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**For immediate release**

## **The Flames Foundation for Life and Rotary Club of Calgary join forces with local community partners to donate over \$500,000 for innovative ultrasound equipment**

CALGARY – The Flames Foundation for Life, Rotary Club of Calgary, Rotary Club of Calgary South, Calgary Emergency Department Physicians, Rockyview General Hospital and Peter Lougheed Centre Volunteer Resources, and Foothills Medical Centre Development Council have donated a combined total of \$509,635 to the Calgary Health Trust to help purchase eight revolutionary ultrasound machines for emergency departments at the Rockyview General Hospital (RGH), Peter Lougheed Centre (PLC), Foothills Medical Centre (FMC) and the new South Health Campus (SHC).

“This joint contribution will make a big difference in diagnosing health emergencies at Calgary hospitals,” says Jill Olynyk, interim CEO, Calgary Health Trust. “We are very grateful to these community partners for their donation. With their help, doctors and health care practitioners will have access to some of the best technology available.”

Originally, the Foothills Medical Centre was interested in purchasing two machines for its emergency department. Once the community groups heard about this need, each group offered to donate funds for the machines, allowing eight new Sonosite M-Turbo ultrasound machines to be purchased – two each for the emergency departments at RGH, PLC, FMC and SHC.

“We are thrilled to support the purchase of the ultrasound equipment. Supporting health care is a pillar of the Flames Foundation for Life, and as a result, we are compelled to help provide our health facilities with the best equipment possible. This issue concerns all citizens and is important to our organization as we continue our commitment to health and wellness,” says Ken King, Flames Foundation President.

“The Rotary Club of Calgary and Rotary Club of Calgary South are dedicated to giving back to our community. Our donation to the Calgary Health Trust for the new ultrasound machines will improve diagnostic capabilities at hospitals in Calgary and will help enhance health care for Calgarians,” says Bill Keech, President, Rotary Club of Calgary.

The Sonosite M-Turbo ultrasound machine is unique because it doesn't use radiation and is the size of a laptop, which means it can easily be transported wherever it is needed. The machine features faster processing times; utilizes Da Vinci technology for high-definition video processing; and produces clear images that can easily view and diagnose trauma injuries, obstetric problems and can be used to aid in life-saving intravenous insertion.

The Flames Foundation for Life and the Rotary Club of Calgary have been big supporters of the Calgary Health Trust for several years. Together, these groups pledged a combined total of \$10 million to the Reach! campaign through the Calgary Health Trust, which supported technology and programs at the Southern Alberta Institute of Urology, a Daryl (Doc) Seaman and W. Brett Wilson Initiative; Alberta Bone and Joint Institute; Hotchkiss Brain Institute; Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta; Markin Institute; and Project neuroArm.



Media are invited to the event to take pictures of the new equipment and interview representatives from the Flames Foundation for Life, Rotary Club of Calgary and Calgary Emergency Department Physicians. Please meet inside the main entrance near the Good Earth Café at 9:15 a.m., where a Calgary Health Trust representative will escort media to the event location.

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*The Calgary Health Trust connects donor passions with health care needs. Together we are touching lives in our community every day by raising funds for enhanced technology, programs and services at the Foothills Medical Centre, Peter Lougheed Centre, Rockyview General Hospital, Women's Health, Carewest continuing care centres and other community health programs and facilities. For information on the Calgary Health Trust, please go to [www.calgaryhealthtrust.ca](http://www.calgaryhealthtrust.ca).*

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