

For Immediate Release

SickKids announces international partnership through Schwartz-Reisman Exchange Program

Toronto, ON, November 27, 2006 – SickKids Foundation today announced a \$2 million gift from Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman, establishing the **Schwartz-Reisman SickKids Exchange Program with Israel** and marking a partnership that will enhance clinical and scientific exchange internationally. This partnership expands the participation of paediatric specialists from Israel training at The Hospital for Sick Children each year. Further training and development opportunities will be enhanced through sabbaticals for visiting Israeli faculty who had been fellows and visits to Israel by SickKids physicians and scientists.

“This gift to SickKids Foundation marks the beginning of an important international partnership with the intention of creating a cadre of world-class physicians specializing in children’s health,” said Michael O’Mahoney, President, SickKids Foundation. “This much-needed funding comes at time when it is imperative for us to support programs that can influence children’s health on the world stage.”

Up to ten fellows will be named Schwartz-Reisman Fellows annually over the course of the five-year agreement. Israeli physicians will be encouraged to apply for the exchange program each year with the most outstanding applicants receiving funding for 50 per cent of their salaries.

“This is a great example of the direction SickKids is moving towards with the advancement of paediatric care internationally,” added Dr. Ronald Laxer, Vice President, Education and Quality at The Hospital for Sick Children.

“Heather and I are honoured and proud to support this exciting exchange program which will not only enhance the quality of care at SickKids and Israeli hospitals, but also celebrates and strengthens the strong bond of friendship between the two countries,” said Gerald Schwartz, Chairman and CEO, Onex Corporation.

Up to ten senior physicians or scientists from SickKids will be named Schwartz-Reisman Visiting SickKids Scholars to support visits to Israeli medical schools and research institutes. Visits to Israel by some of the mentors who initially shaped their approach to clinical care and research will offer former fellows and their colleagues opportunities to explore new ideas, new approaches, future projects, and overall inspire further scientific exchange and inquiry.

Future plans include The Schwartz-Reisman Visiting Israeli Scholars, a program that will provide Israeli faculty who were former fellows the opportunity to return to SickKids for additional training and collaboration with their peers. These sabbaticals will provide past fellows with the opportunity to continue clinical research projects, learn new clinical skills, and launch new research projects with colleagues at SickKids.

Funds may also be granted to “observers,” paediatric health care practitioners other than physicians who may benefit from visiting a particular division or department of the hospital and observing paediatric care. Particular consideration will be given to Israeli paediatric nurses.

More than 300 international fellows from 48 different countries train at SickKids annually, working collaboratively with researchers and top physicians.

About SickKids Foundation

In 2005, SickKids Foundation launched the largest fundraising campaign for a hospital in Canada with a target of \$500 million to be reached by 2011. SickKids Foundation was established in 1972. Its mission is to inspire its communities to invest in health and scientific advances to improve the lives of children and their families in Canada and around the world. Its vision is “Healthier children. A better world.”

In addition to its support of The Hospital for Sick Children, the Foundation has a mandate to support children’s health on a national basis. Through its National Grants Program, SickKids Foundation invests \$4 million annually across Canada in paediatric research, focusing on issues important to children’s health which have not been addressed elsewhere.

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