



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Penney Family and Penney Group support YMCA with generous donation!

St. John's, July 28, 2015 – This morning the Penney Family and Penney Group announced a charitable gift of \$500,000 to support Phase II of the YMCA Strong Families Campaign. The Ches Penney Family Y was built during Phase I of the campaign and was named in honour of Mr. Penney whose family, along with the Penney Group, donated \$1 million. The total donation to the YMCA is now \$1.5 million.

“The YMCA is in everyone’s hearts. We are proud to help them keep doing what they do best,” said Penney Group Chairman, Ches Penney.

The YMCA is halfway to reaching the \$2 million Phase II goal. “This campaign will help the YMCA re-invest in programs and services to continue improving the quality of life for people throughout Newfoundland and Labrador,” said Scott Giannou, Board and Campaign Chair. “We are grateful and excited for this transformational gift and the impact it will have on our charity.”

The Ches Penney Family Y opened in July of 2011 after a successful capital campaign and since that time has more than quintupled its membership and participation. “We know that exercise and access to programs like those offered at the YMCA are vital to the overall health of our population,” said Jason Brown, YMCA of Northeast Avalon CEO. “With the help of generous donors like the Penney Family and the Penney Group the YMCA will continue to help people in our communities thrive.”

The YMCA has a long history of charitable work in Newfoundland and Labrador. It has been active in the province since 1854 and is one of the first integrating agencies for people to come together as a centre of community. Today it involves thousands of people of all ages, abilities, and incomes in health, employment, and child care programs throughout the province.

Penney Group is recognized as one of the largest and most diversified group of companies in Atlantic Canada, employing over 2000 people across various disciplines. Giving back to the community is deeply ingrained in their business philosophy, and is a way of life for them. They are pleased to contribute to various initiatives, fostering community growth and connection.

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communities*