

November 7, 2014

MEDIA RELEASE

Community's Generosity shines through to raise over \$868,000 for Peter Lougheed Centre in celebration of Guru Nanak's Birthday

CALGARY – Since the moment the doors to the RED FM radio station opened at 7 a.m. on Thursday, November 6, members of the South Asian community were lined up to make a donation in celebration of the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev ji.

The station was a hub of activity all day with more than 5,000 people dropping in, many with their families, in order to make their very special donation. Volunteers manned the phones as every line was lit up throughout the day with people eager to help out – all with the same generous spirit.

The RED FM Radiothon for Peter Lougheed Centre and Calgary Health Trust received overwhelming generosity from the community, bringing in excess of \$868,000 with more anticipated to come in through the weekend from those who were unable to make it down.

"Guru Nanak Dev ji's philosophy teaches us to donate 10% of our earnings and I am so happy to see that our community is following that philosophy with such generosity. With a very grateful heart, I would like to thank our community for setting a new record by raising \$868,000 during the RED FM Radiothon," said Kulwinder Sanghera, President RED FM.

Donations will help to support the expansion of the Peter Lougheed Centre's neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). The new space will be named after Mata Tripta, the Guru's mother, in honour of the community's contribution.

"We are overwhelmed with the incredible generosity of the community. As a foundation that works so closely with our hospitals to ensure the best care is available to Albertans, we see how every dollar that is contributed adds up," said Jill Olynyk, CEO of Calgary Health Trust. "The community is made up of very dedicated and committed people – we are so grateful for the opportunity to be involved in this celebration."

Responding to the growing need Calgary, and in particular the North East community and surrounding area, the new development is part of a larger expansion of the women's health area at Peter Lougheed Centre. This new space will go a long way in supporting the tiniest and most fragile patients born as early as 25 weeks.

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Calgary Health Trust, a catalyst in health care philanthropy, connects donor passion with treatment, education and research priorities in the Calgary community. With more than \$375

million raised for health care since 1996, we help advance technologies, programs and services at Foothills Medical Centre, Peter Lougheed Centre, Rockyview General Hospital, South Health Campus, Women's Health, Carewest continuing care centres, community health programs, and other health care organizations in our community. Visit www.calgaryhealthtrust.ca to learn more.

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