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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community's generosity raises over \$300,000 for Peter Lougheed Centre in celebration of the birthday of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the pioneer of the Sikh faith.

CALGARY – From the moment the doors to the RED FM radio station opened on Wednesday, November 25, members of the South Asian community began arriving at the studio and the phones started ringing with people eager to make a donation in celebration of the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

In only its second year, the RED FM Radiothon for Peter Lougheed Centre and Calgary Health Trust received overwhelming generosity from the community, bringing in an excess of \$300,000 with more anticipated to come in over the next couple of days.

The station was a hub of activity all day with hundreds of 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 with people eager to help out – all with the same generous spirit.

"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 raising over \$300,000 during the RED FM Radiothon," said Kulwinder Sanghera, President RED FM.

This year, donations will support the 'Mai Bhago' Women's Triage Area, which will be the epicentre of the new Women's Health unit and the first point of contact at the Peter Lougheed Centre for expectant mothers and their families. The Triage area will also be used as an obstetrical emergency where expectant mothers are assessed and treated for a variety of reasons, including possible complications during pregnancy and emergency C-sections.

Last year, donations supported the expansion of the Peter Lougheed Centre's neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) with the development of the 'Mata Tripta' NICU Pod, named in honour of the Guru's mother.

"We are once again overwhelmed with the incredible generosity of the community. Our foundation works closely with Calgary's hospitals to ensure the best care is available to all Albertans and their families. Every dollar that is contributed adds up and makes an incredible impact," said Jill Olynyk, CEO of Calgary Health Trust. "The community has yet again showed how dedicated and committed they are, and we are so grateful for the opportunity to be involved."

Responding to the growing needs within Calgary and across Southern Alberta, the 'Mai Bhago' Women's Triage Area is an important 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 urgent needs of expecting women.

- 30 -

Calgary Health Trust raises funds for health and wellness initiatives within the Calgary community to ensure that everyone – young and old – is able to experience the highest quality of life. The incredible generosity of our donors has helped to raise more than \$392.5 million for health care since 1996. These funds help advance technologies, programs and services at Foothills Medical Centre, Peter Lougheed Centre, Rockyview General Hospital, South Health Campus and within many community health programs and 12 Carewest care centres in our community.

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