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*September 8, 2006*

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## MEDIA RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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### ***Ribbon Cutting Today at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital***

In a day of celebration, with the Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital and its Foundation, a ribbon cutting ceremony and the unveiling of several special recognitions took place at the Middlesex Hospital Alliance site in Strathroy today.

The ribbon cutting marked the official opening of the recent ER/Ambulatory Care Re-Development Project at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. This project – a building expansion of 22,000 square feet and internal renovation of another 23,000 square feet over the past two years – is complete with the assistance of funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, the work of the SMGH Foundation and its many campaign volunteers.

“This renovation and expansion provides our community with additional space for new services and streamlines some of the existing ones,” Middlesex Hospital Alliance Board Chair Yvonne Lambert, says. The Ambulatory Care Centre at the Strathroy site of Middlesex Hospital Alliance now has, for instance, an enhanced Endoscopy clinic, a new Audiology Clinic, a new Pulmonary Function clinic, and new facilities for Pre-Admissions.

Mike A. Mazza, CEO of Middlesex Hospital Alliance, says the site now has the potential for further clinics and the administration is also considering an Asthma Clinic, Pain Clinic and Gynecology Clinic.

The Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital Foundation commissioned a series of Donor Recognition Walls, the first of which was unveiled last year at the opening of the new Westcast Ambulatory Care Unit and the Meridian-Magnesium Emergency department.

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The walls unveiled today recognize cumulative giving to the hospital since the inception of the Foundation in 1989, donations to the Building Together Campaign, and acknowledge those who have had memorial or tribute gifts made in their honour. The walls form the centerpiece of foundation recognition, and are located in both the main lobby and the busiest public corridor of the rejuvenated hospital.

The day was also marked with a sincere and special thank you – and the unveiling of a permanent honour – to the SMGH Auxiliary, whose dedication and support over the years have always been so important to Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital.

“These special recognitions express how important philanthropy and volunteers have been – and continue to be – to Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. We are so grateful to our supporters,” Susan McLean, chief executive officer of the Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital Foundation, says, “Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital is indeed fortunate to enjoy a remarkable partnership with our community.”

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