

For Immediate Release

Friday, March 26, 2010

Award-winning Marchese Health Care expanding to serve Waterloo Wellington CCAC's infusion and medical supplies clients

Marchese Health Care is proud to announce that it will be the provider of medical supplies and infusion equipment and supplies for the Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre (WWCCAC) clients, beginning in June.

"Marchese Health Care is pleased and honoured to be the successful respondent to the CCAC's request for proposals," said company President Marita Zaffiro. "We are committed to providing excellent service to the clients of Waterloo Wellington CCAC. We look forward to working with the CCAC and all current service providers to ensure that the transition is seamless."

WWCCAC's service area spans 4,800 square kilometres from Ayr in the southwest to Dundalk in the northeast. Approximately 85 percent of its population of 730,000 resides in the Region of Waterloo and the City of Guelph. Marchese will open a pharmacy compounding facility and medical supplies depot in Kitchener prior to the start of the contract.

All CCACs in Ontario must use a provincial competitive bidding model by issuing Requests for Proposals (RFPs) in order to ensure high-quality healthcare services. The RFP process focuses on quality, which is weighted as 75 percent of the score, and price, which is weighted as 25 percent of the score.

"We diligently followed the standardized RFP process which resulted in our awarding the contract for medical supplies and infusion equipment and infusion supplies to the respondent with the highest combined score who met all the requirements of the RFP," said Kelly Smith, interim Chief Executive Officer for the WWCCAC. "We have valued our relationship with our current providers and look forward to working with Marchese Health Care."

Marchese Health Care is a long-time provider of infusion and medical supplies services to the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand and Brant CCAC (HNHB CCAC), delivering quality products and pharmacy services with a strong commitment to client-centred care.

"While we begin a new chapter for our company, we look forward to maintaining our excellent partnership with the caring staff and service providers at the HNHB CCAC," said Ms. Zaffiro. "We greatly value our relationship with our clients in the HNHB service area and will continue to provide them with compassionate pharmacy services and expert care."

Marchese has gained a wide-spread reputation in the healthcare sector for its commitment to quality and innovation, as well as its philanthropy. In 2007, President Marita Zaffiro, who is also the company's owner, was selected by the Canadian Pharmacists Association as one of the country's 100 most influential pharmacists of the past century, and was recently honoured with the Ontario Medical Association's Community Service Award. Marchese Health Care was named the Hamilton and District Chamber of Commerce's Business of the Year in 2005, and was recognized for its charitable work in 2009 with a national Commitment to Care and Service Award.

Established in 1961 as a community pharmacy on James Street North, in Hamilton, Marchese Health Care provides community pharmacy services, medication management programs, specialized pharmaceutical compounding, and cold-chain distribution of biological products throughout Ontario. Marchese has quality certification with ISO 9001:2008 and Accreditation Canada.

-- 30 --

For more information, please contact:

Dave Butler, Manager of Corporate Communications
905-528-4214, ext. 220
daveb@marchesehealthcare.ca