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Jewish General Hospital
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MEDIA RELEASE

JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL NAMES CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES AFTER JESS AND MARK PATHY

*~Hospital and Centre at the Forefront of Research, Testing, Treatment
and Discovery of Infectious Diseases ~*

~ \$5.5 million Raised to Date for the Creation of the Centre ~

Montreal, QC, Canada; November 26, 2021—With the COVID-19 pandemic still a major public health concern, we are reminded that the last century has been significantly marked by infectious diseases and new, virulent, pathogens that have endangered all humankind.

Following a very successful fundraising campaign which has raised \$5.5 million to date, and was led by Jewish General Hospital (JGH) Foundation Executive Committee member Pierre Brosseau, the recently created Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases will be named in honour of Montreal philanthropists, **JESS AND MARK PATHY**.

The JGH's *Jess and Mark Pathy Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases*, with its team of cutting-edge researchers helmed by renowned infectious diseases expert, Dr. Karl Weiss, focusses on advancing knowledge of antibiotics and vaccines; preventing infections; developing rapid diagnostics and mapping the molecular structure of infections.

QUOTES:

"The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the crucial importance of arming ourselves with a dynamic Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases, which Jess and Mark Pathy have been instrumental in enabling us to develop," says **DR. LAWRENCE ROSENBERG, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF CIUSSS WEST-CENTRAL MONTREAL**. "With this Centre, we are better able to continue placing our focus on the needs of patients who require treatment and care. Equally important, the Centre will help us prevent infection through a better understanding of existing and new micro-organisms. Ultimately, we will be in a stronger position to prepare for and cope with new outbreaks, thereby benefiting people in our CIUSSS, as well as those across Quebec."

"Infectious diseases represent the most significant challenge for medicine in the 21st century," said **KARL WEISS, M. D., DIVISION CHIEF, INFECTIOUS DISEASES, JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL**. "Funds donated to the Centre are going directly toward understanding, preventing and treating infections. More lab bench research is essential to improved clinical and epidemiological practices."

“The pandemic continues to remind us that infections are a threat to all, without exception or distinction. We feel lucky to count on the expertise of scientists who are working diligently to tackle what is the leading cause of death worldwide. As such, we believe this gift is a vital investment toward ensuring there is world-class expertise, innovation and research taking place to meet this challenge head on, and we’re especially proud to have all that happening right here in Montreal,” said **JESS AND MARK PATHY**.

“More than ever, the current pandemic hammers home the urgent need to invest significantly in cutting-edge research into infectious diseases. But today that research is underfunded. It is why the Brosseau Family Foundation wanted to support the creation of the *Jess and Mark Pathy Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases*. And one of the reasons why I agreed to Co-Chair the fundraising campaign for this initiative,” said **PIERRE BROUSSEAU, SECRETARY OF THE JGH FOUNDATION**.

“We are extremely grateful to **JESS AND MARK PATHY** for their lead donation and to all of the donors who joined us in establishing this important centre of excellence right here in Montreal. Together, we are helping all Quebecers and even those beyond Quebec,” said **BRAM FREEDMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO, JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION**.

ABOUT THE JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Jewish General Hospital (JGH), repeatedly ranked #1 hospital in Quebec¹, is an acute and specialized care, McGill University teaching hospital. The JGH has been serving a diverse patient population irrespective of religion, language, or ethnic background since it was founded in 1934.

The Hospital is home to the highest number of births in Quebec with a specialization in high-risk pregnancies and neonatal care; the busiest and most efficient Emergency Department in Quebec; the Segal Cancer Centre recognized internationally for its groundbreaking cancer treatment and research achievements; and the Lady Davis Institute, one of the largest and most influential medical research centres in Canada.

The JGH is the cornerstone institution of the regional health authority known as CIUSSS West-Central Montreal.

ABOUT THE JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Since 1969, the mission of the Jewish General Hospital Foundation has been to advance health care and medical research for the people of Quebec by supporting Montreal’s Jewish General Hospital. The Foundation provides essential assistance to the hospital to enhance its extraordinary patient care, to further scientific discovery and to acquire the innovative medical equipment. We partner with inspired members of the community to implement a variety of fundraising initiatives to achieve the Hospital’s ambitious goals.

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¹ *Newsweek magazine, 2019, 2020, 2021

MEDIA CONTACT:

Sarah Fletcher
Jewish General Hospital Foundation
Marketing and Communications
Tel: 514-340-8222, ext. 24602
Cell phone: 514-928-7864
Email: sarah.fletcher@jgh.mcgill.ca