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NEWS RELEASE

VON CANADA INCREASES SERVICE CAPACITY IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2007 (Ottawa, ON) — The fight to protect greater Ottawa residents against flu over the winter months received a shot in the arm today, with VON Canada's (Victorian Order of Nurses) recruitment of seven new nurses for the national capital region.

The new nurses will concentrate on the administration of flu clinics, and provide greater focus in the Ottawa area on workplace and pharmacy wellness programs. The move is part of a concentrated effort by VON Canada to ensure that Ottawa has a robust program of flu prevention. Equally important, VON will be delivering support to the local pharmaceutical community in their efforts to administer medication and provide patient information.

VON Canada President and CEO, Dr. Judith Shamian, considers the increase in local capacity in the Ottawa area as a move aimed at remaining true to a tradition of service. "VON Canada has been an integral part of local communities across Canada for 110 years, both at home and in the workplace. Investment in people is the key to remaining vibrant, and permits us to increase our contribution to the wellbeing of the over 877,000 residents in the Ottawa-Carleton area," said Dr. Shamian.

The nursing team will carry out its operations from VON's National Office in downtown Ottawa. Carol Cooke, Manager Eastern Ontario concluded, "VON flu clinics are one of the ways we are helping build healthier communities throughout Ottawa. Furthermore, they are an effective means of promoting workplace wellness and maintaining employee productivity."

VON is dedicated to being a leader in the delivery of innovative comprehensive health and social services and to influencing the development of health and social policy in Canada. We are a national health organization and registered charity offering a wide range of community health care solutions that meet the needs of Canadians from coast to coast. VON is committed to continuous quality improvement and is accredited by the Canadian Council of Health Services Accreditation.

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