

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tony and Connie Zappitelli & Family Pledge \$1 Million to "It's Our Future" Campaign in Support of New South Niagara Hospital

Niagara, August 17, 2023 – The Niagara Health Foundation is privileged to announce that Tony & Connie Zappitelli and their Family have committed a transformative gift of \$1 million to the "It's Our Future" campaign in support of the new South Niagara hospital of Niagara Health. This incredible contribution reflects the Zappitelli family's unwavering dedication to enhancing healthcare in the region. It marks a significant milestone in the campaign's journey towards creating a state-of-the-art acute care healthcare facility. In recognition of the support, the staff terrace at the South Niagara hospital will be named the "Tony and Connie Zappitelli & Family Staff Terrace."

After observing the generosity and commitment of others within the community, Tony and Connie Zappitelli were inspired to become donors to the new South Niagara hospital. This transformative gift reflects their profound gratitude for the support their business ventures have received over the past five decades from the residents of Niagara Falls and the surrounding region. As new residents of Port Colborne, they keenly understand the significance of an updated and centrally located hospital poised to address the healthcare needs of a growing and aging population.

The "It's Our Future" campaign, a community-driven initiative, has garnered remarkable support since its launch, with contributions totaling \$60 million towards the local share of the project thus far. This collective effort demonstrates the community's resolute commitment to the future of healthcare for the over 480,000 residents in Niagara.

The South Niagara hospital is set to be a cutting-edge acute care facility, spanning an impressive 1.3 million square feet and housing 469 private rooms. Distinguished by its centers of excellence in complex care, wellness in aging and stroke care, the hospital embodies a vision of advanced healthcare that will attract the foremost talents in the medical field.

"We are proud to contribute to the South Niagara hospital, we hope this gift encourages other businesses and families from all over Niagara to support," Tony and Connie Zappitelli shared. "It would be nice if none of us needed the hospital, but should you have the need, you will have one of the finest hospitals at your disposal."

"We are so thankful to Tony, Connie and the Zappitelli family for supporting the new South Niagara hospital. Their support means so much, and we share their hope that their gift might inspire others in the region to support bringing a world-class healthcare facility to Niagara." – Andrea Scott, President and CEO of Niagara Health Foundation.

"Niagara Health thanks the Zappitelli family for their generous \$1 million donation to the South Niagara hospital capital campaign. This gift will support our commitment to improved health service delivery. Naming an area of rest and rejuvenation for our staff, the Tony & Connie Zappitelli Family Staff Terrace at the new South Niagara hospital also demonstrates the importance we place on the wellbeing of our healthcare professionals. Donations like this will help us in our goal of recruiting and retaining talented nurses, physicians and staff" – Lynn Guerriero, President and CEO, Niagara Health.

"This is the most important project that we will see in our lifetime in Niagara Falls and South Niagara. A great big thank you, Tony & Connie Zappitelli, for their important gift and for jumping in to help support it for all of us and our families." — It's Our Future Campaign Co-Chairs, Mayor Jim Diodati & Harry Oakes.

With the groundbreaking ceremony for the new hospital site already concluded, the Niagara Health Foundation looks ahead with anticipation, calling on community groups and donors to learn more about the South Niagara hospital and how they can support and contribute to the realization of this essential healthcare facility in Niagara.

For more information about the "It's Our Future" campaign and the South Niagara hospital project, visit www.ItsOurFuture.com.

About Niagara Health Foundation:

The Niagara Health Foundation is dedicated to raising funds to support Niagara Health. Through partnerships, community engagement, and philanthropic support, the Foundation aims to ensure the team at Niagara Health has the equipment, programs, research, education and facilities it needs to deliver excellent healthcare across Niagara.

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