

Immediate Release

February 29, 2011

Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital Foundation
Carleton Place, ON

IDA and its staff continue to give to the Carleton Place Hospital

The Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital (CPDMH) Foundation is thrilled to announce that the Carleton Place Drugmart – IDA and its staff have donated \$2384 to the ongoing needs of the hospital. The gift was made possible through a matching gifts program between the Carleton Place Drugmart and its staff.

“We are very proud of the contribution we have been able to make to the Carleton Place Hospital because of our matching gifts program and we would like to thank our employees for continuing to



participate in the program,” stated Aziz Dhalla and Esmail Merani, co-owners of the Carleton Place Drugmart - IDA. “It only takes a couple of dollars per pay from each of us to make our contribution significant and we hope other businesses in the community will decide to introduce a similar program with their employees.”

The matching gifts program began in 2003 with a \$10,000 commitment to the *Help Improve Tomorrow Today!* campaign. When the group fulfilled its commitment to the campaign, the staff decided to continue the program and have directed deductions from their

Esmail Merani, Aziz Dhalla and the staff of the Carleton Place IDA presenting Esther Houle, Chief Nursing Officer of CPDMH, with a cheque representing the funds raised through IDA’s matching funds program.

pay check to the hospital. All funds donated by the staff are matched dollar for dollar by the Carleton Place Drugmart. Since the program began, it has nearly \$22,000 for the Hospital.

“The Carleton Place IDA and its staff have been raising money for our organization through the matching gifts program for the last 7 years and we are thrilled to have their ongoing support of our Hospital,” stated Esther Houle, CNO/Outpatient Manager of CPDMH. “The IDA matching gifts program shows group can achieve when working together and on behalf of the Hospital and the Foundation, I would like to thank everyone for their generosity.”

Aziz Dhalla and Esmail Merani have been the co-owners of the Carleton Place IDA since 1991 and have other IDA pharmacies located in Richmond and Stittsville. Their partnership began 33 years ago with a pharmacy in North Bay.

“The Carleton Place Drugmart matching gifts program provides a true example of how small amounts can turn into big gifts over a period of time,” said Chantelle Troy, Manager/Community Relations Officer of the CPDMH Foundation. “Like Mr. Dhalla and Mr. Merani, I hope other businesses in the community are inspired by this initiative and decide that a matching gifts program would fit within their organization. If anyone is interested in implementing such a program, please contact me at the Foundation office by phone at 613-257-2200 ext 856 or e-mail ctroy@carletonplacehosp.com.”

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