

For immediate release

Canada's Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Congratulates HPIC on Opening of Distribution Centre

Generic Industry Donates 100 million doses of medicine in 2006

Mississauga, ON, February 16, 2007 – The following are remarks by Jim, Keon, President of the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association, at today's official opening of the Health Partners International Canada (HPIC) Distribution Centre.

"Canada's generic pharmaceutical industry is proud of its long relationship with HPIC and our history of working together to get much needed generic medicines to people around the world who desperately need them.

As an industry, we are also proud of our contribution to affordable health-care in Canada, but we are equally pleased that we can play a key role in getting made-in-Canada medicines to countries all over the world."

Last year alone through organizations such as HPIC, Canadian generic pharmaceutical manufacturers donated nearly one hundred million doses of medicines at an approximate value of twenty million dollars.

Time and again, when terrible events have left populations facing extremely difficult and painful circumstances – whether dealing with the ongoing turmoil in burgeoning democracies such as Afghanistan, the horrible aftermath of the South Asian Tsunami, or human suffering in Africa – Health Partners International Canada has been there to facilitate assistance.

And Canada's generic pharmaceutical industry has been right there beside them, donating the first-line treatments such as antibiotics, analgesics, and diabetic treatments that are most urgently needed immediately on the ground in developing countries and during times of crisis.

Today, we are pleased to be here to congratulate HPIC on taking this next important step by opening this impressive international distribution facility.

We look forward to a bright future for our relationship and continuing the Canadian tradition of answering the call when people, no matter where they are around the world, need help.

On behalf of Canada's generic drug makers, congratulations!"

About the Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association

The Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association (CGPA) represents Canada's generic drug industry – a dynamic group of companies that specialize in the production of high quality, affordable generic drugs and fine chemicals and in conducting the clinical trials required for government approval of generic drugs. The industry plays an important role in controlling health-care costs in Canada. Generic drugs are dispensed to fill 44 per cent of all prescriptions but account for less than 18 per cent of the \$17.5-billion Canadians spend annually on prescription medicines.

For more information, please contact:

Jeff Connell
Director of Public Affairs
Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association
Tel: (416) 223-2333
Cell: (647) 274-3379
Email: jeff@canadiangenerics.ca