



# GoodHearts Mentoring Foundation

Candlelight Service  
Celebrates National Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Week  
April 22, 2007

Edmontonians will mark the 10th anniversary of the National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week with a candlelight service to honour and remember donors, donor families, organ and tissue recipients, their caregivers and the medical women and men who perform medical miracles.

The University of Alberta Hospital is a recognized leader in organ and tissue transplantation and it is with tremendous gratitude that GoodHearts — a support group for recipients, patients awaiting organs and their caregivers — invites every transplant-related organization in Edmonton to this unique celebration on Sunday, April 22.

The candlelight service will be held at the Tucker Amphitheatre in the Citadel Theatre. The celebration is open to the public from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., with the service beginning at 2:30.

The organ and tissue donor program is an important part of our health-care system. Through the organ donor program, Canadians provide hope to people who face difficult and often life-threatening conditions caused by the failure of vital organs. The selfless generosity of organ and tissue donors helps meet a significant and growing need in our country.

The candlelight service is a reminder that organ and tissue transplants work wonders. We urge everyone to consider donating the "gift of life" and signing the donor card. In Alberta the donor card is found on your health care card — please sign it and tell your family of your wishes to donate. The final decision is always made by the family — so be sure to tell them you wish to donate.

One deceased donor can save up to 84 people. Yet Canada's donor rate is one of the lowest in the industrial nations. We hope that the candlelight service will make a difference in the months and years to come.

Activities to raise awareness for organ and tissue donation and celebrate donors will take place throughout Canada from April 22 through April 28. Organ procurement agencies, transplant centres and transplant-related organizations across the nation will sponsor activities with a donation theme.

Local contacts include:

Canadian Council for Donation & Transplantation  
[www.ccdt.ca](http://www.ccdt.ca)  
Sandy Bell, Manager, Communications/Knowledge Transfer  
780-409-5663  
[info@ccdt.ca](mailto:info@ccdt.ca)

Kidney Foundation of Canada  
Northern Alberta & the Territories Branch  
Barbara Foxall  
780-451-6900 Ext: 232

Canadian Liver Foundation  
Edmonton Chapter  
Melissa Johnson  
780-444-1547

GoodHearts Mentoring Foundation  
[www.goodhearts.ca](http://www.goodhearts.ca)  
Silvio Dobri  
780-437-6810  
[info@goodhearts.ca](mailto:info@goodhearts.ca)