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NEWS RELEASE

VON CANADA FOUNDATION APPOINTS NEW BOARD CHAIR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 30, 2007 (Ottawa, ON) — Today, outgoing Chair, Mr. Donald Storch and Foundation Executive Director Mr. Stéphane Bordeleau announced the appointment of Mr. Ambrose Hearn to the position of Chair of the VON (Victorian Order of Nurses) Canada Foundation. Mr. Storch is stepping down from his position as Chair following the successful completion of his three year term.

Founded in 2000, VON Canada Foundation raises funds to support the work of VON across Canada. The Foundation provides funding for education, research and program development initiatives, all of which ensure that VON will continue to deliver home care and community support programs to Canadians when and where they need them.

Last year, the VON Canada Foundation raised over \$875,000, in addition to providing fundraising support to over 51 local VON branches in communities across Canada. Highlights of its support include the *Walk Run Roll for Healthy Communities* which saw nearly 2,400 participants raise over \$300,000, in addition to over \$25,000 raised by two VON executives. One scaled Mount Kilimanjaro while the other ran the Boston marathon. Along with these fundraisers, money is also raised through very important individual donations, planning giving and corporate support, showing ultimate appreciation for VON's caring, compassionate services.

The new Board Chair is enthusiastic about his new role. "I'm excited about taking on this important responsibility. I'm honoured to assume my role and I'm humbled by the opportunity to be of service in such a noble endeavour," said Mr. Hearn.

Mr. Hearn has had a distinguished career in health care administration in Canada, over a period of more than twenty-five years. He brings a wealth of experience to his new role. His most recent position was President and CEO of VON Canada from 1999 to 2003. Prior to that, he served as President and CEO of the Ottawa Civic Hospital, a major teaching hospital in the Nation's Capital. He previously held the position of CEO of the Canadian Council of Health Services Accreditation, the national organization that sets standards for and accredits health care organizations. Mr. Hearn was also Deputy Minister of Health for the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

“I’ve spent my entire career balancing the responsibility of effective health care administration with the need to ensure strong and transparent governance. I’m pleased to have the opportunity to bring my experience and skills to bear to the benefit of the VON Canada Foundation and those that it serves,” said the new Board Chair.

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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