

June 9, 2016

## Press Release

For Immediate Release

### ***Presentation Sisters Give St. Catherine's Renewal Centre to Dr. Lionel Kelland House***

**Grand Falls-Windsor June 9, 2016** - - Today the Sisters of Presentation announced that they are gifting their St. Catherine's Renewal Centre in Grand Falls-Windsor for the Dr. Lionel Kelland House/Presentation Hospice to provide quality care for people facing terminal illness and end of life issues, and support for their families in central and southern Newfoundland.

Dr. Jeff Cole, Vice President of Medical Service with the Central Health Authority, spoke on behalf of the volunteer group leading efforts to develop the hospice. "We have been overwhelmed by widespread community support for this service since we announced our plans over a year ago. This gift from the Presentation Sisters puts us years ahead in our plans."

Sister Sharon Fagan, Leader of the Sisters of the Presentation of Newfoundland and Labrador said, "The Sisters are called to serve the community. Over a year ago we decided there was no longer a need for us to provide programs and services at St. Catherine's Renewal Centre. In keeping with the spirit of our foundress, Nano Nagle, we choose to gift this property to help offer care and compassion for vulnerable people." The Presentation Sisters are well known in Central Newfoundland and on the Connaigre Peninsula for their many years of leadership and education among the people and for their ministry at St. Catherine's Renewal Center.

Dr. Cole continued, "The Sisters are world renowned for their good work. We are extremely grateful for this gift which marks their legacy, and also puts us into high gear in getting closer to our collective vision and the dream of Dr. Kelland. *It excites and boosts public support.*"

This will be the first palliative care and hospice facility in the province outside of the health care system. It will be independently operated in coordination with the Central Health Authority and provincial palliative care work. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for individuals dealing with progressive illness, death and bereavement through education, research, advocacy, and compassionate care.

Located at 3 St. Catherine's Street, the building includes a former 30-room residence, dining room, a chapel and a former 10 room convent on a large property. Plans for the centre include ten rooms for patients and several other rooms for their families and friends to stay.

Over the next year, the steering committee and the Sisters will work together in defining the parameters of the partnership and will progress with formalizing the corporate structure, preparing a business plan to raise funds for capital work to convert the buildings and rooms for palliative care and hospice rooms, and for ongoing operating funds.

For more information, please contact: Sister Sharon Fagan at 709 753 8340 or [sfagan@nf.aibn.com](mailto:sfagan@nf.aibn.com)

