

## **Sun Life Financial provides two \$50,000 grants for researchers at the Montreal Diabetes Research Center**

MONTREAL, January 21, 2013 – Sun Life Financial is pleased to announce a \$100,000 donation to the Montreal Diabetes Research Center (MDRC) to fund pilot projects on diabetes by researchers at the University of Montreal Hospital Research Centre (CRCHUM). This is the largest single donation ever made to the MDRC.

"This funding is a key component of Sun Life Financial's commitment to making diabetes its national health cause. In this case, the grants will enable MDRC investigators to undertake research work that will have an impact on our knowledge and, ultimately, on how we treat this 21st century disease," stated Diane Lafontaine, assistant vice-president, Marketing and Communications at Sun Life Financial Quebec.

"The MDRC is very pleased with its new partnership with Sun Life Financial, which will support the creation of two research projects on the prevention of diabetes, a disease that has become this century's next medical tsunami," said Marc Prentki, director of the MDRC and a researcher at the CRCHUM.

The two research teams selected will each receive an amount of \$50,000 to undertake new fundamental research projects.

### **About the MDRC**

The Montreal Diabetes Research Center (MDRC) consists of a group of scientists principally located in the Montreal area and who perform basic and clinical research in the fields of diabetes and its complications, as well as metabolic syndrome. The MDRC brings together more than 50 scientists and clinicians from 5 different universities (University of Montreal, McGill University, Laval University, University of Ottawa and University of Sherbrooke) working in the fields of genomics, proteomics, biochemistry, cell biology and immunology. The MDRC was created in 2004 thanks to a major infrastructure grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. The objective of the MDRC is to foster diabetes research and innovative clinical strategies to prevent and cure diabetes and its complications.

### **About Sun Life Financial**

A leading international financial services organization, Sun Life Financial has been working to bring financial security to Quebecers since 1865. The company's 1600 employees and 700 advisors support business relationships with 1.5 million Quebec clients, within communities right across the province. Chartered in 1865, Sun Life Financial and its partners today have operations in key markets worldwide, including Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, India, China and Bermuda. As of June 30, 2012, the Sun Life Financial group of companies had total assets under management of CDN\$496 billion. For more information, please visit [www.sunlife.com](http://www.sunlife.com).

Sun Life Financial Inc. trades on the Toronto (TSX), New York (NYSE) and Philippine (PSE) stock exchanges under ticker symbol "SLF".

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### **Contact:**

Geneviève Jutras  
514-866-3361  
[genevieve.jutras@sunlife.com](mailto:genevieve.jutras@sunlife.com)