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For Immediate Release

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Museum of Health Care to launch new exhibitions for Canada Day

(KINGSTON, ON) - On July 1, the Museum of Health Care at Kingston will launch three bilingual exhibits: "Growing Pains: the 1867 Crisis at Kingston General Hospital," "The Century: Medical Innovations of the 1800s" and "Quack: The Exhibit that Cures All!" There will be tours of the new exhibits, family-friendly activities, and refreshments.

The exhibit "Growing Pains: the 1867 Crisis at Kingston General Hospital" tells the story of how the change in government during 1867 nearly closed down Kingston General Hospital (KGH). The new government resulted in a lapse of vital public funds to many institutions, such as hospitals. KGH considered closing, but through the efforts of the Kingston community, it remained open.

This exhibit will also present elements of health care in mid- to late-19th-century Kingston to illustrate how they compare to today. It invites reflection on the science of health care while commemorating the 150th anniversary of Confederation. Growing Pains is funded by the City of Kingston Heritage Fund.

"This exhibition presents a little known event, but one which is most inspiring," says Museum Curator Maxime Chouinard. "This exhibition will get visitors to reflect on the importance of local healthcare institutions both in our past and our present."

The second exhibit, "Quack: The Exhibit that Cures All!" is an examination of medical quackery and myths surrounding health care.

"This exhibition showcases some of the most colourful items from our collections such as morphine syrups and uranium water dispensers," says Curator Maxime Chouinard. "This exhibition aims to make visitors reflect not only on ancient examples of quackery, but also how these practices still roam our modern world in different forms."

The third exhibit opening on July 1 is "The Century: Medical Innovations of the 1800s." It will showcase this time period's major medical turning points by exploring new technologies, treatments, and discoveries including anaesthesia, antisepsis, the germ theory, pharmaceuticals, X-rays, and stethoscopes.

“The Century” is funded in part by the Government of Canada and Innovative Medicines Canada.

“Investing in the Canadian cultural sector helps create jobs for the middle class, strengthens the economy and ensures that Canada’s unique perspective is shared with the world. The improvements to the Museum of Health Care will ensure that it can continue to promote our heritage in an enhanced and accessible environment, giving more Canadians the opportunity to learn about our history.”

—The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage

Location: Ann Baillie Building, Museum of Health Care, 32 George Street

Date: Saturday, July 1, 2017

Time: Drop by between 10 am and 6 pm

Cost: Free

Information: 613-548-2419, info@museumofhealthcare.ca

Our event info link: <http://www.museumofhealthcare.ca/visit/calendar-of-events.html#launch>

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