

For Immediate Release  
May 14, 2004

Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation Carleton Place, ON

**Carleton Place IDA donates to Help Improve Tomorrow Today!  
campaign  
Challenge issued to other businesses in the community**



Available for the cheque presentation are: (left -right) Aisha Dhalla, Wendy Fyfe, Aziz Dhalla, Rene Jones, Ahmad Al-Rusasi, Tracy McLean, Mary Goodchild and Ashraf Al-Taslaq

The Help Improve Tomorrow Today! campaign committee is proud to announce that Carleton Place IDA has made a three-year pledge of \$10,000 towards the \$1.5 million needed for new equipment for the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital.

The \$10,000 represents donations from IDA employees through payroll deduction with matching contributions from the business. Mr. Esmail Merani and Mr. Aziz Dhalla, owners of Carleton Place IDA, have issued a challenge to other businesses in the community to work with their employees to do something similar.

"As a group we decided to contribute because we feel that the hospital is important to the infrastructure of this community. It only takes a couple of dollars per pay from each of us but we can quickly see these dollars turn into a significant contribution of which we can all be proud," stated Mr. Merani. "If everyone in the community does their part then we will quickly see the hospital reach its goal - which is something good for all of us!"

"When Mr. Merani called and told us of the commitment from his staff and business we were very surprised and pleased that they considered the hospital as a charity of choice. We hope others can follow the example set by the IDA," stated Rene Jones, Chair of the Help Improve Tomorrow Today! campaign. "It's acts like these that show us how important the hospital is to the community and encourages us to go forward with our goals. We are very fortunate to have such community minded individuals in our area."

"Our gift to the Help Improve Tomorrow Today! campaign is a way for us, both on a personal and professional level, to say thank you to community for supporting our business over the years," said Mr. Dhalla. "We look forward to many more years in the community and more importantly we are looking forward to seeing how the business community responds to our challenge!"

In addition to the \$10,000 donation from the Carleton Place IDA and its employees, Mr. Merani was also instrumental in securing a \$5,000 grant from the PharmAssist Foundation. Launched in April 2003 the PharmAssist Foundation is a charitable organization dedicated to supporting health care initiatives at both the local and national level. Funds on the local level are mostly allocated to support health care initiatives within the community.

The Help Improve Tomorrow Today! campaign is hoping everyone in the community will support the desire to improve the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital. One time donations or pledges over one to three years are acceptable and all gifts are tax deductible. For more information regarding the hospital's needs, the campaign, or to give a donation please contact the campaign office at (613) 257-2200 x 856 or e-mail [ctroy@carletonplacehosp.com](mailto:ctroy@carletonplacehosp.com).

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