



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

#### **Research that cares brings together ten hospitals in the fight against breast cancer in Quebec**

**Montreal, October 14th, 2021** - The McPeak-Sirois Group for clinical research in breast cancer ("The Group") is proud to announce that with the membership of the Montreal West Island CIUSSS - St-Mary's Hospital Center, CISSS de la Montérégie-Centre - Hôpital Charles-Le Moyne and CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal - Hôpital du Sacré-Cœur-de-Montréal, the Group now consists of ten Quebec hospitals that collaborate within this breast cancer clinical research consortium.

With clinical trials, patients can benefit from cutting-edge treatments that improve their chances of survival and quality of life during and after treatment. The Group's goal is to increase access to clinical research for all patients suffering from breast cancer, regardless of where they live in Quebec. With its ten member hospitals, the Group now covers the entire Island of Montreal as well as the regions of the Capitale Nationale, Estrie, Saguenay-Lac Saint-Jean and Centre de la Montérégie.

Other hospitals are being added to the Group as part of the Group's *Programme Accès-recherche* rollout supported by the Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation. The Group unites its members and supports their collaboration in working together to make clinical research accessible to a greater number of patients.

"We are very proud to bring together ten Quebec hospitals within our Group which has become, in just a few years, one of the most important clinical research in breast cancer consortiums in Canada" Charles Sirois and Susan McPeak, Co-founders of the McPeak-Sirois Group.

"This collaboration with the Group allows us to work as a team, uniting medical expertise and clinical research to combat breast cancer. I am convinced that together we can take an important step for our province and for breast cancer patients. It is through knowledge-sharing that we will make progress and support new clinical studies." - Lynne McVey, President and CEO of the Montréal West Island CIUSSS.

"Our commitment within this consortium, in particular the involvement of Dr. Samuel Martel, a specialist in medical oncology, allows our teams to provide patients with the best practices in the fight against breast cancer. We are proud to collaborate closely in the realization of new innovative and effective clinical trials, developed thanks to the values of openness, collaboration and knowledge sharing conveyed by the McPeak-Sirois Group." - Richard Deschamps, CEO of the CISSS de la Montérégie-Centre.

"Thanks to the involvement of Dr. Isabelle Gingras in this Group, our teams will help develop and make accessible new clinical trials for people with breast cancer. This process, bringing together a critical mass of experts and participants, is essential to improve knowledge on the subject and to benefit the population"- Frédéric Abergel, CEO of the CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal.

"The Foundation, as a partner in this innovative program, is committed to providing increased access to the best treatments for patients in all regions of Quebec. We are therefore pleased with the addition of the Montreal West Island CIUSSS - St-Mary's Hospital Center, CISSS de la Montérégie-Centre - Hôpital Charles-Le Moyne and CIUSSS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal - Hôpital du Sacré-Cœur-de-Montréal"- Karine-Iseult Ippersiel, CEO of the Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation.

About the McPeak-Sirois Group :

The McPeak-Sirois Group is a charitable organization whose mission is to fight breast cancer more effectively by increasing patients' access and participation to clinical trials. The Group's executive scientific committee is made up of internationally renowned scientists who oversee the selection of clinical studies offered to the consortium's member hospitals. Co-founded in 2015 by Susan McPeak, a breast cancer survivor, and Charles Sirois, a well-known entrepreneur, the McPeak-Sirois Group is committed to promoting *research that cares* by bringing it closer to breast cancer patients throughout Québec.

<http://mcpeaksirois.org/>

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