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Community Philanthropists Announce the Establishment of the Jody J Levac Legacy Fund, a First for Simcoe County

[New Tecumseth, ON] - [May 1, 2024] –A group of community philanthropists is pleased to announce the establishment of the Jody J Levac Legacy Fund in honor of Jody Levac, the Hospital's President and CEO, who recently announced his retirement. This is the first legacy fund in honour of a hospital President & CEO established in Simcoe County, Ontario. This fundraising initiative aims to celebrate and honour Mr. Levac's outstanding contributions to the Stevenson Memorial Hospital and his dedication to advancing healthcare in our community while creating a legacy gift in his name.

Under Mr. Levac's leadership, Stevenson Memorial Hospital has undergone significant growth and transformation over the last ten years, enhancing its services and infrastructure to serve the needs of patients and their families better. The Jody J Levac Legacy Fund will continue Jody Levac's legacy by supporting the hospital's ongoing redevelopment efforts.

Donations made to the Jody J Levac Legacy Fund will be generously matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$50,000, thanks to other community donors: Sylvia Biffis, Dr. Ted Vandevs, Rory MacKinnon, Darlene Blendick, Gary Sim, Mike Martin, Brian & Patricia Snell, Alan Dresser, John Swinden, and Debbie Hudson, doubling the impact of every contribution. The funds raised will be directed towards a future naming opportunity within the new hospital building, ensuring that Mr. Levac's vision for quality community healthcare in Simcoe County continues to thrive for years to come.

"On behalf of my father, Lou Biffis, our family, and the Nottawasaga Foundation, we are incredibly grateful for Jody Levac's leadership and dedication to Stevenson Memorial Hospital," said Sylvia Biffis, Director of Convention Sales for the Nottawasaga Inn Resort. "The Nottawasaga Foundation's longstanding relationship with Stevenson and working alongside Jody on a shared vision for the Hospital's redevelopment has been integral in our commitment of support. I am honoured to be a part of this legacy fund to celebrate Jody's dedication to Stevenson. The establishment of the Jody J Levac Legacy Fund provides an opportunity for the community to express their appreciation for his tireless efforts and to contribute towards the future of healthcare in our region."

"Jody's unwavering dedication has helped to bring the community together and has ignited a spark of collective action," expressed Dr. Ted Vandevs, Community Advocate and philanthropist. Now, fueled by appreciation for his advocacy and persistence, the community stands ready to show our appreciation and continue his legacy."

Jody Levac assumed the role of president and CEO at SMH in January 2014, earning accolades for his effective leadership during pivotal times such as the COVID-19 pandemic. His tenure witnessed significant milestones, including advancing the SMH redevelopment plan, which attained Stage 1.3 functional program approval. Additionally, under his stewardship, SMH attained commendable recognition from Accreditation Canada. Jody has been an outspoken advocate of community involvement and fostering connections with various stakeholders, ranging from donors and local business proprietors to politicians at all levels of government. His efforts have propelled the hospital's agenda forward, making a tangible difference. Notably, he has also successfully recruited physicians to enhance SMH's capabilities further.

To donate to the Jody J Levac Legacy Fund, please visit <https://bit.ly/JodyJLevacLegacyFund>.

For more information, please contact:

Sylvia Biffis
Director of Convention Sales
Nottawasaga Inn Resort
sbiffis@nottawasagaresort.com
(705) 434-5286

Dr. Ted Vandevs
Community Advocate & Philanthropist
tv@drted.tv
(705) 440-6601