

CF-24-26

February 29, 2024

Dan Carter, The office of the MAYOR
City of Oshawa
2nd Floor, West Wing, City Hall
50 Centre Street South
Oshawa, ON, L1H 3Z7



Dear Mayor Carter,

We are pleased to submit this letter and share an update on The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre *Building on the Best Expansion Campaign*. The goal remains to fundraise and expand the current footprint of The Best Centre in order to meet patient demand and to increase access to type 1 diabetes (T1D) expertise. Due to increased costs, we were forced to raise our goal to \$8 million. Preliminary building and renovation designs are completed with a vision to maintain high-level individualized care and support and the ability to expand in the decades to come.

Patient demand for our care has increased 15% year over year in the past decade, and the forecast exceeds that rate to a projected 150% more patients by 2027. The successful completion of this capital expansion will benefit residents from all of Durham Region. It will boost the Best Centre's legacy, its unique care structure, address the growth seen in population, housing, and infrastructure while building awareness of T1D at all levels of government.

The Building on the Best campaign team has made great progress to date. Lead by Campaign Cabinet Chair, Fred Eismont and Campaign Special Advisor, Dr. Gary Polonsky. We have several active volunteer committees that support the fundraising goals. Success to date is as follows: municipal commitments from Whitby (\$250,000 over 10 years), Clarington (\$100,000 over 4 years), Pickering (\$100,000 over 4 years), and the Ajax Partnership Fund (\$25,000). Additionally, we have received a grant of \$88,000 from the Enabling Accessibility Fund (Infrastructure Canada), a commitment from the Region of Durham (7.5% of the eligible capital budget), corporate and community pledges of over \$2.9 million. We are just shy of the halfway mark to our \$8 million goal.

The Best Centre appreciates City of Oshawa's \$50,000 investment from 2021-2022. Now, we are respectfully asking for your consideration of an additional 2-year commitment.

The Building on the Best Expansion Campaign is essential to ensure children, adolescents, adults, seniors and their families continue to have access to specialized type 1 diabetes care in Durham Region, with over 25% of our patients coming from your city. The expansion is necessary and long overdue. If we do not



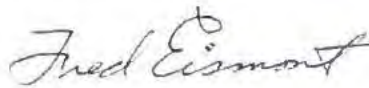
expand, a ripple effect of poor access, poor outcomes and ultimately a strain on both the primary and acute care systems will ensue.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for the residents of Oshawa, to receive the care they deserve, without barriers to access.

Best in health,



Lorrie Hagen, MHSc, RD, CHE
Executive Director
The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre



Fred Eismont
Campaign Chair
Building on the Best Expansion Campaign

