

OVSGA WELCOMED INTO CHEO DIAMOND DONOR CATEGORY October 19, 2013

During a donor appreciation event held Oct. 17 at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, the Ottawa Valley Seed Growers Association was publicly thanked for its contributions to the institution over the past 20 years.

Hosted by hospital president and CEO Kevin Keohane, the event also recognized other contributors to the hospital foundation and introduced some children who have benefitted from CHEO's world-class facilities and resources.

The Seed Growers have been included on the hospital's electronic recognition wall at the Garry Cardiff Entrance.

The association reached the Diamond Category (\$100,000 - \$499,999) of giving to CHEO through the annual Prestigious Pedigreed Seed Sale held as part of the Ottawa Valley Farm Show. The 87th edition is set for March 11-13 at Ottawa's Ernst & Young Centre.

With the cooperation of seed companies that exhibit at the show and other supporters, the money was raised over the 20 years since the sale was first introduced. In addition to bags of seed and other items on the block, the event is used to highlight the work of an Eastern Ontario artist.

"The sale is a tremendous success because the seed companies are so generous," said OVSGA president John Roosendaal. "They always come through for us, often buying seed back and re-donating it."

Also gaining from the sale is the Canadian Foodgrains Bank that has as its mission to end global hunger. When the sale is over, many of the bags of seed are given to the CFB.

"We're proud of our support for CHEO over the years," Roosendaal said. "It's a cause that gets pretty much unanimous backing because most of us are parents and grandparents."

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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