

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **St. Joseph's Care Group Invests in Clients and the Environment *Facilities Undergo Renewal and Energy Saving Program***

THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO, June 23, 2008 – St. Joseph's Care Group (SJCG) announced the signing of a C\$4.6 million energy saving and facility renewal contract with Honeywell. The program is designed to revitalize their facilities to improve the healing environment for clients as well as the working environment for staff.

Peter Love, Chief Conservation Officer of Ontario was in attendance to celebrate the energy conservation commitment with a presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to Bob Chambers, Chair, Board of Directors, St. Joseph's Care Group.

The 12-year contract is expected to save SJCG more than \$365,395 annually in operation and utility costs. Environmental emissions are also expected to drop by over 1,400 tonnes annually - this is equivalent to removing over 272 cars from the roads of Thunder Bay each year according to Environment Canada.

The self-funded program focuses on energy efficient solutions designed to upgrade several SJCG facilities, including St. Joseph's Hospital, Hogarth Riverview Manor and the Balmoral Centre, as part of this first phase. The program will reduce operating costs and address critical capital replacement needs. The program is fully guaranteed by Honeywell and funded through the energy savings together with financial assistance from the Ontario Power Authority, Union Gas, Natural Resources Canada and through the selling of carbon offset credits.

SJCG 'Greening Healthcare Committee' with their mascot Benny Birch, endorse this facility energy renewal program. Committee members will be involved to help educate SJCG staff, clients, volunteers and visitors to make the venture a complete success. Tracy Buckler, President & CEO, stated "These changes will help minimize the economic impact of energy consumption in our facilities, while addressing climate change and environmental air quality concerns. We are excited that we may achieve as much as a 25% improvement in our energy consumption for the facilities involved."

Under the agreement, Honeywell will provide infrastructure upgrades, such as new lighting and heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) equipment; improvements to mechanical systems; and upgrades to building automation systems to optimize energy management. Energy-efficient technologies will replace older, less-efficient systems thereby reducing electricity, fuel and water consumption as well as related costs.



**St. Joseph's Hospital • St. Joseph's Heritage • Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital • Hogarth Riverview Manor • Balmoral Centre  
St. Joseph's Health Centre • Behavioural Sciences Centre • Diabetes Health Thunder Bay • Sister Margaret Smith Centre**

*St. Joseph's Care Group is accredited with the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation and provides services in complex care, rehabilitation, mental health and addictions, long-term care and supportive housing. As well, community programs are provided at Frank Murphy Community Centre. SJCG has approximately 1700 employees, over 400 volunteers with an annual operating budget of \$115M and is the fifth largest employer in Thunder Bay. To learn more about SJCG, visit the web site at [www.sjcg.net](http://www.sjcg.net).*

“We admire St. Joseph’s Care Group’s commitment to continuously improving their facilities for their clients, staff and community they serve,” said Luis Rodrigues, Vice President of Energy Solutions for Honeywell Building Solutions. “We are pleased to be able to provide a program that will enhance SJCG’s facilities, while contributing to lower operating costs and reduced environmental emissions.”

Specific upgrades include the installation of high efficiency lighting systems and control strategies that provide better illumination while using less energy. Lawn irrigation systems will be installed for better control of water use. Existing cooling towers, chillers, and boilers will be replaced with high efficiency models. In addition, various HVAC equipment including motors and ventilation systems will be upgraded or modified. The building automation system will be enhanced to provide better control of HVAC equipment. Honeywell will also convert St. Joseph’s Hospital’s heating from steam to hot water.

“The initiative and leadership demonstrated by St. Joseph’s Care Group and Honeywell is outstanding,” said Peter Love, Ontario’s Chief Energy Conservation Officer. “The retrofits and upgrades planned for the facility will go beyond the immediate consequences of saving the hospital money and reducing the harmful effects of inefficient energy use. It will illustrate to other community businesses that they can make a significant difference through conservation.”

The project will commence in July and is expected to be complete in December 2009.

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