

## Media Release

### TBRHSC Ranked One of Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals

The Top 40 Research Hospitals Raise \$2.1 Billion in Total Research Income. TBRHSC is honoured to make the first inaugural list launched by Research Infosource Inc.

November 21, 2011 - Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre (TBRHSC) is ranked one of the Top 40 Research Hospitals in Canada. Since the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute (the research arm of TBRHSC) was founded in 2008, scientists have secured over \$12 million in grant funding for medical research. The number of career scientists at TBRRI has doubled from 6 in 2008 to 12 in 2010.

"Today I am very honoured to announce that the TBRHSC is listed among the Top 40 Research Hospitals in Canada by Research Infosource Inc.," says Dr. Michael Wood, VP Research, TBRHSC and TBRRI. "Indeed this is a great honour for all of Northwest Ontario."

The Top 40 list is the first-ever compilation by Research Infosource to emphasize the very important role that hospitals play in Canadian medical research. Total research income for Canada's Top 40 hospitals was \$2.1 billion in fiscal 2010, an impressive increase of 7.2% over Fiscal 2009.

"We are very proud that the research activity that has catapulted TBRHSC into Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals is attributed to the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute (TBRRI)," says Angèle Brunelle, Board Chair of TBRHSC. "Today we are celebrating very real and tangible developments in medical research. All of the research we are doing at TBRHSC aims to improve patient care and contribute to the future development of new treatments and services."

"This is a first for our organization and region. It is an excellent illustration of how our team of talented scientists, physicians-scientists, and staff in Thunder Bay are contributing to national and world-wide advancements in medical research and will continue to do so over the next decade," says Michael Power, CEO of TBRRI, Regional VP of Cancer Care Ontario, and Executive VP Chronic Disease and Prevention Management at TBRHSC.

According to *Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals List 2011*, research income includes all internal and external government and non-government sources. Twenty-six hospitals posted increases in their research income in fiscal 2010, compared with 14 hospitals where income was flat or declined.



"Research hospitals are a critical component of Canada's national system of innovation," says Ron Freedman, CEO, Research Infosource. "Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals' contribution to the national innovation system can be illustrated through the fact that \$2.1 billion of research income garnered by the Top 40 is equivalent to about 1/3 of the total research income reported by Canadian universities. Clearly, our nation's leading hospitals are research powerhouses, and awareness of the importance of research hospitals in the national system of innovation is growing."

"This first-ever compilation of research hospitals reminds us of the vital role for Canadian hospitals in medical research. Along with the honour of inclusion among the Top 40 research hospitals in Canada come tremendously high expectations. We at TBRHSC and its research arm, TBRI, are up to the task," adds Dr. Wood.

*Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals List 2011* is available on the Research Infosource website:  
<http://www.researchinfosource.com/tophosp.shtml>.

**For further information, please contact:**

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**PLEASE NOTE: Interviews with Dr. Michael Wood are available on Monday, November 21 between 1-3pm.**

**Background:**

The majority of research is conducted at general hospitals. Twenty-two general hospitals accounted for 69% of total research income received by the Top 40. A group of 5 pediatric institutions accounted for an additional 15% of the total, followed by three hospitals specializing in heart and lung research. Ten hospitals providing cancer, psychiatric, geriatric & long-term care and rehabilitation care accounted for a total of 10% of research income.

Many hospitals operate on a scale of research activity that compares favorably with Canada's top research universities. For example, the six largest hospitals - **University Health Network, Hamilton Health Sciences, Hospital for Sick Children, McGill University Health Centre, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Ottawa Hospital** - all attracted research income in excess of \$100 million, which was more income than was received by 34 of the country's Top 50 Research Universities. In fact, most research hospitals work closely with local universities; hospital researchers are commonly cross-appointed to university faculties, and vice versa.

