.”

Horizon Health Network identified the continued development of the Personalized Medicine Program as a key priority for the Saint John Regional Hospital. The decision to fundraise for this project was based on improved patient care and cost savings to the health-care system, and was approved by Horizon Health Network.

When in place, the DNA sequencing equipment will save New Brunswick taxpayers almost \$63,000 per year and allow for better, faster patient care in cancer testing and treatment, pediatrics, stem cell, psychiatry, neurology, cystic fibrosis and cardiology.

For more information about the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation, please visit www.sjrhf.ca.



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